



Waterworks

L. L. McGuire, Ed.

May, June, July 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone,

It is getting very close to Showtime..... so I have a few important items to share. The invitations were sent out last week announcing the paintings that have been accepted into this year's Annual Traveling Show. First, let me congratulate those who were accepted into the show. May I thank those of you who were not selected to keep the spirit and be sure to enter next year's show. It was difficult to select only 50 when there were so many wonderful entries.

There have been a few changes as a result of Covid-19 this year. The paintings will be displayed at BSU again, but other festivities as we have had in the past this year. The paintings will be hung on May 28th at the Student Union Building. Ted Nuttall will then choose the top 20 paintings. There will not be an awards banquet as it exceeds guest limitations. Instead, the awarding of the prizes will be recorded professionally on video to be shown on our website for everyone to share. Ted Nuttall will be shown talking briefly about each award winner to share his feelings about each painting. Visitors will be welcome to visit the show during the month of June. Only 50 at a time.

The **Annual Board Meeting will be hosted this September 10th and 11th in Stanley, Idaho** to be more centrally located so members around the state can attend. We are very excited to meet our members that we don't get a chance see very often. We are planning art talks on Friday the 10th and show our watercolors to the resort guests and are planning wine tasting at the same time. Sun Valley is just over the hill, so it may be an opportunity to sell some paintings.....so bring one or two to display. The board meeting will be held on Saturday the 11th and will include election of new board members. Those vacating their board positions this year are, David Dillon, President...Mareth Warren, Vice President and Carol HasBrouck Browning, Secretary.

Be sure to make your reservations immediately to insure your participation in this year's festivities.

David Dillon,
President, IWS



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Don't wait too long!

See inside for two exciting opportunities to be an integral part of Idaho Watercolor Society. Participate in exciting board meetings, learn everybody's name, get first dibs on important info! Seriously - it's a great group to work with and both positions have people to help you through the first few months.



Linda Aman – AmanArts

Education VS Outcomes

If you want to improve your current painting skill, here are some suggestions to cultivate your paintings and how to reach farther.

Education - the act or process of imparting or acquiring knowledge or skills, as for a profession. An enlightened experience.

Outcomes - the final result of something, or the way things end up.

I strive to make the next fabulous, maybe even prizewinning, artwork. I plan and hope for the best outcome in each painting. Could I gain more if I consider the education and skill factors in my plans before the painting? What can I learn vs produce in this current painting to take me to the next level in my work? In many of my paintings I play it safe, but there are more and more times when I am taking risks, sometimes small, sometimes larger.

Excuses to just play it safe: (you probably have your own lists)

- I want all my paintings to be successful.
- I only have so much of my time to paint.
- I don't like mistakes and don't want to mess up my painting or do it again.

If my purpose of painting is education, then I can take my art into a new learning experience, method or thought process. Then I may need to have a different mindset on a painting at least some of the time. What can I learn, risk, explore? What new discoveries await me that I can transfer to future paintings? What I learn may not work in this painting, but it may work in the future.

I can learn what to do and what not to do. These are equally important. If the saying “we learn from our mistakes” is true, then I should be very talented by now!

If I really mess up a painting with the mindset of education, I switch gears and make it into another discovery. Many times, these have ended up being artwork I have sold or won awards. Consider starting with small risks.

In my painting above, “Terraced Hot Springs”, I tried new ways of using masking fluid, to make the textures of the hot springs in Yellowstone. After months of tiny details, painting, shadowing, and softening most of the textures for the details I took a calculated risk in my next steps. Towards the end of the painting I added large glazed areas of altering colors over major areas knowing I could “ruin” my outcome. The risks paid off; this painting got into the national show in Idaho Falls this year. I remember very well thinking I could “ruin this painting”. The juror stated he could “feel the bubbling heat and texture”, reasons he chose it for the show! He was surprised it was all watercolor!

I keep exploring new directions in my work that are exciting! In addition to enhancing my skills, I may also have a wonderful painting.

If it has been a struggle to keep motivated, I am encouraging you to keep up your artistic endeavors. You can create and play in new ways that will open expression in your own unique voice. You are the only one in the world who can paint and create just like you.

Please email me linda@amanarts.com if this has encouraged you, I care about you.

Stay safe and enjoy your talents. Blessings, Linda Aman

Aman Arts for current classes, art etc. www.amanarts.com

Art Subscription to help you go farther in your art <https://amanarts-academy.teachable.com>.

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THE LOADED BRUSH

By Dwight Williams



I'll keep this simple. It's my thinking when I'm planning a painting. The planning may be several days (or even more) or the few minutes before things begin to move.

Composition is *always* first...begin every painting as an abstract design even in detailed realistic work to come.

Contrast is *always* second and part of composition...keep it simple...three value thinking as usually enough.

Experiment with color...even "crazy" ones...mix them...sometimes try some new colors.

Become your own best critic...don't be too easily satisfied...having a new thought? Try it!

Be impulsive and audacious...see what you can get away with...take risks...make mistakes.

Never stop thinking, drawing, painting.

So here's a bit from me during the last several months of our social lock down. There's a series of about 15 using all of the above...being my own serious critic I'm not sure about this yet...still doing some of the old stuff, but enjoying trying this.



NEWS ABOUT IWS NORTH REGION MEMBERS



Bonnie Williams was juried into the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies 46th National Exhibition (see attached image of 'Water and Woods').

Bonnie was also juried into the Spokane Watercolor Society 2021 National Show (see images of "Flower Jazz" and "Cliffs at Spokane River"). She also has two paintings in community show, April 2021, at Jacklin Arts and Cultural Center, Post Falls, Idaho

Gabriella Ball, Peggy Conrad, Cathy Gottschalk, Bobbi Kelly, Cheryll Root, Judy Mousseau, and Jan Vogtman will exhibit work, along with members of the Palouse Watercolor Socius, at the Lewis-Clark State College's Center for Arts and History Gallery in Lewiston in a show that runs from May through July.

Jessica Bryant

Jessica's painting 'Tubbs Hill from Corbin Point' is included in the 154th International Exhibition of the American Watercolor Society. Her painting was chosen for this year's AWS Traveling Exhibit. Thirty-nine paintings were chosen to represent this year's exhibit. The paintings will be on display at a few museums throughout the year and can also be viewed online.

Kelsey Grafton, former Exhibit Coordinator at Lewis-Clark State College's Center for Arts and History, has work on exhibit at the Prichard Gallery in Moscow from April 9-May 23rd. The show is an MFA thesis exhibition showcasing the work of Kelsey and Katrina Fekkes whose mediums includes video, ceramics, and multimedia sculptures. More information and images of her body of work can be found on her website at www.kelseygrifton.com.

Photo from Exhibit: Here is a picture of *Mum*, one of the pieces currently in my Thesis Exhibition, "The Seeds of Morrow." I use diluted glaze washes, along with oxides, and mason stains in my sculptural ceramics, which is highly influenced by my work in watercolors. (*Essentially, it is a*



watermedia, which is then baked.) One of the reasons I tend to enjoy ceramics as much as I do is that it combines my many experiences in diverse media. In parallel with working in watercolor, the process makes me strategize while leaving room for the unknown. I am always surprised by the outcome. It helps me embrace the beauty in what it became, rather than what I hoped it would become.

NEWS FROM SC IWS:

We are so happy to report that we had our **first in-person meeting** in over a year. We met on the 2nd Tuesday in April and what a joyous event it was!

We queried members ahead of the meeting to find out how many would be comfortable to meet, and many responded with the answer that they would love to get together since they had their Covid shots behind them and were ready to see everyone. We asked that everyone wear a mask, and they did. We had a wonderful time catching up and seeing what everyone had been working on. The room was filled with warmth and good cheer. We will meet again in May and hope that those members who could not attend in April, will be able to attend on the 2nd Tuesday in May .

We look forward to having the **Traveling Show at the Twin Falls Center for the Arts in July**. We **will also have our regional show at the Center in June**. It feels good to be back!

Connie Pepper

Hello from **East Region**. We are excited to have spring here in Eastern Idaho and looking forward to more painting inside and out! It has been very special to have **nine of our regional members be accepted into this years Annual Juried Show**. I think that is a record for us. Beginning in May our region will have our **annual spring show at the Art Museum of Eastern Idaho in Idaho Falls**. We will have about 40 paintings in the show. We invite any who are this way to see our show. The Museum is located overlooking the Snake River in downtown Idaho Falls and is a beautiful venue for our exhibit. Our thanks to all in making the Idaho Watercolor Society the great organization it is. Happy Spring! From East Region!

Linda Carlson, Regional Rep



Southwest Region will have their Fall Show at the Annual Meeting in Stanley.

Remember-any member can now submit an item for inclusion. Depending on space it may only be in the online version, not the mailed. Editor's discretion final re inclusion. (If you want to make the choice, sign up to be the next editor!)

Membership Chair Needed:

Collect dues, update list of members on spreadsheet, provide newsletter, email and directory with updated lists. Lynn McConnell (208-866-2434) will walk you through it and answer questions.

Newsletter Editor Needed:

Create a newsletter 4 times a year on page layout software of your choice. Involves sending out notice of deadline, gathering info from return emails, obtaining approval of final draft from appropriate people then sending PDF to statewide email chair and PDF plus mail members excel sheet to Copies Plus. Involves about 10 hours of work over two weeks. I can provide template, logos etc or you are free to change up the layout if desired. My last newsletter will be the next one so grab this opportunity now to work with me on that one to get up to speed. Laurel McGuire (262-748-3307)

Both these positions attend board meeting as needed but could just send in info to President if not able to attend. These are great positions for any region as they largely take place over email and digitally.

A Note from Mareth:

A Few Brave Souls

This Spring I offered a couple of classes for anyone who was vaccinated and dared venture out to class. We wore our masks and settled into painting Portraits and studying Painting: From Concept to Conclusion. They all worked very hard and each student progressed noticeably during our two and a half months together. I am pleased to say that I will be offering Summer Critiques in the Park this summer and also another class or two for when it's so hot outside.

On another note, we are gearing up for the annual **IWS Exhibition and Workshop**. We are fortunate to be able to hold our workshop at the Nazareth Center in Boise. They will be closing the end of June and will no longer be available for workshops and retreats. **Ted Nuttall** has chosen the Exhibition artists' paintings and he is ready to teach our **workshop on June 2-5**. All the participants are very excited to attend.

Be well and paint to your heart's content!
Mareth Warren Vice President Idaho Watercolor Society



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