



January 2024

P.O. Box 4631
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
www.californiawatercolor.org

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CWA 54th National Online Exhibition Opens
JANUARY 10, 2024
at www.californiawatercolor.org

California WATERCOLOR Association

ZOOM Demo for Members and Guests at 7:00 pm PST, Wednesday, January 17, 2024.



January ZOOM Demo Artist Dongfeng Li, AWS, NWS

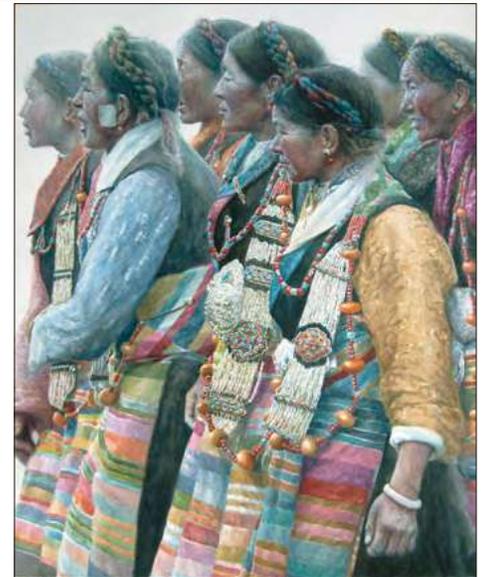
There will be a **ZOOM General Meeting and Demo** by Dongfeng Li for CWA members and friends to participate, on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, from 7:00–9:00 pm PST.

Keeping it simple, the **ZOOM link** and **passcode** below will be the same for all our General Meetings in 2024.

ZOOM Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88067424194?pwd=dIA1MmpiaG11OGtxNURqK0JWSXVhZz09>
Meeting ID: 880 6742 4194 **Passcode:** 319828



The Cozy Corner and Plateau Dancer Celebration by Dongfeng Li



Dongfeng Li was born and raised in China and studied at Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts. He came to the United States in 1992 and subsequently received a Master of Art Education from the University of South Alabama and a Master of Fine Arts from Southern Illinois University. His watercolors have been exhibited nationally and internationally, including the annual international shows of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, and the Transparent Watercolor Society of America.

He has won more than 30 awards in national and international watercolor exhibitions, which include 19 first-place awards. He is the first-place winner in both the 50th and 51st California Watercolor Association National Exhibitions.

He is a signature member in the American Watercolor Society and the National Watercolor Society. His watercolor paintings have been featured multiple times in *Watercolor Artist* magazine. He currently teaches drawing, painting, and watercolor at Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky.

Artist's website at www.dongfengli.com



54TH NATIONAL EXHIBITION

JANUARY 10–MARCH 9, 2024



Rooftops and Flowerpots, Paris by Carol Husslein

Congratulations to the 85 Accepted Artists that comprise the CWA 54th National Exhibition juried by Carolyn Lord, MCWA, and our 20 Award Winners, juried by Barbara Tapp, CWA.

To view the 54th National Exhibition and awarded paintings, plus an additional 30 paintings selected for their merit, join us January 10th online at www.californiawatercolor.org.



The Drawing Board

California Watercolor Association

Each month a different member of the CWA Board of Directors has the opportunity to write an art-related article for our members.

Taking our paintings one step further...

I've often said to my students, "You can make a beautiful painting of tulips or a forgettable painting of tulips." What this statement entails is making COMPOSITION the most important concept. But we likely have different ideas of what makes a compelling composition. All it takes is to view the paintings of great masters and successful contemporary artists. No two artists think of arranging the items in the composition the same way.

For me, composition is developed by considering the different elements of design (line, shape, color, value, and texture) and how soft and hard edges can manipulate the viewer's eye. In addition, I find that we are tempted to do more of the same kinds of actions repeatedly, and then the result becomes a boring composition.



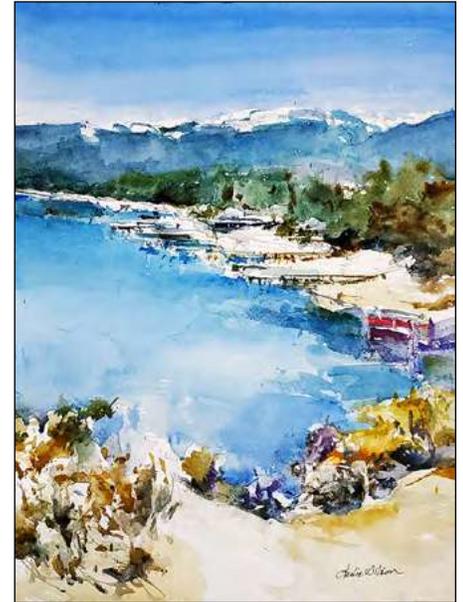
Holiday Card, 2023 by Leslie Wilson

I often consider dichotomies, such as:

Shape	large vs. small
Value	dark vs. light
Texture	rough vs. smooth
Temperature	warm vs. cool
Intensity	bright vs. dull
Style	descriptive vs. abstract
Line/edges	hard vs. soft
Composition	busy vs. places to rest

In putting these concepts into action, I start with something that attracts my attention in a photograph or scene and then build on how I can create variety in the way the picture plane can be arranged. For example, I may notice big contrasts in a still life and then let those descriptive features give way to soft, intangible suggestions. Uneven and unpredictable distributions of all these concepts can help keep the viewer engaged. So, while the subject is important, it is more about how the picture plane can be arranged with compositional surprises.

Many painters intend to copy what's in front of them without considering how the subject can be enhanced/converted using variations in treatments, such as leaving items out, softening some areas, and establishing priorities within the picture plane. Many artists suggest beginning with a value sketch to form a roadmap through the composition. That's a very good idea, but I don't usually do that. I begin the process of developing the composition during the drawing stage, establishing priorities with hard-edged, defined shapes that are contrasted with soft, loosely defined edges.



Incline Village View by Leslie Wilson

When I begin the painting, I trust my intuition to emphasize what I notice in a scene or photograph, which is usually where I start the drawing. If an area grabs my attention, I go there right away. Then I pause, observe what I've done, and proceed to an adjacent area to further develop the composition. If I've worked on an area of interest, my next move might be to simplify or understate an adjacent area. This helps achieve variations in the use of the elements of design for a more unexpected result. In short, if I've developed a descriptive area with big contrasts, I often go with a played-down treatment nearby, such as a soft edge or wide expansive shape to offset the emphasis in the previously painted area.

Then the analysis continues, e.g., making decisions about what I think the painting NEEDS until I conclude that the painting is finished. Next, I let the painting sit where I can see it as I walk by, observing the painting and making modifications if I think they will improve the result. I find that using the concepts I have presented takes the monotony out of painting—the result is always changing, keeping me engaged instead of rote copying.

Now, have fun painting in this new year!

Leslie Wilson
Secretary



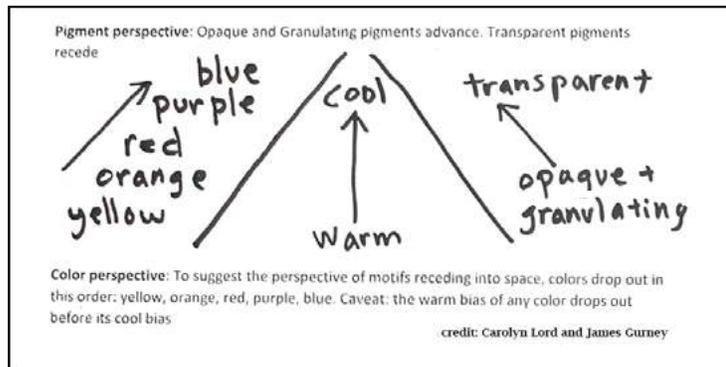
Community Outreach

Oakland Veterans Seasonal Celebration on 21st Street



Wow! We're back on 21st Street. We had clean, new palettes, fresh pigments, and a beautiful spacious room, plus delicious pumpkin muffins to greet the Oakland veterans for the December gathering. This new room was a pleasant surprise. We were very grateful to Kevin who facilitated our being back in the 21st Street VA building.

This month's project was a red cardinal in a snowy landscape. Michael Friedland explained the project while Pat Moseuk squeezed the paint into the clean palettes. Finally, all the palettes would have the pigments in the same well. Participants would all be on the same page when they're being instructed on color mixing.



After drawing the cardinal and landscape, we painted masking fluid over the bird and any other part of the paper we wished to hold as white. Once the fluid was dry, we wet with water the areas we wanted to blur. Then we mixed a foreground color, warmish, and a background color, bluish,

in tints to create a snowy landscape. Before the paint dried Michael demonstrated using a clean damp thirsty brush to pick up paint leaving soft-edged lighter shapes to further the painting.

When the paper surrounding the resist was dry, the resist was removed and we were ready to paint the bird. The cardinal was warm red (cadmium red) where the light was hitting it and cool red (alizarin crimson) on the shadow side. A mixed black was made for the cardinal's head markings, eye, and bare branches where he perched. Finally, we painted a yellow for the beak.

Most of the group then returned to the foreground and background. Michael recounted the saying "How many artists does it take to make a watercolor?" Answer, "Two. One to paint and the second to yell, "Stop" and declare the painting complete." A few wise vets had already put their brushes down resisting the urge to overwork their paintings.

On critique, it was observed that there was a noticeable difference in the sizes of birds. The source had a small cardinal and thus small details. It was explained that some painters opted to adjust the composition. With a larger bird, the details are easier to place. Others proportioned their work to be folded into a greeting card or as the cover for a greeting card. This was a very happy gathering. All the paintings deliver cheer for this holiday season.

Sheila Cain

Co-Director, Community Outreach



CALIFORNIA WATERCOLOR ASSOCIATION 2024 WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP SERIES



Andy Evansen A Valued Approach to Watercolor 3-Day Online Workshop February 7-9, 2024 All Levels



CWA Members \$350 Non-Members \$410

There seems to be a never-ending quest to loosen up in watercolor and it's probably the most common goal of students. To loosen up it is imperative to have a clear vision of what you want to accomplish with your painting and then execute it quickly. This class will give you the tools and confidence to do just that.

Artist's website at evansenartstudio.com



Dongfeng Li Painting Portraits and Landscapes with an Eye Towards the Emotional Experience of the Subject 4-Day In-Person Workshop February 26-29, 2024 Intermediate to Advanced



CWA Members \$475 Non-Members \$540

Dongfeng's paintings share the experience of an intimate relationship between the viewer and the portrait subject by focusing their gaze to communicate feelings and life experiences.

Artist's website at www.dongfengli.com



Michael Holter Watercolor Impressionism, Landscapes and Cityscapes 3-Day Online Workshop April 24-26, 2024 All Skill Levels



CWA Members \$250 Non-Members \$310

Michael's work is impressionistic. He likes to represent people or places and allow the painting to evolve from a recognizable structure. The challenge is to make the representation interesting... perhaps believable, with looseness and a painterly quality that makes it unique and expressive.

Artist's website at michaelholter.com



Carolyn Lord Plein Air Watercolor at the EBRP Botanical Garden 3-Day In-Person Workshop May 17-19, 2024 All Skill Levels



CWA Members \$375 Non-Members \$435

The portability and vibrancy of watercolor make it ideal for plein air painting! This three-day workshop will be held outdoors in Tilden Regional Park Botanic Garden in the hills east of Berkeley, California.

Artist's website at carolynlord.com

Click here for Tilden Regional Park Botanic Garden website.



Bethanie Murguia Drawing and Painting with a Children's Book Illustrator 2-Day In-Person Workshop September 28-29, 2024 All Skill Levels



CWA Members \$225 Non-Members \$285

We'll explore the world of children's book illustration by learning how words and images work together, creating characters, and focusing on conveying emotion with drawings and paintings. We'll experiment with different tools for creating lines and pair those with painting, culminating in students creating sequential art to tell a short story.

Artist's website at aquapup.com



Dale Laitinen Shapeshifting the Western Landscape 4-Day In-Person Workshop October 20-23, 2024 Intermediate to Advanced



CWA Members \$400 Non-Members \$460

A painting rich with shapes, colors, and details, complete to the final brushstroke belies its beginnings in observation, sketching, composition, and ultimately washes of color that bring it to life. Painting, especially watermedia requires an unending enthusiasm for experimentation and a hands-on approach to the discipline.

Artist's website at dalelaitinen.com

CWA strives to provide our students with some of the best workshops with the top professional artists of our time. Please join in the fun. We look forward to meeting you. In-Person Workshops will be held at the Danville Ranch Clubhouse, 1895 Ridgeland Circle, Danville, CA 94526, except for the Carolyn Lord Workshop which will be held at Tilden Regional Park Botanic Garden. For full workshop descriptions, pricing, and online registration, go to <http://www.californiawatercolor.org/classes.php>. To request additional information, go to www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php and choose **Workshops** from the **Recipient** drop-down menu.



Mailing Address

California Watercolor Association
Post Office Box 4631
Walnut Creek, CA 94596 USA

To Email a Board, Staff or Committee Member Go To

www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php
and choose a recipient from the drop down menu.

Membership/Data Manager

Make changes to your address, phone number and email on the members home page, under membership when you're logged with a current membership account. Email datamanager@californiawatercolor.org if you have trouble logging in.

Monthly ZOOM Meetings

are held the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00–9:00 pm, unless otherwise specified.

Newsletter Distribution

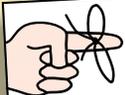
To receive this newsletter electronically please contact the Webmaster with the email address at which you wish to receive the newsletter.

CWA Photo Notice

CWA may be taking photos or videos at CWA events. Your presence at CWA events constitutes your "permission, consent and release" to be photographed without compensation whatsoever in perpetuity. Images may be used online and in print exclusively by CWA explicitly for publicity, information and promotion.

COVID-19 Notice

Please note that all future dates, workshops and events (CWA and Non-CWA) are subject to change due to Federal, State of California, and local COVID-19 restrictions. Please confirm with any of the organizations or events listed in the newsletter before submitting artwork or making plans to attend a future event.



Plan Ahead!

Submissions for the newsletter must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication!

**February Newsletter
Deadline is January 15th.**

Click here to make a submission.

Main Street Arts Gallery



CWA Member Show Smaller Paintings Main Street Arts Gallery – Martinez January 4–February 24, 2024

Awards

Reception on January 13, 2024, from 4:00–7:00 pm, and posted at californiawatercolor.org

Show Closes, and Art Pick-up

Pick up of paintings at the Main Street Arts Gallery on February 25, 2024, from 2:00–4:00 pm

Congratulations to the Accepted Artists!

- Goodnight Mt. Tam* by Rebecca Alarcon
- Blake Gardens, Kensington* by Alexandra Connor
- January Chill* by Judith Cunningham
- Altar Rock at Blind Beach, Sonoma Coast, and Bodega Dunes Reverie* by Andrew J. Dodd
- Succulents* by Tiffany Ferreri
- Dreamscape 1* by John Giannotti
- Old Niles Vintage* by Dmitry Grudsky
- Synergy IV* by Juanita Hagberg
- Where the Otters Play* by Sharon Hind-Smith
- Palms* by Glen Jarvis
- Fire Break, and Happy Cactus* by Jessica De Jesus
- Columbine* by Marion Leggett
- Daisies* by Barbara Lind
- Pebble Beach* by Jana Lowe
- St. George Statue, and Sonoma Fields* by Craig Moline
- Misty Morning Catch, and Moored Memories* by Jaladhi Pujara
- Coastal Cypress 2* by Susan Routledge
- Home Grown* by Judy Rowe
- Secret Oak* by Heidi Schmidt
- Lake Anza Youth* by Jane Sneed
- Up Little Lake Street* by Bernie Stein
- Cottage, and Night Mist* by Kathleen Stumpf
- Heritage* by Sujit Sudhi
- Pohono Bridge* by Joseph Tringali
- The Last of the Berries* by Rae Ann Williams
- Break of Dawn, Abstract, and Day at the Beach* by Georganne Zaro

Venue

Main Street Arts Gallery | 613 Main Street, Martinez, CA 94549

Questions

Email shows@californiawatercolor.org



CWA Board of Directors

President	VACANT
Vice President/Membership	VACANT
Secretary	Leslie Wilson
Director, Budget	Kathleen Catton
Director, Member Shows	Kathleen Stumpf
Director, Communications	VACANT
Director, Programs	Lis MacDonald
Director, National Exhibition	Michael Friedland
Co-Director, Community Outreach	Sheila Cain
Co-Director, Community Outreach	Georganne Zaro
Director, Workshops	Joe Tringali
Member At-Large	Janey Kaiser
Member At-Large	Rekha Joshi

CWA Support Personnel

Bookkeeper	Melissa Alva
Membership/Data Manager/ Webmaster	Adrienne Hefter
Newsletter Editor	Patricia Rosa

CWA Volunteer Committees

Audio Visual Set Up	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Community Outreach	Sheila Cain Maggie Metcalf
Co-Video Librarians	Joe Tringali (Chair) Barb Bochenek Madeline Shelby
Co-Hospitality	Susan Scolnick Jean Holmes Sharon Hopkins
Mail Distribution	Carol Husslein
Panel Rental	Carol Husslein
Plein Air	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Workshop Registrar	Pat Wai

To Email a Board, Staff or Committee Member:

Go to www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php and choose a recipient from the drop-down menu.

Member News

Melanie (Mel) Lacki

Melanie's painting, *A Touch of Scarlet*, was included in the de Young Museum 2023 Invitational. The exhibition runs through January 7, 2024. Her painting was one of nearly 8000 entries that was accepted for the exhibit.

Artist's website at www.MelanieLacki.com



A Touch of Scarlet by Melanie Lacki

Bernie Stein

Bernie's painting, *Neighbors*, was selected for the California Art Club's, The Wonders of Winter online exhibit at the CAC Virtual Gallery running from December 11, 2023–March 19, 2024.

[Click here](#) to view the online exhibit.



Neighbors by Bernie Stein

Juanita Hagberg

Juanita's watercolor, *Synergy*, has been juried into Connected, an exhibition at Gallery Route One. The Exhibit will be from January 13–February 11, 2024. Reception is January 13, 2024, from 3:00–5:00 pm.

Gallery Route One
11101 Highway One, Suite 1101
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956
Hours: Thurs.–Mon., 11:00 am–5:00 pm

Artist's website at juanitahagbergwatercolors.com



Synergy by Juanita Hagberg

Show News

CALL FOR ARTISTS: FANTASY

Arc Gallery wants to know your interpretation of "fantasy." You can draw from science fiction, folklore or mythology to create imaginative worlds. Share your fantasy with us.

Categories Accepted: Sculpture, painting, drawing, photo, printmaking, ceramics, assemblage, collage, mixed media, fiber art, glass art, artist book

Exhibition Dates: May 11, 2024–June 8, 2024

Deadline: March 11, 2024

Juror: Philip Bewley, Philip Bewley Art Advisory, San Francisco, CA

Contact us with questions at arcexhibit@gmail.com

[Click here](#) to apply.

 **arc gallery & studios**

1246 Folsom Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
www.arc-sf.com

CWA Member Resources



Watch Us on YouTube!

Did you miss a general meeting demo? Want to go back and review part of a demo again? Watch now on YouTube.

Check out our YouTube Channel and subscribe to get notified of our latest demos from your favorite artists! Don't forget to subscribe to the channel!

Thank you, and enjoy!



CWA Michael Holter Demo



CWA Stephen Berry Demo



CWA 50th National Art Show at the Harrington Gallery



CWA 50th National Show 2020

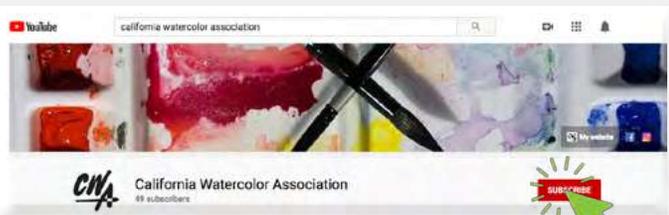


CWA Roland Lee Demo



CWA Leslie Wilson Demo

And More!



Click here to go to the CWA YouTube Channel, and don't forget to click the subscribe button!

<https://www.youtube.com/c/CaliforniaWatercolorAssociation>



CWA Video Library

Staying engaged and creative is easy...just go to the CWA website and view the library catalog, note the video that you are interested in, and send Madeline the catalog number in an email and she will check to see if it's available. She will let you know about its availability and mail it to you if available. It is your responsibility to return the video 30 days after receiving. It can be dropped off at Madeline's home or mailed. All you need to do is pay postage.

[Click here to view our entire catalog.](#)

It can also be found by going to our website and clicking the **About Us Tab** and following the link to **Video Library**.

Checking out a video will be simple, please follow the steps below:

- 1) You must be a Member
- 2) Once you find a video that you are interested in, note the **Catalog Abstract Number**.
- 3) Email me at madlnshelby@aol.com, with the **Catalog Abstract Number** and I will check its availability. I will send you a verification if it is available or let you know if it is checked out.
- 4) If the video is available we will mail it to your home via USPS. Your address on your membership records will be used for shipping.
Please log in and make sure your address information is up-to-date.
- 5) Your rental period is for 30 days. You are responsible to return the video to me. You are responsible for return shipping costs.

Return Address:
Madeline Shelby
482 Broadmoor Blvd.
San Leandro, CA 94577

6) Members who return videos after 30 days must pay a \$5.00 Late Fee. Lost videos must be replaced at the video replacement value.

We are excited to offer this service and hope it will lead to your creative enjoyment.

Madeline Shelby



2024 CWA Calendar

ZOOM General Meetings & Demos

January 17, 2024 — ZOOM Demo
Dongfeng Li
(for Members & Guests)

February 21, 2024 (6:00 pm) Andy Evansen
March 20, 2024 Michael Holter
April 17, 2024 Carolyn Lord
May 15, 2024 Hugh Mossman
June 19, 2024 TBD
July 2024 Summer Break—NO MEETING
August 21, 2024 Bethanie Murguia
September 18, 2024 Dale Laitinen
October 16, 2024 TBD
November 20, 2024 Keiko Tanabe
December 2024 Winter Break—NO MEETING

Go to **Monthly Meetings** under the **About Us** tab at www.californiawatercolor.org for updates.

CWA 54th National Online Exhibition

January 10–March 9, 2024

CWA Member Shows

Smaller Paintings

Main Street Arts Gallery
January 4–February 24, 2024

Danville Village Theater Gallery

April 13–June 21, 2024

San Ramon City Hall Gallery

October 2024

Welcome New Members

Rebecca Alarcon, Andrea Bell, Andrew J. Dodd,
WenXin Dong, Rebecca Krutsinger, Jacquelyn Low,
Kathryn Stewart, Ann Wareham-Driller

To email membership, go to www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php and choose **Membership Director** from the **Recipient** drop-down menu.

CWA Workshop Series

February 7–9, 2024 **Andy Evansen**
A Valued Approach to Watercolor (ZOOM)

February 26–29, 2024 **Dongfeng Li**
Painting Portraits and Landscapes with an Eye Towards
the Emotional Experience of the Subject (LIVE)

April 24–26, 2024 **Michael Holter**
Watercolor Impressionism,
Landscapes and Cityscapes (ZOOM)

May 17–19, 2024 **Carolyn Lord**
Plein Air Watercolor at
the EBRP Botanical Garden (LIVE)

September 28–29, 2024 **Bethanie Murguia**
Two Days of Play: Drawing and Painting with a
Children's Book Illustrator (LIVE)

October 20–23, 2024 **Dale Laitinen**
Shapeshifting the Western Landscape (LIVE)

To request additional information, go to www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php and choose **Workshops** from the **Recipient** drop-down menu.

DON'T MISS IT!

Community Outreach Art Supplies Sale

at **GREAT SAVINGS** to our **CWA Members!**

Click [here](#) to download the spreadsheet
with currently available items.

To purchase contact Sheila at sheilahillcain@gmail.com
or Georganne at georgannezaro@gmail.com.

Contra Costa Plein Air

Click [here](#) for posts of upcoming paint-outs on their blog,
or click [here](#) to visit Contra Costa Plein Air on Facebook,

