



From the President California Watercolor Association

"Only do what only you can do!" *Paul Sloane*

Now is the time to only do what only you can do!

We as artists and we as people get caught up in the daily tornado of life and end up transported to the Land of Oz before the blink of an eye. Why is that? Well, I think it is because our minds work on so many different levels, we get caught up in the "funnel cloud" and land far from the plains of home! Yes, these are turbulent times. Our concerns are spread over many issues, including health, social and political.

We all need to take a step back and focus. This will give us a moment to regroup our thoughts and think about what only we can do. If we do not do that our actions become unfocused and we accomplish nothing. Don't you feel very uncomfortable when you're trying to do twenty tasks but never finish any of the twenty? I know I do! I now find myself writing one task per piece of scrap paper. And, yes, I may have many scrap papers on my counter with small, medium and large tasks written on them. But guess what? I pick up one scrap of paper, complete the tasks and throw the paper away. Voila! I completed something! Yeah! Then what happens? I grab another piece of paper and do that task! Do you see the pattern here? I also make time for my art.

Up until a few months ago, we were going about our lives in the usual pattern. We jumped in our cars and went to work, grocery shopping, coffee drinking, wine tasting, art gallery gazing all at the drop of a hat. We jumped on public transportation to go into the big cities to museums on a whim. We took our dogs to the dog park and our children to the playground for play dates.

It is different at the moment. We have to put a lot more thought into what we are doing. Our futures do not "look" like they did at the beginning of 2020. But I have news for you! You can only do what only you can do! So as the old expression says "you can't eat the watermelon whole" so you can't do everything all the time. Step back. Organize your thoughts and proceed. I believe one of the most important things we as artists need to do is remain true to our art. It is a special part of our being and we must not cast it aside as unimportant in the grand scheme of things as they are at the moment.

Focus. Create. Thrive!

Only do what only you can do!

Carol Husslein
CWA President

