



February 2025

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

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# California WATERCOLOR Association

ZOOM Demo for Members and Guests at 7:00 pm PST, Wednesday, February 19, 2025.



## February ZOOM Demo Artist Leslie Wilson, MCWA

There will be a **ZOOM General Meeting and Demo** by Leslie Wilson for CWA members and friends to participate, on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, from 7:00–9:00 pm PST.

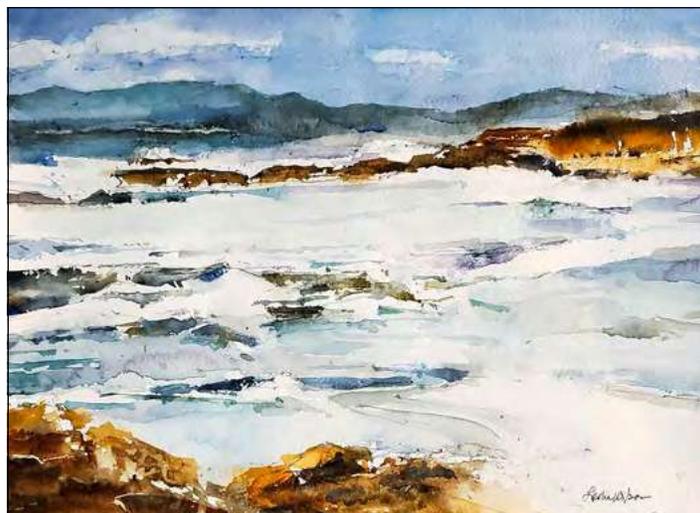
**Keeping it simple**, the **ZOOM link** and **passcode** will be the same for all our General Meetings.

To join, just click on the **Join Icon** on the right.

**Meeting ID:** 880 6742 4194 **Passcode:** 319828



*SF Ferry Building* by Leslie Wilson



*Pescadero Beach* by Leslie Wilson



*Breakfast Chef at Landgrove Inn, Vermont*  
by Leslie Wilson

Leslie Wilson is a watercolor artist who creates original paintings and accepts commissions, specializing in landscapes, still life, and figures in an impressionistic style. Art has always played a fundamental role in her life. For more than 30 years, she has dedicated herself to watercolor painting, capturing moments with vibrant light and color, both in plein air and in the studio. Leslie enjoys transforming the ordinary into the extraordinary and aims to evoke memories of the places people have visited, the individuals they have met, and the remarkable light and colors found in our world.

Artist website at  
[www.lesliewilson.net](http://www.lesliewilson.net)





*You're  
Invited*



CALIFORNIA WATERCOLOR ASSOCIATION

*55th International Exhibition*

Please join us for the  
**Artist Reception & Awards Presentation**  
**February 15, 2025**  
**from 11:00 am–2:00 pm**

Piedmont Center for the Arts  
801 Magnolia Avenue, Piedmont, California 94611

Exhibition dates: February 15–March 23, 2025  
Gallery Hours: 11:00 am–2:00 pm, Saturdays & Sundays  
Admission is Free to the Public

[Click here](#) to email the 55th International Exhibition committee.



# The Drawing Board

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

## Feather River Art Camp by Sheila Cain



Botanical Dyeing and Printing Projects set up for the final Saturday Show.



Spanish Creek rushing over rocks



Lunch outside under the huge sail shade



Spanish Creek at a deep pool for peaceful contemplation

Have you ever dreamed of a sleep-away camp in a natural setting where your every necessity is provided for, and you are part of a friendly, upbeat, very social, joyful group who want to have a good time and be creative? I found that experience during the five years I attended the Feather River Art Camp near Quincy, CA.

My camp schedule began with rising with the sun. I started by warming up my arm with Chinese calligraphy (the aerobics of the brush). After that, I'd dress and head up to the dining hall where I picked up a cup of good strong coffee before a half hour of Tai Chi class. Breakfast was a hearty cafeteria-style meal shared with 70–100 fellow campers and staff teachers.

Classes began at 10:00 am. I participated in a variety of classes, including watercolors with Margaret Fargo and brush painting with Karen LeGault. When the lunch bell rang, I'd go for a swim in the Spanish Creek, which ran through camp, and arrive late for lunch but feeling cooler. Lunch, like every meal, offered many dietary choices—omnivore, vegan, vegetarian, gluten free, etc. I always requested vegetarian on my application, even though I'm an omnivore, simply because the vegetarian dishes were so delicious that they often ran out. I ate with friends outside under a huge sail shade, though there were plenty of indoor tables available in the dining hall.

After lunch, it was free time. I would drive to the lower beach, climb down the rocks to the beach by the river and set up for painting with my card table, shade umbrella, and chair. There I swam and painted the afternoon away. Often one of the afternoon or evening workshops appealed to me, such as mosaic, so I'd head back to the outdoor venue where

it was being held. One memorable evening workshop was held by an astronomer who set up the planets of our galaxy proportionally through out the camp. His workshop in astronomy covered the latest astronomical findings like black holes and looking through his telescope at Saturn and its glorious rings.

The air was buzzing with creativity, but it was easy to find a peaceful spot in this beautiful natural setting. Some tent cabins had balconies facing Spanish Creek, while others were near the bathrooms or train tracks. The first time a train roared through at night, it felt as if it was coming directly through my tent. The camp runs for seven days. On the final day they hold an art show where each group shares their creations, celebrating each other, teachers, and the staff. The botanical dyeing and printing projects is a class I would sign up for if I were going this year.

Sadly, my Art Camp days are over. However, for those of you who enjoy painting, creating and living plein air, this camp might be just your thing. The accommodations are not quite glamping but are described as "rustic but civilized." Non-campers can stay in a hotel in Quincy and take their meals and everything else at the camp. They no longer have Tai Chi, but have a physical therapist for the morning stretch. Margaret Fargo is still teaching watercolor there, but her 2025 class is already full. There is a portrait watercolor teacher who has room for this 2025 camp session. I highly recommend this camp. The cost is \$1,793.00, and it's worth every penny. **Click here** for more information.

*Sheila Cain*

Co-Director, Community Outreach



Tent cabin with the option of a double bed for couples



Margret Fargo's watercolor class



*Rocks and Water*, a brush painting by Sheila Cain



*Back Rhubarb*, a brush painting by Sheila Cain



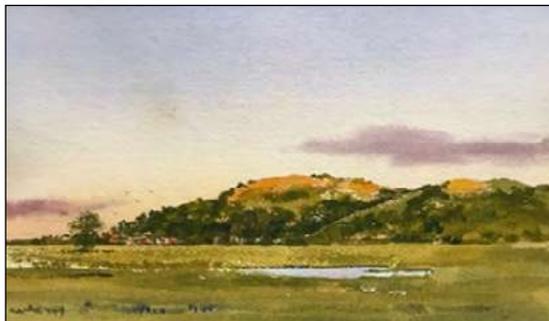
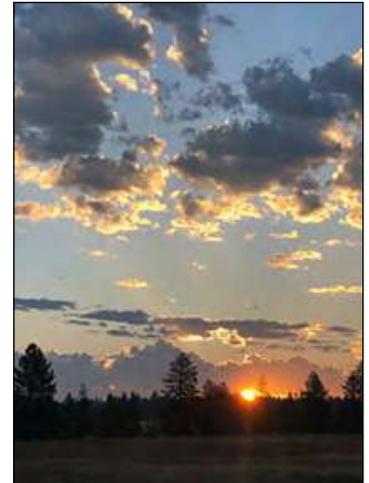
# Community Outreach — Oakland Veterans

## Big Sky Painting

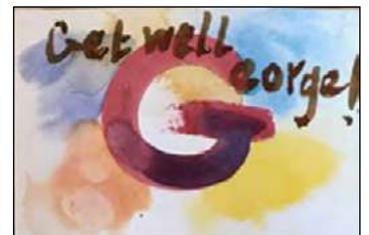
Dramatic big skies was the project for the Oakland Vets. We had four photographs of dramatic skies as possible subjects. Michael Friedland warned us that they would be very challenging and they were. The problem is moving from dark to light in smooth transitions, small spaces, and maintaining soft edges. Then surrounding these billowing shapes in a continuous lost and found edged sky. In addition, we painted “get well” cards for a group member who was in a rehab facility with a broken leg.

We chose our big sky source photos and began painting with the lightest of drawings. A big sky means a low horizon line, at least two-thirds the way down the paper. Sheila recommended wetting areas and leaving dry spots in the middle for soft edges leading to a white section of a cloud. Each attendee focused on their particular source photo. It would have been easier had we worked together on one source photo and done a “paint along.”

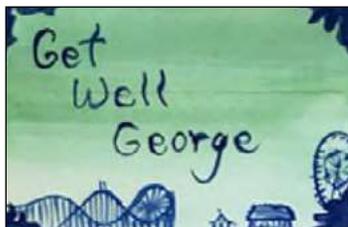
Source Photos



However, the vet’s paintings came along. There was a general discussion about destinations for seeing migrating birds. One of the vets was planning to see the sandhill cranes that number 30,000 and make stopovers at Eisenberg Sandhill Crane Reserve in the delta. This inspired another vet’s “get well” postcard with a charming little painting of two cranes.



We put up our paintings and each spoke about theirs. One painter had a wonderful result that looked like a river in the sky. Some vets felt we should try the big sky again. If we did, we’d use a solo reference photo and work together to paint the big sky.



*Sheila Cain*

Co-Director, Community Outreach



# CALIFORNIA WATERCOLOR ASSOCIATION 2025 WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP SERIES



## Michael Holter — Watercolor Impressionism, Landscapes and Cityscapes

**3-Day Online Workshop**  
**February 25–27, 2025 | All Levels**

CWA Members \$275 Non-Members \$335  
Artist's website at [michaelholter.com](http://michaelholter.com)



## Gary Tucker — Finding Confidence with Watercolor

**3-Day Online Workshop**  
**March 21–23, 2025 | Advanced Beginner** *(some experience helpful)*

CWA Members \$250 Non-Members \$310  
Artist's website at [garytuckerartist.com](http://garytuckerartist.com)



## Michael Reardon — Watercolor Techniques

**3-Day In-Person Workshop**  
**April 23–25, 2025 | All Levels** *(some experience recommended)*

CWA Members \$275 Non-Members \$335  
Artist's website at [mreardon.com](http://mreardon.com)



## Amit Kapoor — How to Capture the Magic of Light and Shadow, and How to Simplify a Complicated Subject

**3-Day In-Person Workshop**  
**May 16–18, 2025 | All Levels**

CWA Members \$395 Non-Members \$455  
Artist's website at [amitkapoorwatercolor.com](http://amitkapoorwatercolor.com)



## Thomas Schaller — Design and the Power of Imagination

**3-Day Online Workshop**  
**June 16–18, 2025 | All Levels** *(some experience helpful)*

CWA Members \$350 Non-Members \$410  
Artist's website at [thomasschaller.com](http://thomasschaller.com)



## Keiko Tenabe — Keep it Simple and Strong

**3-Day In-Person Workshop**  
**October 27–29, 2025 | Intermediate** *(previous experience is strongly recommended)*

CWA Members \$425 Non-Members \$485  
Artist's website at [ktanabefineart.com](http://ktanabefineart.com)



CWA is dedicated to offering our students some of the best workshops with top professional artists. We invite you to join in the fun and look forward to meeting you.

In-person workshops will be held at the Danville Ranch Clubhouse, 1895 Ridgeland Circle, Danville, CA 94526.

For detailed workshop descriptions, pricing, and online registration, please visit <http://www.californiawatercolor.org/classes.php>.

For additional information, please visit [www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php](http://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](http://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](mailto:datamanager@californiawatercolor.org) if you have trouble logging in.

### General Meetings

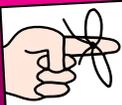
Monthly General Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00 pm–9:00 pm, PST, via Zoom, unless otherwise specified.

### 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 attendance 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.



## Plan Ahead!

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

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

**Click here to make a submission.**

## CWA Member Show

# Happy Memories

January 11– February 21, 2025

**Congratulations to the award winners of the Happy Memories CWA Member Show.**

### 1st Place

Kirsten Theurer  
*A Day at Filoli*

### 2nd Place

Leslie Wilson  
*Mount Diablo 2024*

### 3rd Place

Marina Omelianenko  
*Black Cat*

### Honorable Mentions

Michael O'Rourke  
*Forgotten Relics*

Judy Rowe  
*Thirty Minute Parking*

Barbara Lind  
*Garden Couple*

Jeff Ishikawa  
*Surge*

### Jurors

Juror of Selection — Carol Tarzier, San Francisco Artist  
Juror of Awards — Glen Jarvis, CWA

**Thank you to all the participating artists, jurors, and to John Muir Health — Auxiliary Gallery at the Aspen Center**

Your contributions are essential to the success of this CWA show and are greatly appreciated!

### Show Closes, and Artwork Pick Up

Pick up of paintings at the John Muir Gallery on February 21, 2025, from 11:30 am–12:00 noon

### Venue

John Muir Health — Auxiliary Gallery at the Aspen Center  
133 La Casa Via, Walnut Creek, CA 9459

### Questions

Email [shows@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:shows@californiawatercolor.org)



# Plein Air – Downtown Livermore

Saturday, February 22, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm



Downtown is the heart of the Livermore community, serving as a shared space for all residents. It is a perfect destination for visitors who want to immerse themselves in its rich history, vibrant hospitality, and arts scene. This lively downtown area offers a variety of shopping, dining, and entertainment options, making it an enjoyable place to explore and paint.

We will meet at 10:00 am at Carnegie Park. You are welcome to paint anywhere you like. Feel free to bring your lunch or pick up something from one of the many nearby restaurants. There is ample free public parking around the park. Just one block away is the most bustling part of downtown, filled with people and activities. We will reconvene at the park to share and showcase your paintings at 12:30 pm.

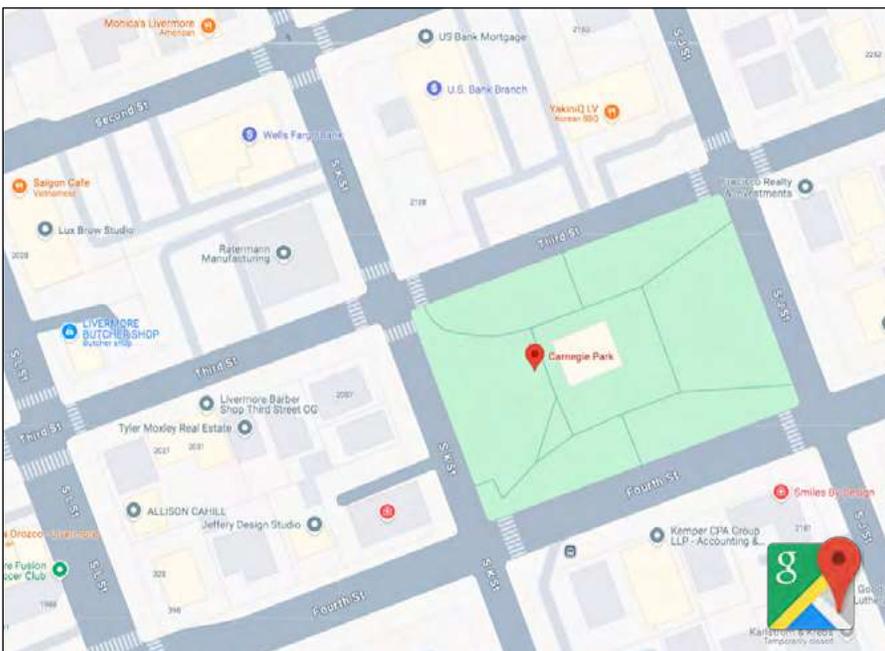
### Carnegie Park

2155 Third St,  
Livermore, CA 94550  
(925) 373 5700

[www.livermoredowntown.com/go/carnegie-park](http://www.livermoredowntown.com/go/carnegie-park)

### Questions?

Contact Nutan Singh, Plein Air Coordinator  
Email: [nutan.finearts@gmail.com](mailto:nutan.finearts@gmail.com)



# Member News

## FLORA IN FOCUS A Flower-inspired Art Show January 11 - March 8, 2025



Helene Roylance



Wei-Ting Chuang



Tuan Karsevar



Jenna Hobbs



Rekha Joshi



Monique Makepeace



Charlotte Severin



Meghana Mitragotri



Usha Shukla



Peggy Kervin

### Live Demonstration Schedule

#### February 8, 2025

Wei-Ting Chuang  
East Asian Brush Painting  
11:00 am–12:30 pm

Meghana Mitragotri  
Watercolor  
1:00 pm–2:30 pm

#### February 15, 2025

Tuan Karsevar  
Oil  
11:00 am–12:30 pm

Charlotte Severin  
Watercolor on Yupo Paper  
1:00 pm–2:30 pm

#### March 1, 2025

Jenna Hobbs  
Gouache  
1:00pm - 2:30pm

### Meghana Mitragotri

Meghana is the creator and organizer of "Flora in Focus," a flower-inspired art show at the Harrington Gallery. This exhibition features 80 floral artworks created by ten talented local artists. It is currently open and will run until March 8, 2025. The reception will feature refreshments and floral arrangements by the Kiraku Ikebana Collective, and attendees can enter to win unique raffle prizes during the event!

#### Participating artists include:

Monique Makepeace, Wei-Ting Chuang, Charlotte Severin, Jenna Hobbs, Helene Roylance, Tuan Karsevar, Rekha Joshi, Peggy Kervin, Usha Shukla and Meghana Mitragotri.

Show Dates: January 11–March 8, 2025

Reception: February 1, 1:00–3:00 pm

Harrington Gallery, Firehouse Arts Center  
4444 Railroad Ave., Pleasanton, CA 94566

Contact Meghana Mitragotri at  
meghana.ms@gmail.com

**Click here** for more info about the show,  
demo schedule, and gallery hours.

**FIREHOUSE**  
ARTS CENTER

THE CITY OF  
**PLEASANTON**

## We Need You

Now is your chance to be a CWA board member!

**Click here** for the list of open positions.

**Click here** to read the description of the positions in the CWA bylaws.

**Click here** to contact CWA Secretary, Leslie Wilson for more information and say you want to volunteer.





## CWA Board of Directors

President	VACANT
Vice President/Membership	VACANT
Secretary	Leslie Wilson
Director, Budget	Kathleen Catton
Director, Member Shows	Kathleen Stumpf
Director, Communications	Jessica de Jesus
Director, Programs	Lis MacDonald
Director, International Exhibition	VACANT
Co-Director, Community Outreach	Sheila Cain
Co-Director, Community Outreach	Georganne Zaro
Director, Workshops	Joe Tringali
Member At-Large	Rekha Joshi
Member At-Large	Sharon Hopkins

## CWA Support Personnel

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

## CWA Volunteer Committees

Audio Visual Set Up	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>
Community Outreach	Sheila Cain Maggie Metcalf
Co-Video Librarians	Joe Tringali (Chair) Barb Bochenek Madeline Shelby
Co-Hospitality	Susan Scolnick Jean Holmes Sharon Hopkins
55th International Exhibition	Jessica de Jesus Iretta Hunter Carol Husslein Samantha McNally Marilyn Miller Ruth Miller Patricia Rosa Joe Tringali Leslie Wilson
Mail Distribution	Carol Husslein
Panel Rental	Carol Husslein
Plein Air	Nutan Singh
Workshop Registrar	Pat Wai

## To Email a Board, Staff or Committee Member:

Go to [www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php](http://www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php) and choose a recipient from the drop-down menu.

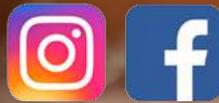
## Welcome New CWA Members

Dina Farris Appel, Billie Armstrong, Kate Burroughs, Louis Chan, Katherine Dayem, Carlo Grunfeld, Leslie Ouyang

Click here to email membership, then choose **Membership Director** from the **Recipient** drop-down menu.

[Click here to Join or Renew Today!](#)

## Follow Us on Facebook & Instagram?



Jessica de Jesus, our Communications Director, is sharing some engaging content. Like us on Facebook and Instagram to stay informed on what is happening. CWA Social Media is your resource for information, promoting the CWA, our members, events, and more.

### Updated Content Now Online

- Upcoming CWA Events
- Recaps of Workshops and Demonstrations
- Calls for Entries
- Member Highlights, Welcomes, and News
- Updates on CWA Outreach
- Book Recommendations

### CWA Social Media Call for Content!

Attention CWA Community: Help us populate the CWA Instagram and Facebook feeds with the latest and greatest member news, member updates, calls for art, etc...!

### Follow Us

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/cawatercolorassociation/>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaWatercolor>

### Contribute

Click here to submit content.

# 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!



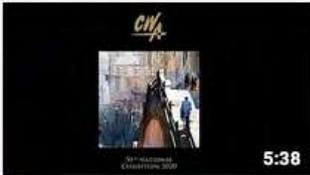
CWA Michael Holter Demo



CWA Stephen Berry Demo



CWA 50th National Art Show at the Harrington Gallery



CWA 50th National Show 2020

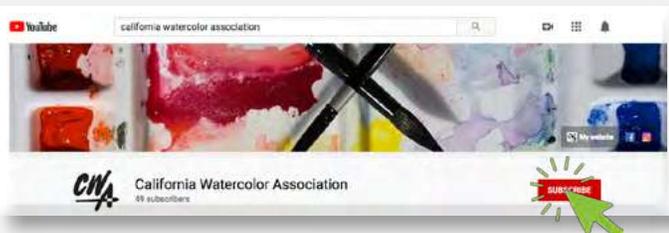


CWA Roland Lee Demo



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](mailto: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*



# 2025 CWA Calendar

## General Meetings & Demos

January 15, 2025 Mike Hernandez

**February 19, 2025 — ZOOM Demo**

**Leslie Wilson  
(for Members & Guests)**

March 19, 2025 Gary Tucker

April 16, 2025 Stephen Berry

May 21, 2025 Thomas Schaller

June 18, 2025 Birgit O'Connor

July 2025 Summer Break—NO MEETING

August 20, 2025 Dale Laitinen

September 17, 2025 Frank Eber

October 15, 2025 Keiko Tanabe

November 19, 2025 Geoff Allen

December 2025 Winter Break—NO MEETING

Go to **Monthly Meetings** under the **About Us** tab at [www.californiawatercolor.org](http://www.californiawatercolor.org) for updates.

## CWA Workshop Series

**January 11–12, 2025 Mike Hernandez**  
Painting the Landscape in Gouache (ZOOM)

**February 25–27, 2025 Michael Holter**  
Watercolor Impressionism, Landscapes  
and Cityscapes (ZOOM)

**March 21–23, 2025 Gary Tucker**  
Finding Confidence with Watercolor (ZOOM)

**April 23–25, 2025 Michael Reardon**  
Watercolor Techniques (IN-PERSON)

**May 16–18, 2025 Amit Kapoor**  
How to Capture the Magic of Light and Shadow, and  
How to Simplify a Complicated Subject (IN-PERSON)

**June 16–18, 2025 Thomas Schaller**  
Design and the Power of Imagination (ZOOM)

**October 27–29, 2025 Keiko Tenabe**  
Keep it Simple and Strong (IN-PERSON)

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

## 55<sup>th</sup> International Exhibition

**February 15–March 23, 2025**

Join us for the Artist Reception and  
Awards Presentation on February 15, 2025

**Piedmont Center for the Arts**  
801 Magnolia Avenue  
Piedmont, California 94611

## CWA Member Show

### Happy Memories

John Muir Health, Walnut Creek  
January 11–February 21, 2025

*Hayward Member Show*  
May 5–June 26, 2025

## Plein Air



**Downtown Livermore**  
Saturday, February 22, 2025  
10:00 am–1:00 pm

**Other Plein Air Opportunities**  
**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.

