



Calendar

Next Member Program

Jeanne Rosier Smith Demo

(Zoom)

Friday, Jan. 12, 2024

[Get more information](#)

Susan Kuznitsky Workshop

Fri-Sun, Jan.19-21, 2023

[Get more information](#)

Cedarfield Retirement

Community, Members Exhibit

May 1 - August 30, 2024

[Get more information](#)

Expressions newsletter will feature member's pastels each issue. Artwork for this issue is by **[Michael McGurk](#)**, *Cartersville*.

■ From the President

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you had some time over the holidays to relax and enjoy. Let's hope 2024 brings more peace and love in our world.

Whenever the new year comes around I reflect on the past year and choose some action I would like to work on to be a better person. I write it down (as I get older the memory is a bit iffy) and I try to look at it regularly to assess my success.

Another way to start the new year is to review how my art activities have progressed and decide what I can do to improve upon that. This year, as a recommendation from one of my mentors, I am going to write down some art goals at 1, 5 and 10 years intervals. I am not going to overdo it because I want to make it manageable, but I hope setting goals will motivate me to accomplish more in my art venture.



MAPS offers opportunity for our members to work on their art goals. Maybe it's time to take a workshop. If you have never done that before, it can be very intimidating the first time but the knowledge and growth you attain can be so worth it. We offer exhibit opportunities from low key venues, online shows and judged exhibits, hoping to make it easier for you to dip your toes in the water. Our programs are easy to attend (virtually) for most events

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A New Year

Always look forward,
and trust your feelings more
than your intellect.

Painting is not a destination;
it's a journey. It's easy to keep
fussing on an individual painting
- to obsess on perfection -
as if there's such a thing,
when we should just attempt
to do it better next time."

- Richard McKinley
Artist, President IAPS

and the content is terrific. When we can, we videotape them for you to access on our website. If you haven't yet done so, participate in our MAPS Members Make Art Facebook page as way to show your beautiful work, gain some confidence and be entered in our monthly raffle.

We are here to help you grow as an artist and always welcome new ideas and suggestions. If there is something you would like to see us add to our activities, let us know. You can contact us on our website by [clicking here](#). You can also find our individual contact information on the Member Roster on the Member's Only section of the website.

Hope to see you at an event very soon!

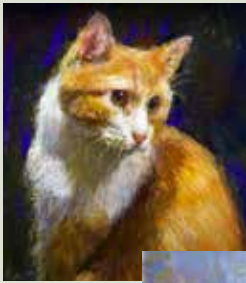
Joan Dreicer
President and Workshop Chair

■ Board Happenings

The MAPS Board met in December, 2023 with a full agenda. Here's what we have coming up.

- 1) MAPS exhibit at Cedarfield Retirement in late Spring/Summer. Prospectus is coming soon.
- 2) We used Square for our upcoming workshop registration payments and all went smoothly. We plan to transition to this form of payment in 2024 for all monies collected.
- 3) Future workshops are in the planning stages for 2025. Barbara Jaenicke will be teaching a workshop and performing a demo for our society in May of 2026.
- 4) MAPS is planning a community outreach project in conjunction with the Friends of BelleMeade Park's Saturday program. We will be painting plein air with middle school age children who participate in this program. Look for more information and consider participating in this wonderful activity.
- 5) 2024 is Board Election time. Our Nominating Committee will be working on a slate of officers for the upcoming two year term.
- 6) We will begin planning our budget for the MAPS 2024/25 fiscal year in February.

Upcoming Workshops



Susan Kuznitsky - *Dogs and Cats and Kids in Pastel* - Zoom (Winter 2024)

Laura Pollak - Richmond, VA (May 2024)

Colette Ody Smith - Richmond, VA (Fall 2024)

For more information about our upcoming workshops go to www.midatlanticpastelsociety.com/workshops.html

Welcome
New Members!

Sherry Brown Barton
(Corrected Name)

Deanna Williford

Art Tips

10 Benefits of painting in a series

By Liz Haywood-Sullivan

Pastel Journal, Winter 2024

Here are just some of the benefits to be gained-both creatively and personally-from working in a series. You will:

1. Develop a deeper understanding of, and appreciation for, your subject matter.
2. Build your artistic skill set and abilities
3. Develop a sense of discipline and fortitude, or "stick-to-it-ness."
4. Lean into a creative flow and mindset.
5. Hone your observational skills.
6. Learn to trust our creative intuition and make decisions more quickly.
7. View the world around you with a refined artistic eye (and soul).
8. Pursue the works of masters who've painted this same subject to see how they approached it.
9. Establish a streamlined approach to the painting process.
10. Enjoy painting (and Life) minus all the self-doubt. What you get "wrong" in one instance, you can get right in the next.

Joan Dreicer's Door Series



Blue Door

Honorable Mention
NC Statewide Exhibit



French Door



Welcome Home

Member Spotlight



Autumn Morning by the Little River II,
Soft Pastel



Evening Drama, Soft Pastel



The Maiden Path, Oil



October by the Pond, Oil

Member Spotlight

Jennifer Young

I have had a life-long love for painting and have been working professionally as an artist for over 25 years. My primary subject is landscape painting, and for many years now I have enjoyed painting the landscape both in my studio and on location in oils. While I consider oils to be my primary medium, I have more recently enjoyed experimenting in gouache and pastels. For me, experimenting with new methods and materials is a nice challenge that keeps my mind curious and working.

I became interested in pastels after watching my friend Maria Reardon paint with them at plein air events we both attended. She is a fine painter in several different media, but I just marveled at her direct, masterful, and confident approach with pastel. I thought, "Boy, that sure looks fun!"

So I set out to buy a small set of my own and soon learned just how very easy Maria made pastel painting

look! While I still have much to learn, little by little, by trial and error and tips and tricks from other artists, I am slowly familiarizing myself and building both my understanding of the medium and my collection of pastel brands and colors. Since joining the MidAtlantic Pastel Society I have taken two classes from two wonderful pastelists with quite different styles and approaches: Tony Allain and Jacob Aguiar. I have even started taking my pastels outdoors to do some small studies. I am so glad to have discovered MAPS and appreciate the warm welcome and wonderful programs the society has to offer.

Thanks for having me!



Chincoteague Sunset, Soft Pastel

MAPS Members Make Art Facebook Page

Have you heard about our private Facebook Page, MAPS MEMBERS MAKE ART?

This page is for MAPS artists to share their work, tips, "aha" moments and experiences related to pastel. As a member you can take advantage of our monthly raffle by posting your original work. There is a challenge each month to inspire you, but any painting you post is eligible. (One entry per artist) The winner receives a \$25 gift certificate to Dakota Art Pastels.



If you have not yet joined our page, just search for us on Facebook (MAPS Members Make Art) and request to participate.

Congratulations to our November raffle winner, Roxana Genovese and our December winner, Robin Ricketts.

Upcoming Programs

MAPS business meetings begin at 12:30 pm and programs run from 1 pm – 2:30 pm.



FRIDAY, JAN. 12, 2024 –

Jeanne Rosier Smith

Sky + Sea: Painting Coastal Skies Virtual Demo

Skies figure large in the coastal landscape, so this demo by Jeanne focuses on creating striking skies, including tips for composing,

reading and adjusting values from your photos, and how to create soft and hard edges for maximum atmosphere and drama. This program will be virtual only. Learn more at **Jeanne Rosier Smith Fine Art.**



The two door prizes are Liz Haywood-Sullivan's Painting *Skies & Water in Pastel: Secrets to bringing Light and Life to your Landscapes.*

SATURDAY MARCH 9 2024

1:00 pm - Tour of the Pastel Paintings at the Virginia Museum of Fine Art (In-Person)

We will view the pastel collection in the James and Frances McGlothlin exhibit and pastels in storage at the Virginia Museum of Fine Art (VMFA). This will be an in-person event. Christopher C. Oliver, Ph.D., Bev Perdue Jennings Associate Curator of American Art, will be our guide. Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.



Member News

Michael McGurk's painting "Cartersville" was selected to be exhibited as part of the PSA 51st Annual Exhibition opening January 23, 2023 at the Butler Institute of American Art 2024.



Cartersville

Maria Andrade: The story behind this painting.

"I had a dream that I came into an art gallery. I walked straight to the wall that holds a painting of sail with this shape. In the morning when I woke up I couldn't remember the colors of the sail. A month later, I was doing my daily meditation and suddenly I had a vision of this painting. It was the same sail in the ocean."



Upcoming Programs continued



THURSDAY, MAY 16 2024

Live Evening Reception with Laura Pollak
(Demo) *Rock Paper Scissors*

During this demo, we will look at a landscape from 'Out West' and look at the lights and darks on the rocks and landforms. Laura will do an exercise to isolate and group the lights from the darks, sort of cutting them apart. She will then proceed to do a quick block in painting quickly with large shapes, focusing on values. Learn more about Laura Pollak at [**Laura Pollak Fine Art.**](#)

Fee: \$20 (Members Only).

Each member can also invite a guest for an additional \$20 fee. Time and Location: TBD



Member News



Lisa Helmstetter, an adjunct Art History instructor at Brightpoint Community College, currently has seven pastel paintings from her animal series on exhibit at the school. This exhibit was hung

as a faculty showing, to share the work of the faculty with the students and will be on display through February, 2024

Member News



Diane Wilkin has over 40 pieces of work on exhibit in the **Dooley Gallery and Foyer** on the first floor of the Main Richmond Library at 101 E Franklin Street. The paintings will be on display through December and January. Along with Diane's pastels, you will see mixed media, woodcut prints, and her latest etchings from zinc plates. Diane's daughter, Blair Barbour, also has her collages in the second floor exhibit space making this exhibit sort of a family affair.



Natures Light

Atmospheric Study #4



Member News



Elaine Bankston was invited to

the Executive Mansion, along with 15 other artists, for a Christmas cocktail party because their work has been chosen to be in the **Art Experience** there. One of Elaine's paintings is of Oliver Hill who was an attorney in Brown versus the Board of Education and a civil rights giant. She has done other oil portraits of him that are hanging in museums and universities.



Frank Borman, Commander of Appollo 8, the first man to orbit the moon and President of Eastern airline, passed away last month. This is Elaine Bankston presenting him with a print of the painting she did of the old Atlanta airport, which is in nine museums.

Member News

Shavon Peacock sold all three of her pastel paintings at the juried 56th Gallery at First UU (Unitarian Universalist) show in Richmond VA this October.

Larkspur Lane at Tuckahoe



Upcoming Exhibit



On the Hill, Shavon Peacock

The Virginia Plein Air Painters (VPAP) is having an exhibit from 1/7/24 – 3/11/23 of plein air painters at **The Montpelier Center for Arts and Education** at 17205 Mountain Road, Montpelier VA. A reception will be held on Sunday February 25, 2024 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Two of our MAPS members, **Regina Tune** and **Shavon Peacock**, will be exhibiting plein air pastel paintings. Other plein air MAPS members **Dale Sawan** and **Jennifer Young** will be exhibiting plein air oil paintings while **Sheila Chandler** is exhibiting ink and watercolor paintings. Regina is also exhibiting a painting in gouache. Thanks to MAPS artist and fellow plein air VPAP artist **Lisa Helmstetter** for helping to hang the show!



Historic Tuckahoe, Regina Tune

Upcoming Exhibits

It's time to get more paintings ready to exhibit!

The MidAtlantic Pastel Society (MAPS) is sponsoring an exhibit in the Gallery at the **Cedarfield Retirement Community**, 2300 Cedarfield Parkway, Richmond, VA.

This exhibit is free to all MAPS members. This is an excellent opportunity to exhibit for those new to showing their paintings because there is no registration fee and no commission on sales. Sales will be handled between the artist and the purchaser.

Cedarfield

"Located in historic Richmond, Virginia, Cedarfield is a premier active senior living community designed to provide everything you need and the freedom to enjoy it. We are committed to providing an engaging atmosphere and gracious culture that fosters independence, individuality, and a secure plan for your future."

The prospectus for the Cedarfield exhibit is planned for release in late January with registration opening at that time.



And that's not all...our Fall 2024 judged exhibit, **Expressions in Pastels**, will be in the Purcell Gallery at the **Louisa Art Center**, Louisa, VA. More information about that exhibit, its judge, and the prizes will be available soon.

2023-2024 Executive Board Members

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MEMBER RESOURCES

MAPS has compiled links for pastel and art resources on our [website](#).



Share with Us!

In these pages we want to spotlight the voice and visions of our members. We'd love to hear about a workshop, an award, or an exhibition of your work. Send us images and details such as instructors and workshop name, painting titles, show dates, gallery names and times.

Please send submissions to patti.jeffries@gmail.com. Thanks so much for reading the *MAPS Expressions* newsletter.

The Biggest Pastel Party on the Planet!

The **IAPS Fifteenth Convention** will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from June 11- 16, 2024. It is an incredible event and it's a chance to see some of the pastel world's greatest artists in person. You'll enjoy workshops, demos and a chance to meet other societies. Registration opens up on November 15 with classes and demos opening up on January 15.

[Click here](#) for more information about the convention.

Get Involved!

MAPS needs your help to keep providing all of our great programs, workshops, website resources and exhibitions. Please consider volunteering where help is needed. Contact us at

MidAtlanticPastelSociety.com.