

IOWA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

2019 Spring Newsletter

Contents

- President's Remarks
- Miniature Shows 2019
- Spring Watercolor Workshop
- Watercolor Glossary of Terms
- Traveling Show Update
- Member Viewpoint
- Member Corner

Quote

"Nothing is really so poor and melancholy as art that is interested in itself and not in the subject."

George Santayana

Contact Us

iowawatercolorsociety@gmail.com



President's Remarks

Welcome to 2019! New year.. new ideas.. new challenges.. new resolutions. Perhaps some of those challenges and resolutions are about our watercolor passion. What better place to experiment and try new materials or techniques than the Iowa Watercolor Society Miniature Show. We have two shows planned this year, one in the spring and one in the fall. The Miniature Shows give us the perfect opportunity to try different



materials since there are no strict requirements regarding materials to use. We allow for example Yupo paper, watercolor pencils, soluble graphite crayons, inks and much more. Give yourself the liberty of trying these materials if you have not done so in the past, and submit your new and creative art work in one of our Miniature Shows. See more details under Miniature Shows 2019.

Mark your calendars for our Spring Workshop on May 6-7-8 at La Poste in Perry. It should be one of a kind experience.

Miniature Shows 2019

Our first miniature show is now on display at the Urbandale Public Library, 3520 86th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322. It will be there from Feb. 1 - Mar. 15, 2019. We will be hosting an Artist Reception on Saturday, Feb. 16 from 10:00-noon. We invite all members to come and see the exhibition and enjoy appetizers and beverages as you mingle with other IWS members and guests.

Our second miniature show will be June 1-July 28 at the Johnston Public Library. More details on

registration, art check-in, etc. will be sent during the month of March.

Spring Workshop

We have an excellent watercolorist and instructor coming to do our Spring Workshop, Kateri Ewing. It will be held at La Poste, Perry on May 6-7-8, 2019. The chickadee above is hers.



I have taken three on-line classes taught by Kateri and I enjoyed learning about color theory and working with a limited palette.

In previous conversations with IWS members as well as submissions of comments during our Annual Luncheon, the request to bring a watercolorist that can paint birds has been noted. Kateri is that

instructor. Also, if you have ever been interested in botanicals, we will be working on that as well.

Following is a description of the workshop. It will be a combination of "creative exploration and tried and true techniques". This should be quite different than other previous workshops we have had.

You can signup for this workshop on our website as of Feb. 1st, 2019.

The Joys Of Watercolor: Play, Process and Product, a 3-day watercolor exploration with Kateri Ewing

Join Kateri Ewing for a three day creative exploration of what it means to be a watercolorist with beginner's mind. Based on Kateri's own daily work as a professional artist, our mornings will be spent in creative and meditative play, discovering the beauty and possibilities of different tools and materials and many ways to get our creative juices flowing. Before lunch we will get into techniques and

theory that encourage process over product, and ease our way into discussions about the how and why of our own artistic practice. After lunch it's all about professional product; over three afternoons, we will be creating a watercolor painting of a realistic song bird on a flowering branch.

Kateri hopes to share her philosophy of creative practice as a watercolorist, and the importance of finding our own voice and making time to simply play, as well as her tried and true techniques for creating a sense of realism in her work, and that spark of life that gives her birds the feeling that they will fly off the page at any moment. Join Kateri for a dynamic three days of falling in love with our watercolor practice all over again.

Watercolor Glossary of Terms:

If you are new or a veteran watercolorist, it is important to know and understand the definition of some common terms that we come across when we read articles or listen to watercolorist presentations. The following terms are an excerpt from *The Watercolor Bible* by Joe Garcia (North Light Books, 2006).

TERM	DEFINITION	TERM	DEFINITION
analogous colors:	colors that are closely related on the color wheel	graded wash:	a wash in which the value gradually changes from dark to light
casein:	a fast-drying, water-soluble paint derived from milk protein, or casein	granulation:	speckled effect when coarse pigment settles into the paper indentations as the paint dries
charging:	technique that involves mixing two or more colors directly on the paper instead of premixing on a palette	gouache (or body color):	an opaque watercolor that can be applied thick or thin
cold-pressed paper:	lightly textured paper that absorbs paint and water	hard edge:	the outer perimeter of a shape or series of shapes, sharply defined
complementary colors:	colors directly across from each other on the color wheel	hot-pressed paper:	smooth, slick paper that doesn't easily absorb paint and water
drybrush technique:	brushwork done on the dry surface of the paper	hue:	a color's common name (for example, cadmium red)
flat wash:	brushing successive strokes of color on a wet or dry surface, with each stroke placed next to the other, to create an even layer of color	intensity:	a color's saturation, brightness or strength
glazing:	applying thin, transparent washes of one color over another color	layering:	applying premixed colors over another wash to change its value or intensity

TERM	DEFINITION	TERM	DEFINITION
lifting paint:	a technique for removing paint from a surface with a brush, paper towel or tissue in order to correct mistakes, develop textures, create highlights or change values	staining colors:	colors that absorb into the paper before the water has had a chance to evaporate; they're difficult to lift and will leave a stain on the paper
lost and found edges:	also called broken or inferred edges; used to create and suggest movement	temperature:	the warmness or coolness of a color, depending on where the color is situated on the color wheel
masking fluid:	liquid latex used to preserve the white of the paper and to create textures	tint:	created by adding water to the original color; the more water that's added, the weaker the intensity
palette:	surface on which watercolors are mixed and/or stored	transparent paint:	consists of pigment mixed with gum arabic, glycerin and a wetting agent
palette knife:	small spatula-style knife used to apply or remove paint, or to add texture	value:	a color's relative lightness or darkness
pan paint:	small cakes of watercolor paint that come in half-pan or whole-pan sizes	variegated wash:	type of wet-into-wet wash that involves placing colors side by side and then mixing and blending them along their edges
pigment:	dry coloring matter, usually an insoluble powder, that's mixed with water and gum Arabic to create paint	wet-into-dry wash:	also known as a glaze or layering wash; a wash that's applied to a dry surface
rough paper:	heavily textured paper	wet-into-wet wash:	painting on a wet surface and letting colors blend as they may; looks strong and vibrant while wet but loses intensity when the colors dry
soft edge:	fading or disappearing edge	YUPO:	a "plastic" paper that doesn't easily absorb paint and water
scrubbing:	a dry-brush technique used to lift paint from or add color to an area of the surface		

Traveling Show Update:

The 2018/2019 Traveling Show's first stop was the Indian Hills Art Gallery, in the Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa. The venue there is beautiful; it used to be a chapel, hence the wonderful stained glass windows.



The second stop was in Fairfield at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center from Dec. 7 - January 28th, 2019. The show was well attended.



Next stop for the Traveling Show is Fort Madison, where it will be from Feb. 1 to March 28, 2019 at the Fort Madison Area Arts Assoc. (825 Ave. G, Ft. Madison, IA 52627)

There will be a reception and watercolor demonstration on Feb. 9th from 2:00 - 4:30 pm. Mayela Fonseca and Jan Vander Linden from the IWS will be there for the demonstration. We invite all IWS members to attend this reception.

After that the Traveling Show moves to the Muscatine Art Center (1314 Mulberry Ave., Muscatine, IA 52761), from April 6 - May 26, 2019. The last stop will be Iowa City at the Old Post Office Art Gallery (28 South Linn

Member Viewpoint: Commissions

Hello Art Peeps!

I'm writing this on a REALLY cold day here in Iowa. With a moody furnace (and space heaters in several rooms) I've decided to bunker down, and share some thoughts from my studio.

I've been asked to do a commission. My assignment: To paint a landscape scene in the colorful style of the great master, Thomas Moran. The clients specifically like a painting from Mr Moran's Yellowstone Series (painted over 100 years ago).

After studying the history behind Mr Moran's work, I decided to try to reproduce this painting to see

what could be learned from studying his work in depth. Gotta say, it felt strange copying someone else's work- even just to study it!

Next, I took one of my own photos that was similar in subject matter. I tried to imagine how Mr Moran would paint this scene. I propped his reproduction by my painting table, and used it as a point of departure for my own piece of work.

This was a good experience, but I ended up painting in my own style after a short amount of time. I also decided to do a second, more colorful version of my own painting. Conclusion: I learned to push my colors, but it's a lot more interesting painting my own ideas!

Karen Young

Karen's final painting:



Member Corner:

Jac Tilton: Happy to report that Jac has received Signature status in the Missouri Watercolor Society after being juried in their International Exhibit in China last year. Congratulations!! He also updated his website with a new look and new pieces. Check it out! <http://www.jactilton.com>

Jean Weiner: Sold her watercolor "Better with Lime" which is part of this year's Traveling Show. The person who bought it understands that they will collect the painting at the end of July. Congratulations Jean!

Tom Holcomb: Will be participating in a fund raiser event to save animals in the wild called Art for the Wild. He has donated one of his paintings. The event will take place Feb. 21, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the atrium of Capital Square downtown Des Moines.