

December  
2019 -  
January  
2020



## WAS-H Calendar

For more information, please visit our website -  
<https://www.watercolorhouston.org/Calendar of Events>

Dec 05, 12, 19	Art for Seniors
Dec 05, 12, 19	Weekday Plein Air
Dec 04, 11, 18	Model Lab
Dec 18	Wine Down Wednesday
Dec 20	Fall Open Studio for Members
Jan 04	Take In for Signature Show
Jan 05	General Meeting and Demo
Jan 05	Signature Show Reception
Jan 18	January Monthly Paint-In

## November Show Winners

**On view until January 3, 2020**

**First Place** – Jackie Liddell “Spiny Delight”

**Second Place** – Xylina Wu “Purple Orchid”

**Third Place** – Daniela Wernek “Innocence”

### **Honorable Mentions:**

Raihana Dewji - “Joyful Gem”

Mike Doan - “Heading Home”

Peihong Endris - “Amaryllis with a Butterfly”

Linda Flowers - “Blossoming Souls”

Alison Hendry - “Not Guilty - Really!”

Kanya Kelly - “Crashing Waves”

Maureen Lewis - “Begonia”

Mary Ann Lucas - “Winter I”

## Upcoming Classes

Our **Winter/Spring Classes and Workshops** will be available to preview on our website **December 6, 2019**. Grab your personal calendars and find offerings that will work for you! On **December 10** registration will be open.

New classes may be added after that date, so keep checking our website and watch for eBlasts from WAS-H. Several requests have been received to bring in artists using watercolor in abstract paintings. If you have requests, please forward them to [education@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:education@watercolorhouston.org).

If you are interested in selling your artwork, register and stop in for the events offered free of charge by Susan Giannantonio, a founding member of WAS-H, about the Watermedia Gallery for selling your artwork and getting 100% of the money. Miss the events? Look for additional events in the spring.

## January 2020 Signature Show

Take-In will be **January 4th from 10 AM - 12 PM**. The Event begins on **January 5, 2020** at the general meeting and will run through **January 30, 2020**. The general meeting will feature a panel discussion with several of our outstanding Signature Members discussing the making and meaning of art. They will answer questions from our monitor Nancy Moody and accept questions from the audience. This will be followed by a special reception featuring insights by our juror Ellen Orseck.

On **January 26** WAS-H will host a cocktail party for patrons and donors.

This Signature/Signature Elite Exhibition should prove to be a powerful display of WAS-H's finest offerings so please share this news, save the dates and enjoy this fine show.



## Signature Show (cont.)

Prepare yourself for a rare occasion, truly a visual feast, when WAS-H opens the gallery to its prestigious Signature, Signature Elite Exhibition.

Signature members are those artists who have demonstrated continued excellence by being juried into three International exhibitions. Signature Elite members have been in five such exhibitions.

We have not honored this select group since 2012 and it is time to celebrate their excellence again.

Ellen Orseck, long time friend of WAS-H, and teacher at the Rice University Suzanne M Glasscock school of continuing studies will curate the

exhibit and acknowledge outstanding work in various categories. The following are just an example of these themes: best example of 21st-century life, most innovative composition, most vigorous value range and strongest narrative.

The accomplished artists invited to participate in this show are encouraged to select their very best work so prepare for a dynamic exhibition.

## "Little Gems" show now on view

by Paula Fowler, Gallery Co-Director

The holiday season was officially welcomed at WAS-H on Sunday afternoon by the large group of revelers who attended the reception for our "Little Gems" holiday show. The walls had been decked with over 140 wonderful small paintings (that would be charming additions to your gift-giving basket, by the way!) and our reception committee, led by Susan Bizzell, had laid out food and wine to add to the festivities and keep everyone happy.

The day before, after the paintings were hung, we welcomed Susan Giannantonio, our talented member and instructor, who had graciously agreed to judge the show. She shared that it was a struggle to choose just a few paintings to receive awards from such a rich array of work. She said she would think she was though and would circle the room and want to add just one more! Too bad that she ran out of time and had to stop.

For First Place, Susan chose Jackie Liddell's painting, "Spiny Delight". Jackie is so well known by everyone at WAS-H because of the many classes that she has taught. Her technique in this particular piece incorporated a drawing she made with water-soluble ink that she then overlaid with water colors and tissue paper that she had hand painted. As Susan viewed this painting, she admired the dramatic gestural movement and creative line work and use of color.

Susan next chose for Second Place Xylina Wu's painting, "Purple Orchid". She felt that it displayed a mastery of color mixing, and a deep understanding of form and value. The viewer can feel Xylina's love of and intense connection to nature and can't help but be drawn into this magical spot.

Third Place was awarded to the small gem, "Innocence", that Daniela Werneck painted of her niece in Portugal. She spent a lot of time encouraging her lovely young model to pose for pictures that she would use for references. Her time certainly paid off. Susan thought it was evocative and powerfully painted and that it captured the pensive mood of the moment.

## Welcome to our new members!

Ria Alofsen

Carolyn (Cookie) Ashton

Tom Baker

Thao Bui

Michael Cacioppo

David Carlson

Mai Dinh

Lisa Dunford Dickman

Carol Hebert

Natalie Higgins

Cindy Howard

Richard Larrabee

Caroline Marcos

Maria Reyes

Sandra Reynolds

Diane Schmidt

Sarah Schmitt

Donna Scudder

Margaret Sinclair

Giulia Toti

KellyAnn Tsai

Brenda Waun

**Watercolor Art Society - Houston | location and hours:**

1601 W. Alabama at Mandell  
 Open Tuesday – Saturday  
 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

For information, please contact:

Martin Butler, Administrative Assistant **713-942-9966**

[www. watercolorhouston.org](http://www.watercolorhouston.org)

email: [admin@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:admin@watercolorhouston.org)

## Submit Your Article

Submit your letters and articles via email only to

**[washrag@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:washrag@watercolorhouston.org).**

Deadline for members to submit articles for the  
 upcoming issue of Washrag is

**the 15th of the previous month.**

Material not received by the deadline will appear in  
 the next month's Washrag.

## Donate to WAS-H

**Randall's** offers 1% of your purchase with their Good Neighbor Program. Register at the courtesy booth with WAS-H's ID #4553. Every time you use your Randall's Remarkable Card, WAS-H will receive a credit.

**Amazon** donates \$0.05 to WAS-H for every \$10 you spend! When shopping online, click [https://smile. amazon. com/](https://smile.amazon.com/)

## Become Our Sponsor

WAS-H members, friends, businesses, teachers, and organizations have the opportunity to offer your talent or service to 800+ WAS-H members. Our newsletter comes out 10 times a year - your ad could be in it with interactive links to your website!

Please contact via email:

**[washrag@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:washrag@watercolorhouston.org)**

and

**[beverlyaderholt@att.net](mailto:beverlyaderholt@att.net)**

**Sponsorship rates:**

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Quarter page - \$25/issue

1/8 page - \$15/issue

Teachers listing \$25/year (due September 1st)

## Full Service Frame Shop

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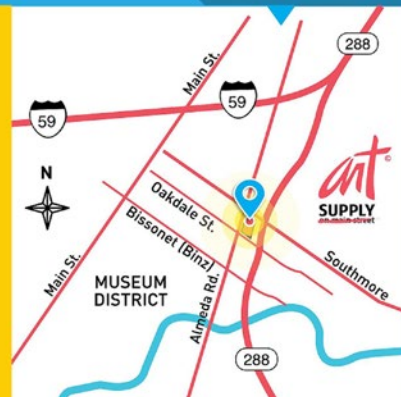
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## From the President

Dear Friends,

The holidays are upon us and Houston is beginning to sparkle with signs of the season. It's the time when we make plans to be with family and friends to share a meal and give thanks for all of life's gifts. At WAS-H our Little Gems Holiday show is up; this year **Paula Fowler** and **Nancy McMillan** and their team hung 140 pieces. I hope you will stop by and enjoy the tiny treasures our artists have created.

It's also the time for our **Annual Giving** appeal. This is the moment to remember that WAS-H is YOUR creative home. Without you and your interest and support we would not be here. Our membership dues and revenue from classes keep the doors open, but do not begin to cover the expense of owning a building. Please consider making a contribution to this year's Annual Giving appeal - we are hoping for 100% response.

**Beverly Aderholt, Susie Telage, Nancy Moody** and **Jan Schrader** have been hard at work planning the January **Signature and Signature Elite Show**. The show, and all the events around it, promises to showcase our best artists. Please mark your calendar and be sure to join us for the General Meeting and show opening on **January 5, 2020**.

Last month I travelled to Charleston with two friends to see the opening of Mary Whyte's exhibit *We The People*. Situated on the river and sparkling with natural light, the gallery held 50 portraits of America's veterans in their civilian life. Mary walked us through the gallery and gave us the back story on each vet's life. It was an inspiring moment that left me feeling hopeful and grateful.

Once again **Beth Graham** and **Laurie Hammons** have organized a great roster of classes for the spring semester. Please check the listings and sign-up for a class.

Thank you again for your support of WAS-H. I wish you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season.

Fondly,

**Kathleen Church, WAS-H President**

**president@watercolorhouston.org**

## WAS-H Teachers Listings

**Ksenia Annis**, figure sketching, digital art, ksenia@tummyrubb.com  
www.tummyrubb.com

**Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Bhatti, MFA, PhD**  
Portrait, flower, landscape/cityscape painting - artistmohdali@yahoo.com

**Peihong Endris, WAS-H, 713-206-3668**  
Chinese Brush Painting  
Peihong1512@gmail.com

**Liz Hill, WAS-H, 713-252-7726**,  
Mixed Media, lizhill4u@aol.com

**Kim Hoerster**, Watercolor and drawing for beginners (Georgetown area)  
512-876-9091, KimHoerster.com

**Susan Giannantonio**, Katy, TX & Mayville, NY lucholiz@gmail.com,

**Les McDonald, Jr., WAS-H, Houston**  
watercolor techniques, all levels.  
(713) 977-4729, les@lesmcdonald.com

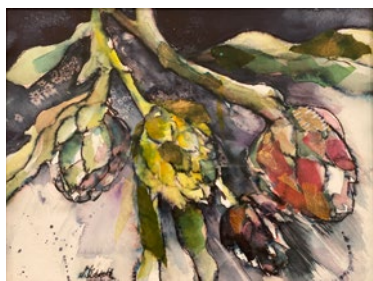
**Gay Paratore, WAS-H elite, NWS, NSA, TWS, SDWS, BA, MEd.** All media: UTMB; Butler; Maine. 409-316-1005

**Carol Rensink, WAS-H**,  
Figure Drawing & Anatomy  
713-299-4136, crensink.art@att.net

**Robert Ruhmann**, Watercolor  
Landscapes 979-864-0155 raruhmann@gmail.com



## Winner's Words



### **“Spiny Delight” by the 1st place winner Jackie Liddell**

Growing up my dad and my grandfather were both in the produce business. I have always enjoyed visiting fresh vegetable markets wherever I travel. “Spiny Delight”, was inspired by seeing artichokes for sale with their stems and leaves still attached. I love to draw, and I have taught drawing in high school, and the University of Houston Clear Lake, so I began with a loose contour line drawing in black ink. Then, watercolor paint was applied in a wet into wet technique to allow the ink to bleed in. Last, I used

some torn pieces of my own painted tissue paper to complete the composition. This painting was completed in a Paint-in I had last June. It is a fun expressive technique that I enjoy for numerous subjects, including boats, nature, animals, landscapes, and architecture.

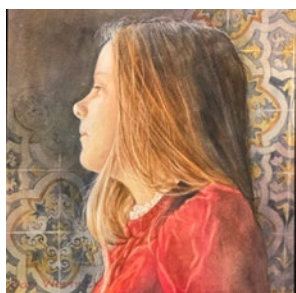


### **“Purple Orchid” by the 2nd place winner Xylina Wu**

I am always fascinated and moved by the beauty of nature, flowers in particular...their color, shape, smell, and their conversation with the Sunlight. When I painted “Purple Orchid” I had all these things in mind. But what really inspired me has always been WAS-H. WAS-H's programs, WAS-H's volunteer spirit and the Friday Member Open Studio. All my watercolor paintings are in some way derived from my WAS-H inspiration.

The initial process of painting the “Purple Orchid” was really nothing special: I painted the big shapes in light colors first and when the paper was half dry, I painted the dark shapes. If I did anything differently for this painting, I would say it was my final process---defining the details. “Work until it is perfect” was the mindset I carried. I worked on it and left it for a couple of days, I looked at it from time to time, close and far, and continued working on it. I did this until I felt all the values were correct, until the painting had depth, until the focal point became interesting. It took me a long time to finish the painting.

One thing I want to point out here is that when I say, “work until it perfect”, “work” was really mostly thinking. The changes on paper were all done by gentle touches.



### **“Innocence” by the 3rd place winner Daniela Werneck**

My name is Daniela Werneck. I was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1974. I'm a realistic figurative watercolorist who paints on aquabond, mixing imagination and photo references to create stories. As a child, although I used to love any kind of art and spent hours drawing, I dreamed of being an architect. I was introduced to watercolor in my early twenties. I remember I was very bad at the beginning and my teacher was always complaining and making me do it again, and again, and again, until one day he looked at me with a surprised face that showed he wasn't believing it really worked. From that day I have never stopped.

In 2015, already living in Texas, I researched online for a watercolor competition to see if my watercolors were as good as my friends used to say when visiting my home. I found one international watercolor competition and I entered just one piece. I was called, I was awarded. In the following month I found WAS-H and aquabond online and it was the beginning of a new beginning for me.

In 2017, due to a process of adoption through CPS, I started a series about children in foster care, to release my stress and the anxiety caused by the adoption process. The series turned out strong with its own voice spreading awareness about these children. It became part of my painting style, bringing me new opportunities. The best thing is that part of this series has been raising money for these children, and I hope I will never stop making them to support the needs of aging out foster children without a family.

This month's winner is a small painting from my new series about the Portuguese culture and old navigation. The

## Winner's Words (cont.)

girl in the paintings is my 17 year old Portuguese niece. Her name is Giovana - Gigi for short. She lives in Porto, Portugal. Last summer, my husband, our two sons and I traveled there to spend two weeks with family from both sides. Days before I left I decided to ask a friend photographer for one of her studio dresses and I fell in love with this red one at first sight. So, bringing the dress with me I found the hardest part was to convince this beautiful girl to pose for her aunt with crazy ideas about photo shooting in a public space. I had no success!! After two days insisting, she agreed to wear the dress inside a hotel room, where only she and I would be with nobody else (including family) for a 30 minute session. Only. After everything settled and she was dressed beautifully, who could make her stop laughing at the situation? So to make her more relaxed we started a conversation and while she was talking about boys, school and reminding me all the time she was doing it because she loves me, I took hundreds of good pictures of her. She has been my muse in my latest paintings, and I have done 10 since the end of summer. Two of these paintings were featured in the Fine Art Connoisseur and American Art Collector magazines, one in full page. Gigi has never shared anything about these paintings on her social media or with her friends.

## November Reception





## November Reception (cont.)



## 43rd IWE update

**DON'T FORGET: DEADLINE FOR IWE ENTRY IS DEC. 30**

**by Tom Kraycirik, IWE Director**

"Art is never finished...merely abandoned," Leonardo da Vinci is quoted as saying. "Knowing (about art) is not enough," he also said. "We must apply."

Time for studying with a critical eye and adjusting your work is over. It is time to apply. The deadline to apply for entry into the 43rd International Watermedia Exhibition is less than 30 days away: **December 30, 2019 at 11:59 MST**. Take the plunge and let your work compete in this renowned venue before another year passes. This year may be "the one" which showcases your art. In addition, you have the opportunity of competing for more than \$7000 in awards as well as professional recognition for your work. You may submit from one to three paintings for the competition. You enter your works through the online CaFe system. It can be found by clicking links to CaFe and the 43rd IWE prospectus at the WAS-H website: <https://watercolorhouston.org/International-Exhibition>

As in every competition, it is critical to thoroughly read and understand the current prospectus. Some changes have been made that you will want to note and understand. If you have questions or need clarification, please contact Tom Kraycirik, IWE Director at: [iwe2@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:iwe2@watercolorhouston.org) or call 713-907-0012.

Each year, the IWE committee works hard to publicize this premier event to state and area art lovers. Special attention is made to attract the attention of qualified patrons and those wishing to view and acquire high quality watermedia art.

This year's exhibition will open with an awards ceremony in the Watercolor Art Society-Houston gallery on **Sunday, March 8, 2020**. It will remain on display through **Thursday, April 2, 2020**. Of the hundreds of entries from domestic and international artists, approximately 100 of the top works will be on exhibit..

Famed watercolor teacher, painter and juror Eric Wiegardt, AWS, GM-DF will be jurying the 43rd IWE and determining award winners among the hundreds of paintings submitted. Mr. Wiegardt has left an indelible mark on American and International art scenes with his bold, loose painting style. He has taught more than 5000 students in his popular "Wiegardt's Painterly Watercolors" workshops. More than 4000 of his original paintings have been acquired for private, corporate and government collections.



# January Paint-In



## LANDSCAPES WITH SPONTANEITY

**Teacher: Susan Giannantonio**

**Class: 9:30-3:00 on January 18, 2020**

Jan McNeill (jan.mcneill@att.net), Alice Rogers and David Muegge,  
Paint-in Coordinators

9:00-9:30 setup by attendees

9:30-3:00 class – lecture, demo, and painting

3:00-3:30 – cleanup

Susan Giannantonio, a WAS-H past president and signature member, will show you how to achieve a natural, uncontrived landscape painting reflecting spontaneity. To achieve interesting marks, at times she utilizes some unexpected tools.

To create a successful gestural, loosely rendered landscape, however, is no happy accident. To do so successfully takes patience, practice and decisively placed marks. The fun comes in when you realize that nature itself can offer surprising tools to create marks and mystify your viewers.

Bring your watercolor materials, a tablet of ¼ sheet or approx.. 9 x 12" good 140 lb. watercolor paper for practice. ½ sheet is also fine (11 x 15").

Important: Bring a mop brush and a rigger. Also handy: a Dagger Striper brush. If you don't have these, you can watch the demo and decide if you might need them.

Students in the November still life workshop of Monika Pate. It was sold out - and enjoyed by all who attended.



# Art Fair Report





# Art on "The Go"



## CHRONICLES OF A TOUR HOST by Shirl Riccetti, WAS-H member

Susan Giannantonio, active WAS-H member, hosts workshops internationally. She also owns a gallery on the East Coast, volunteers with veterans, teaches at WAS-H and in her studio.

These are some of the questions I asked Susan:

*How do you find time for your European trips?*

"Because I have a rigorous summer schedule teaching 5 days a week, and have additional gallery hours, my European travel waits until the end of the summer season. In western NY, it is too cold to paint in an unheated space by mid-September. My gallery/studio is in the freight room of an old train depot on Chautauqua Lake. And Europe in

later September/October is ideal."

*How did your European trips begin?*

"I was invited to offer these trips by tour director and owner of Out of This World Travel, Timothee Farberger, because he saw me sketching once years ago on one of his Danube cruises, and he began following my artwork online. He called me and asked if I'd be interested in leading a trip and I jumped at the chance."

*How does one go about organizing, choosing the actual daily venues?*

"Our tour director is from Paris and knows restaurants, places to stay (castles, boutique hotels), and all of the sights that we 'need' to see. I work with him on a balanced trip of cultural, art and sketching opportunities. He also surprises us sometimes with a few unexpected opportunities along the way."

*Some fun moments?*

"One was when we stole the opportunity to do a fast painting at the site near Mont St. Victoire, where Cezanne painted the mountain many times. Our tour director did not tell us he hadn't asked permission, but he grabbed the opportunity to drop us off in a field for 45 minutes and by the time the owner of the field showed up we got in our bus and left. We waved and thanked him, but I'm sure he would not have given us permission had we asked - ask forgiveness, not permission!

Another profound opportunity was painting in the garden of Saint-Paul Asylum, Saint-Remy, where Van Gogh painted so many paintings. I brought a stick (baton!) from an old tree, and I paint with it from time to time, my idea of a souvenir!"

*Your biggest surprises?*

"I am always surprised how even a few color notes or scribbles bring back a flood of memories when I look back over my sketchbooks. The hand/memory connection somehow files those memories in a deep place in the brain. Even I, with a terrible memory, can put myself right back in the moment of that sketch."

Susan has several trips planned for the future, including Holland, Tuscany, and others. As she states her biggest joy is "the relationships we forge with fellow travelers. When you share these adventures with friends, the memories last a lifetime."

Thank you Susan and fellow artists, This is why we do Art on the Go! Carpe diem!

Send your travel stories to [sriccetti@comcast.net](mailto:sriccetti@comcast.net)

