



Editor Emeritus Jean Nelson Ah Fong

Winter Edition 2024

From Our President:

Greetings fellow IWS & IWS/PAPI members,

I am delighted to announce:

OUR NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

I am delighted to announce that Stacy Scott of Idaho Falls, has accepted the membership director position.

If you sign up on-line, your communication will come from her and if you opt to pay your dues by check, you can send the check either to the IWS P.O. Box, or directly to Stacy.

Idaho Watercolor Society

P.O. Box 9093

Boise, Idaho 83707-9093

Stacy Scott, IWS Membership Director

1847 Lexington Ave.

Idaho Falls, ID 83404

OUR NEW VICE PRESIDENT

I am also very pleased to announce that Lynn McConnell (former membership director) is serving for the next year as Vice President. At the annual meeting next year, she will assume the job as IWS President. Knowing Lynn as I do, I know the society will be in great hands.

I also want to take this opportunity to relay my profound thanks to Don Belts, retiring Vice President. Don has sourced us with amazing jurors and workshop instructors over the past few years and been a great support to the organization. He is always on hand when a show

needs to be installed or taken down and assisted with IWS activities whenever we needed help. A huge thank you, Don, from all IWS members.

WHAT I AM THANKFUL FOR...

I hope you have enjoyed the variety of activities sponsored by IWS over the past few years. Our statewide membership has increased to nearly 300 and the art we have seen from you is impressive. The vitality of our organization has only been possible because so many of you have stepped up and made it happen.

NOW FOR MY CHRISTMAS LIST

(My grandchildren tell me that this is a “thing” ...making a Christmas list so your friends and family can get you EXACTLY what you want). Well, here is mine:

As with the growth of any organization, we are at a point where desperately we need help in a few important areas. The following functions will soon lack leaders.

Newsletter Editor – We email critical information to our members only 4 times a year. Without this statewide communication our members would not know about workshops, exhibitions, classes, and regional news. We urgently need someone to assume this important task. Could you help?

Volunteer Coordinator – This is a position the board has talked about needing for some time. Now with our enhanced website, thanks to Dave Galligher, we can pull the volunteer information and connect volunteers with activities they are interested in supporting. We just need someone to make connections via email or phone.

Western Fed Alternate – There is a great deal of work that goes into representing IWS with Western Fed and it is much easier with back up to assist in communicating information about the prospectus details and deadlines; collecting paintings that have been accepted, notifying members, shipping and returning paintings. This also includes the possibility of attending WFWS events and delegate meetings and meeting artists from all over the West. Shelly Johnson is doing a great job as WFWS delegate, but she needs some assistance. Please consider volunteering for this position.

Communication Secretary – This position requires an hour or 2 a month to write notes and mail cards to members who have won awards, been juried into shows, experienced a family loss or illness. It is important to stay in touch with our members and recognize the events that impact their lives. IWS provides the cards and covers the cost of postage. Not a huge commitment, but a very important job! It is also a volunteer task that is not location specific. So, you could live ANYWHERE in Idaho and assume this task. Please consider!

North Region Director – We have a small number of very talented members in this region of our state but have not been able to find anyone who can take on this position. The main responsibility involves coordinating the location and hanging the annual traveling annual show (a once-a-year responsibility) and possibly pulling together a few local paint gatherings or workshops, if that is of interest to regional members. The board would really like to have the North region of IWS represented as we make plans.

As 2024 comes to a close, I want each of you to know how much I enjoy working with you. Thank you for your willingness to share your skills and your time with each other. Wishing each of you safe and joyous Holidays. Make sure you leave time to paint!

Joyfully,

Carol HasBrouck Browning

IWS President

HERE IS YOUR ANNUAL DUES REMINDER!

Please remember that IWS memberships are based on the calendar year, so **all memberships** will expire on December 31st unless they are renewed. Memberships can now be renewed on the IWS web page at this link: <https://idahowatercolorsociety.org/joiniws/>.

This new procedure is much easier to navigate, but remember that it **will not work using your mobile phone or tablet.** **You must use a laptop or desktop computer.**

If you prefer to mail your membership dues then you may print a hard copy of the form from the web page. I am also happy to email you a membership form if that helps. If you have any questions please let me know.

Please be sure that if you are doing a web search for the IWS website that you are putting in the entire website address: www.idahowatercolorsociety.org

Some search engines take you to the Facebook IWS site which is not the official IWS website and will not allow you to pay dues. It's very easy to "bookmark" this page on your computer so you can find it more easily.

Stacy Scott

Membership Director

Inspiration on Vacation-Linda Aman

We are on vacation in Hawaii, staying in a home we rented from a friend, which allows us to enjoy a couple of weeks here. I brought along art materials to paint and experiment with these beautiful new surroundings. My supplies include watercolors and other media for creating *en plein air* paintings and mixed media works.

At first, it took me some time to get into the flow of trying something new and allowing myself to play freely. But now, I feel a greater sense of freedom to explore and see what happens.

The surrounding leaves where we are staying have inspired my work. I love opposites and enjoy combining contrasting elements in my paintings. I experimented by painting around actual leaves placed on the paper, then cutting stencils of the same shapes to paint watercolor through. Playing with this process, I added vibrant, bold colors inspired by Hawaii. The ovals in my painting came from shadows cast onto the canvas by the trees. What started as abstract blobs unexpectedly turned into native fish! At one point, a gecko even ran across my canvas, reminding me I wasn't the only one playing.

The result is a whimsical Hawaii-inspired composition created with watercolor, acrylic, and pen, blending the balance of opposites—shadows and color, nature and abstraction.

Travel has sparked fresh inspiration and led me to discover a new painting style—something I may not have explored at home. Below are a few of the outcomes we can get from painting in a new environment.

- **New Inspiration:** Fresh scenery, colors, cultural influences spark creativity
- **Different Light and Atmosphere:** Can influence mood and the values of colors
- **Personal Growth: Stepping outside your comfort zone on vacation encourages experimentation and growth.**
- **Cultural Context:** A new culture can shift your perspective and add distinct elements to your art, such as motifs or techniques.
- **New Color Palettes:** The colors of your surroundings, such as tropical hues or earthy tones, can inspire palettes you might not use at home
- **Emotional Connection:** The art created on vacation often holds sentimental value, as it captures your personal experience of a particular place and time.
- **Unconventional Subjects:** Settings introduce subjects like exotic flora, fauna or architecture that broadens your repertoire.
- **Heightened Emotional State:** Vacations often evoke excitement, relaxation, or awe, which can infuse your art with more dynamic energy or a sense of calm.
- **Opportunity to Disconnect:** A break in your regular routine can help you with focus.

- **Stronger Sense of Achievement:**
Overcoming challenges while painting in unfamiliar conditions can leave you with a greater sense of accomplishment

©Linda Aman-Aman Arts
www.amanarts.com
December 2024



Lanikai

THE LOADED BRUSH



By Hugh Mossman

NEED HELP?

We all need help from time to time. For some time, I have been leaning too hard on dark values which, while important, can lead to overworked watercolors that lack transparency. I needed some help.

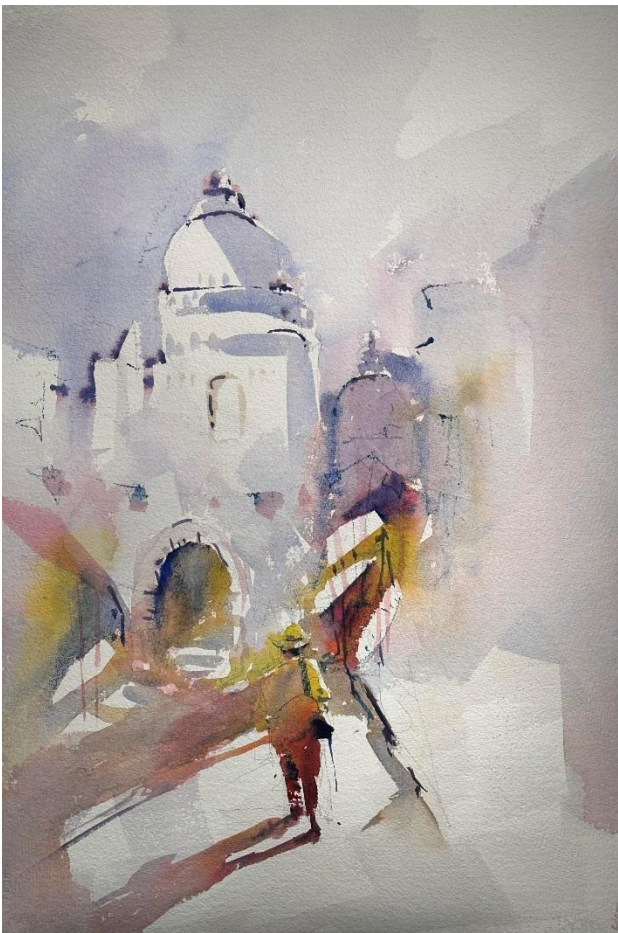
While looking at an old art publication, I came across a painting by Rex Brandt, a California artist who I had long admired (see photo at right).



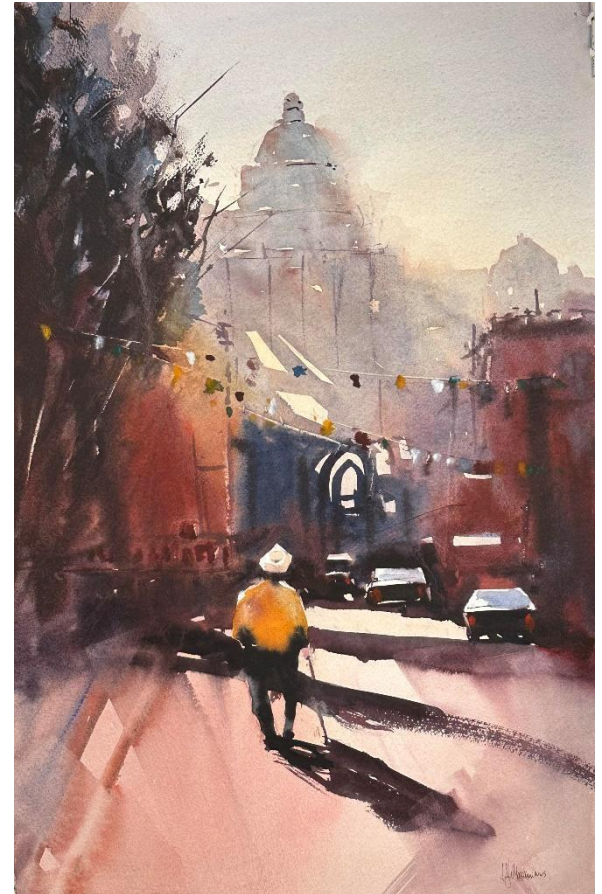
It caught my attention because it was light, fresh and was depicting a scene in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, a place where I have traveled and painted. It had a fresh feel opposite of some of my work.

Believe it or not, golf can be like watercolor- both are difficult and can be frustrating. When I was struggling with a hook, a golf pro told me to try to hit a slice, which curves the opposite way. It should follow then, if I am painting too dark, try painting too light, kind of like Brandt's painting.

I pulled a painting of mine out of an enormous pile of San Miguel paintings too good to throw away but too bad to show (see photo at right).



I have found over the years that these paintings do not usually get better by themselves, so I decided to do the same scene, but with a Brandt light touch. I used a minimum of brush strokes and left most of the painting white or very light (see photo left).



While the result will never be compared to Brandt in a favorable way, it is a start. In golf parlance, it may not be right down the middle, but I am not hooking it.

The message here is if you are not happy with your paintings and need help, try to identify your problem and over-correct, perhaps inspired by an artist you admire. I think your *artist "handicap"* will improve.

and over-correct, perhaps inspired by an artist you admire. I think your *artist "handicap"* will improve.

Regional News – Winter 2024

South Central Region News Connie Pepper

The schedule for our South Central group's monthly 2nd Tuesday sessions is coming together nicely!

In December we will have a “Holiday Painting Party” with the opportunity to paint, exchange paintings, and enjoy a potluck meal. Our gathering has become a time when we celebrate our art journeys with holiday art. We have a gift exchange to share the art we do. The paintings exchanged are another way to celebrate our art journeys, and to give something of ourselves.

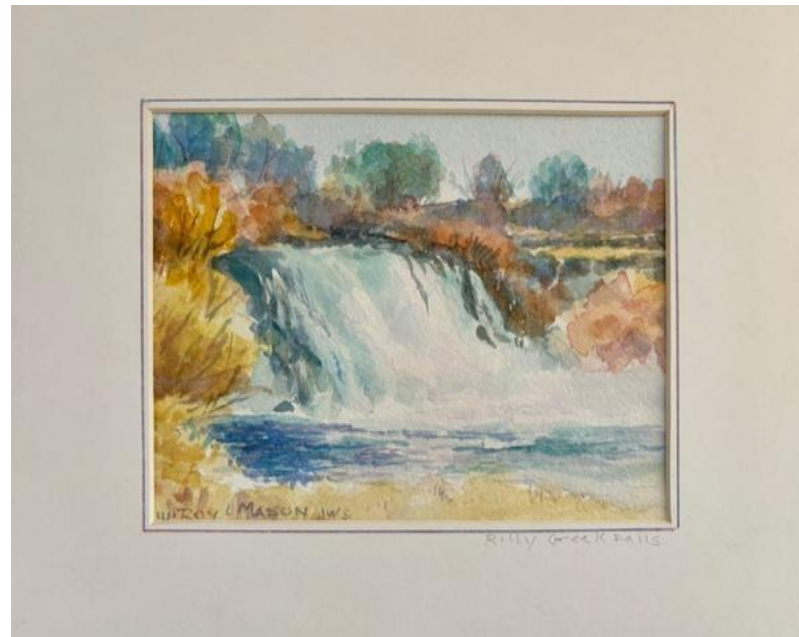
In January, we are fortunate to learn with Michelle George. Michelle is a SC member who has been attending calligraphy classes at CSI. She will share some of what she has learned in a demo. Her plan is to show us how to do a “Versal” letter using ink and watercolor. A versal is a large decorative letter used to mark the opening of a line, paragraph or verse in a manuscript. Versals are present in many ancient manuscripts as well as in many books published today. We will draw and paint versals on small Zentangle tiles to practice this ancient art. We look forward to this great option for thinking differently about how to use watercolor, using an old technique in new watercolor artwork!



On to February. We will be painting rocks. A friend of our IWS painters, Kym Syth, will bring along all that is needed to paint decorative rocks. This is an activity that will take us out of our comfort zone of painting with watercolor and on paper. We will leap into the world of using rocks as a substrate and acrylic paint as our medium. It is a fun activity and painters will be asked place one of their imaginative rocks along the canyon trail. Currently, there is a long line of painted rocks placed along the trail near the Twin Falls Center for the Arts. These rocks have been painted by community members, young and old. It is a new tradition, and will be fun to join in by adding to the collection.



And lastly, we are honoring Roy Mason during this time. Roy passed away recently. He was a long time and dedicated Distinguished Merit Member of IWS, and a friend to all in our South Central membership. His beautiful and skilled paintings are in many homes and businesses in our area and beyond . Roy is known for his landscape paintings. He shared with us that when he took classes years ago, the instructor told him to concentrate and get good at one thing in his landscapes. He chose water. And he was a master.



Connie Pepper
conniepepperarts@gmail.com

East Region News -- Winter 2024

Les Scott

Our regional show “The Wonderful World of Watercolor” at the Willard Art Center in Idaho Falls was a great success this year (as always) and was viewed by literally thousands of patrons. The Willard Art Center combines 2 art galleries, artists’ studios, and a stage area which seats up to 1000 people and brings in large crowds weekly. A big thanks goes out to the Idaho Falls Arts Council that operates the Willard Art Center, along with 2 other facilities, and sponsors this show every year. Regional shows for next year include the College of Eastern Idaho in February, The Art Museum of Eastern Idaho (TAM) in the Spring, and The Willard Art Center again in September.



In November our region held a workshop conducted by Sally Cannon Ellis on “Reflective Light.” This 2-day sold out workshop focused on painting different types of reflective light and included some amazing demonstrations by Sally. Sally is a true master of color.

In October we had a regional meeting which consisted of some great discussions about pricing paintings. This included advice from some of our experienced artists along with some pointers from the “My Artrepreneur Program” that I participated in in 2019.

Don’t forget to check for updates on the IWS Web Page Calendar. The calendar on the web page has been greatly improved

and I try to keep our regional events up to date.

Les Scott – East Region Director

Southwest Region News

Jennifer Von Bergen

Greatest Of All Time Show

The G.O.A.T. Show ran from October 7th-14th in the Boise Cascade Building and was to showcase and honor our IWS signature members. It was a spectacular show. The reception was full of Greatest Of All Time artists rubbing elbows, perusing art and discussing paintings!

Inspiring work from across the state from our signature artist hung for all to see. Hugh Mossman made a sale, and Paula Guth's Four Wheeling With Dad received the People's Choice award! South West Regional Show The southwest show was a great success! A total of 37 Southwest region artists showcased 62 paintings from October 21st to October 31st in the Boise Cascade building. Visitors were able to vote for their favorite painting, and awards for first and second place were both generously donated by Jerry's Artarama. The first place for people's choice award went to Cherry Woodbury's Native Artifacts. Cherry received a \$100 e-gift card to Jerry's Artarama. There were so many great paintings receiving votes that the next placing was a four way tie! With only one prize left to give out we put all the ballots cast for those four artist back in the box and had an unsuspecting and impartial Jack Dykstra (Thank you, Jack) pull out a name for the prize among those four tied second place artists. Cathy Anderson won the second place people's choice award of a \$50 Jerry's Artarama gift certificate for her painting When Grace Moves In. Also in the drawing for second place award were Karen Hickman's Rose of Sharon, Dianne Winder's Still Looking For Three Wise Men, and Deb Bruner's Blue Heron. We wish we had prizes for all these exceptional paintings! Your work really was admired by those viewing the show!

Other News from Around the Area

Artist in Residency Opportunity

I would like to announce a Call to Artists for Greater Hells Canyon Council's newly established "Wild Blues Artist in Residence". We are hoping to connect with artists who would like to apply for this program and who have an interest in environmental conservation, particularly in NE Oregon, home of the Blue Mountain EcoRegion. The residency will be hosted by me at Good Bear Ranch Mountain Retreat near Baker City, OR. Applications will be due by January 15th, 2025. If you would like more information about Greater Hells Canyon Council, please refer to our website at hellscanyon.org. Under the "Our Programs" tab you will find "Wild Blues Artist in Residence", where you will be able to access more detail and apply for the program. For more information about Good Bear Ranch you can see my website at goodbearranch.com.

Kind Regards, Robin Coen
GHCC Board of Directors-VP
208-841-6814

Flyer in included in this newsletter at the bottom. Scroll down.

Spokane Watercolor National Show Information

From Trish Taylor, Member of IWS and also a member of the Spokane Watercolor Society:
We are having our National Show and entries are now open. You do not have to be a member to enter. Please find attached the poster and prospectus. If you could put it in the next newsletter, and arrange to send it to the IWS membership (or forward it to the appropriate person in charge of that), I would be most grateful.

The show juror is Michael Holter, and he will also be conducting a workshop in mid-April (details are still being finalized), and open registration for that will be mid-January—I will send the details on that later.



The poster features a central watercolor illustration of a landscape with a river, trees, and birds. The text is arranged as follows:

SPOKANE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
CALL FOR ENTRIES

2025 NATIONAL JURIED SHOW
entries accepted
December 1, 2024 to February 9, 2025

go to spokanewatercolor.org
for prospectus

for information:
sws.board.show@gmail.com

SPOKANE Watercolor SOCIETY

2024 National Juried Show First Place Award - "Discomfort" by Annala Fish

A show prospectus will be included at the end of this newsletter, as it is long. Scroll down to see.

President: Carol HasBrouck Browning
Vice President: Lynn McConnell
Secretary: Nancy Inaba
Treasurer: Dennis Hazlett
WFWS Delegate: Shelly Johnson
Corresponding Secretary: Jane Wilson
Membership director: Stacy Scott
South West Email Chair: Karyn deKramer
Communications: Renee Galligher/ Jane Shimon/ Katie Harris
Rotunda Exhibition: Bonnie Liles and Beth Trott
Annual Show: Scott Muscolo
South West Director: Cathy Anderson and Jennifer Von Bergen
East Director: Les Scott
South East Director: Cali Ward and Barbara North
South Central Director: Connie Pepper



SPOKANE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY 2025 NATIONAL JURIED SHOW PROSPECTUS

EXHIBITION DATES: April 3 through May 4, 2025
EXHIBITION LOCATION: Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture (MAC)
 Helen South Alexander Gallery, 2316 W 1st Ave, Spokane, WA 99201
SHOW CHAIRPERSON: Terese Fandel | EMAIL: sws.board.show@gmail.com



JUROR: Michael Holter AWS, NWS, AIS, TWSA, SWS | <https://www.michaelholter.com>
 Michael Holter is an award-winning artist who works in watercolor and oil. His paintings can be found in private and corporate collections in the US and abroad. Michael's work experience spans a wide range of creative challenges. He has been an art teacher, creative director and businessman in both fine art and commercial art. He holds a bachelor's degree in art education and an MA in Visual Communication.

Michael is a member of the Salmagundi Club, a signature member of The American Watercolor Society, The National Watercolor Society, The American Impressionist Society, The Watercolor Honor Society, The Transparent Watercolor Society of America, The Outdoor Painter Society, the Southwestern Watercolor Society, The Missouri Watercolor, The Society of Watercolor Artists and more.

SPOKANE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY (SWS):

- Founded in 1954, the mission of the Spokane Watercolor Society (SWS) is to foster the development and growth of artists in the medium of watercolor and promote watercolor art.
- Application for entry into this competition is accomplished through the Call for Entry (CaFÉ) website at <https://www.callforentry.org>.
- For more information, please refer to the SWS website, <https://www.spokanewatercolor.org>. All questions should be referred to the show chairperson.

2025 NATIONAL JURIED SHOW CALENDAR

CALL FOR ENTRIES OPENS	1 Dec 2024	
CALL FOR ENTRY ENDS (12am Mountain Standard Time)	9 Feb 2025	
SHOW ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION (by email)	21 Feb	
RECEIVE SHIPPED PAINTINGS (address provided to invitees)	15 – 30 Mar	
ARTISTS DELIVER PAINTINGS	31 Mar	10:00 am – noon
SHOW TIMES/DATES (MAC Tuesday through Sunday)	3 Apr – 4 May	10:00 am – 5:00 pm
RECEPTION & AWARDS PRESENTATION & ART REVIEW BY JUROR (at the Helen South Alexander Gallery MAC)	13 Apr	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
ARTISTS RETRIEVE PAINTINGS	5 May	10:00 am – noon



Call for 2025 Artist

Wild Blues Artist-in-Residence Program

Open until January 15, 2025

Greater Hells Canyon Council (GHCC) is thrilled to announce our first open call to artists for the 2025 Wild Blues Artist-in-Residence Program. We encourage all artists with a connection to the Blue Mountains Region to apply.

This program is dedicated to exploring the theme "Refugia of the Blue Mountains." Refugia are wildlands, wild rivers, and wild pockets offering safe havens for native plants and wildlife to survive rapid climate change. Refugia are often places of rich beauty and healthy resilience with an unsurpassed capacity to preserve biodiversity, sequester carbon, and enrich the lives of humans. They safeguard the future of all life on earth. They are here in the Blue Mountains of NE Oregon.

Please join us for a year of exploring the intersections between creative thought and environmental conservation. Help us foster wider public awareness of your work as an artist and our work of protecting the wildlife and landscapes of the Blue Mountains. During the residency year the artist will produce work(s) around the theme of "Refugia of the Blue Mountains". We invite individuals from diverse backgrounds and disciplines to explore the multifaceted dimensions of "Refugia" in our beloved NE Oregon.

The selected artist is expected to complete a body of work to be exhibited at a suitable, agreed upon, event promoted by the artist and GHCC, during the residency year. The event format will vary depending upon the nature of the art and preferences of the artist. Artist and/or artwork will be displayed at a fall GHCC event in La Grande, OR in early October.

The artist will benefit from GHCC's promotion of their work through print, web, social media, and other means. They will receive \$2,000 for the residency year to contribute towards supplies and travel expenses. They will also be offered a 10 day residency at [Good Bear Ranch Mountain Retreat](#) in Baker City, OR to support their creative process.

We wish to embrace an expansive perspective of environmental conservation that recognizes the power of diverse ways of knowing and being. Collaborating with art and artists of all kinds is one important way of doing this.

To Apply:

Applying artists should send examples of past work that best demonstrates an expression of our "Refugia" theme. Please see our website www.hellscanyon.org/wild-blues-artist-in-residence for submission form and instructions.

Applications are due by January 15, 2025.

A selection committee will review the applications and choose an artist with whom we will work. Selection will be based on the artists' work quality, artistic relevance to GHCC's mission, and availability for engagement during the calendar year. Artists will be notified of acceptance, or otherwise by February 1, 2025.