



From the President California Watercolor Association

Let's Talk About California Watercolor Association...CWA!

I know, I know, it's only November but sooooo much has happened so far in 2020 for CWA (and the world); I needed to summarize where we've been and where we're going.

In January we held our 50th National Exhibition at the Harrington Gallery in Pleasanton. It was astounding! We installed a fabulous exhibition; we had record attendance at the exhibit and all of the special activities we hosted for the event. The exhibition was MEMORABLE!

Our workshop team opened 2020 with Michael Reardon as the January guest artist. Michael was part of our 50th Exhibition special activities, holding the workshop at the Firehouse Art Center in Pleasanton. He was also our January general meeting guest artist!

February brought guest artist Nancy Roberts, an acrylic painter, to our general meeting. Our program directors make sure that all water media interests are covered for our members and guests!

Our community outreach teams were working with veterans in Oakland and Martinez.

Then came March, April, May and June...

So many cancellations, but also so many ideas about how to bring CWA to our members and the community! WOW! All I can say is ZOOM!

CWA held their first ZOOM general meeting in June with artist Stephen Berry painting live on camera. We were held spellbound on our cell phones, tablets/iPads, laptops and desktops. We were hungry for artistic interaction. And above all it was great! Our program directors have continued with live general meetings with Leslie Wilson, Roland Lee, Michael Holter and David Savellano. Upcoming is Uma Kelkar in November and a special surprise in December...Michael Friedland. We have not had a December meeting in forever! They felt it was a great thing to do after having to cancel several general meetings.

Now our workshop team is arranging online workshops starting with Michael Holter in October. More information will be coming soon on this front so stay tuned.

Our plein air group has been working hard setting up painting locations where our painters can be outdoors and safely social distanced. The events are monthly through November. Our community outreach team is having a veteran plein air event!

While all of this has been going on...you guessed it, member shows went VIRTUAL! WHAT!

Our first virtual member show was for Lindsay Dirx Brown gallery in San Ramon. That was the toughest since we had never done it before. Then came the Falkirk show and Holiday Market show. We are working on even more virtual shows in 2021 as we navigate our current social environment.

I'm going to mention ZOOM again with regards to our board meetings. It really works! Your board meets/plans on ZOOM and guess what...we enjoy it! I see this



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