



**BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**MAY-JUNE 2022**

**Website: [www.midatlanticpastelsociety.com](http://www.midatlanticpastelsociety.com)**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Member Meeting**

Fri., May 13, 2022  
In Person and Zoom Meeting &  
Program – Tuckahoe Library  
1901 Starling Dr, Henrico, VA  
23229  
12:30 – Business Meeting  
1:00 pm – Les Darlow  
“Using Pan Pastels”

### **MAPS Board Meeting**

TBD  
1:00 – 3:00 pm

### **Exhibits**

**The Center at Belvedere,**  
Charlottesville, VA  
Sept. 2-Oct. 27, 2022

### **Upcoming Workshops**

**Nancie King Mertz –**  
October 22-24, 2022

## **FROM THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER**

I am writing this having just returned from an exhilarating, yet busy week of plein air painting in beautiful White Stone, VA. The weather was pretty much rain free, but there was wind and some cool temperatures to challenge us. It is all part of the experience. I met some wonderful people and, as many of you know, there is nothing that compares to schmoozing with like minds. We shared our passions, challenges and our artwork.

I am pleased to announce to all of you MAPS artists- it is time for US to mingle. After over two years of distancing, we are excited to present our first ever hybrid meeting, Friday, May 13th. We have been fortunate to have had so many artists from around the Richmond area, the state and the country join our society and we are committed to providing all of our members with great programming, exhibit, and workshop opportunities. I am so appreciative of the chairs and their committees for working together to provide valuable content and events. I hope you can join us either in person or via Zoom. Our program features Les Darlow who will demo (from the UK) via Zoom, using Pan Pastels. Those who choose to join in person - we will meet in the Tuckahoe Library conference room at 12:30 and there will also be the option to join us via Zoom. I will be sending out an email with more details this week.

This is the final program of the year. I hope you will be able to join us. I can’t wait to see you!

Joan Dreicer  
President

## MAPS PROGRAMS

### **MAPS Saturday, March 12, 2022 Program: Rita Kirkman - Creating a Good Reference Photo**

Rita's tips on how to take good reference photos in terms of lighting, composition and subject were very helpful and informative!

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### **MAPS Friday, May 13, 2022 Program: Les Darlow - Demo in Pan Pastels**

Les Darlow, a pastel artist living in the UK, will be doing a landscape demo for our members using Pan Pastels. Les loves painting skies and thinks they are the key to a great landscape. Les has "a fascination for storms and extreme weather", which is reflected in his stunning landscapes. Les works his Pan Pastel magic on Canson Mi-Tientes paper, a surface that many of us have struggled with.

After training as a technical illustrator, Les now paints "expressively, producing paintings based on feeling, light, energy and movement." He has a love and passion for weather and landscapes of subjects with a personal connection. He is the First Ambassador for Canson in the UK, an Ambassador for Unison Pastels, and an Associate Member of the Pastel Society of America. - *from About Les Darlow, [www.lesdarlow.com](http://www.lesdarlow.com)*

Les is the author of "Absolute Pastels" and "Inspirational Pastels", both digital books about pastel painting. He conducts Zoom workshops, paint-alongs and demos from his studio in the UK. Learn more about Les at [www.lesdarlow.com](http://www.lesdarlow.com).

A gift certificate toward tuition for any upcoming MAPS workshop planned for the 2022/2023 season will be given away at this meeting

Also, our "door" prize is a set of Pan Pastels and tools that mimic Les Darlow's Pan Pastel set.

## FACEBOOK GROUP – MAPS MEMBERS MAKING ART

Our March/April raffle winner is Lise MacGregor. Congratulations, Lise!!!

Our May/June theme is "It takes a Village". Interpretation is all up to you. We accept and welcome any of your work and truly love seeing it. Don't forget to share your ideas, art wins and pastel paintings.

## Lorraine Momper

Originally from rural Nebraska, I grew up on a farm and attended a small town school that housed all age levels, K-12. (There were under 30 students in my graduating class.) My parents recognized my interest in art and gave me an oil paint set when I turned twelve. I used my allowance to buy art supplies thereafter. My father built me an easel and my mother, who enjoyed painting floral murals on the walls at my home, taught me some basics that she had learned from a book. In high school the ‘shop’ teacher, who had a minor in art, gave me assignments to work on at home in a sort of independent study course because no other students were interested in art beyond the semester intro course.

Intermittently throughout my life I attempted watercolor painting with the aid of books, but repeatedly succumbed to frustration. Having no dedicated space or time for art, (especially oils) I did not attempt other mediums. I instead found artistic outlets in quilting, cake decorating and garden design. (If you enjoy art it will present itself somewhere in your life.) It wasn’t until moving to Virginia in 2007, that I connected with The Piedmont Pastelists through an elderly man who later became my mentor. Initially I pursued soft pastels with a basic set, thinking that I would do pet portraits, but becoming quickly bored with only this subject and my narrow range of colors. There was no turning back.

I now work with various brands and softness levels using primarily UART paper (400, 600, and 800 grit.) The subject matter determines the grit that I use, and the grit determines the pastels that I use (hard, medium, or soft.) When using the high grit papers (600 or 800) I tend to use softer pastels for a more painterly ‘dense’ stroke, although there isn’t a lot of room for error in such techniques because the grit fills quickly. I have seen some artists use the hardest pastels on these high grit papers for detailed pieces (realism.) Most often I use the 400 grit papers, as many artists do, because it works with most soft pastels, most subjects, and allows extensive layering. Underpainting is almost always used in my work, using ink blocks (Derwent Inktense ), watercolor. or pastel dissolved with alcohol. Occasionally I work in oils, acrylic, and gouache as well as various types of monoprints. I paint landscapes, florals, still-life, animals, and people, depending on my mood, always looking for the narrative in a painting, something that I am trying to convey. I believe that art is a silent conversation between the artist and the viewer. The fleeting images that artists convey capture an elusive moment in time, and that is why we connect with a viewer...if we connect...because art embodies memories and time.

(Continued on page 4)



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT (continued)

I love the spontaneous first strokes in a painting as things take shape quickly. You don't necessarily know what will result because you are making spontaneous decisions in succession, the combination of which makes a painting completely unique. It would be easy at any point of a painting to crumple up the paper if a decision doesn't work, but you can't focus on such roadblocks as failure. I believe that a roadblock is just a detour to where you need to be, where you should have gone. Building skills is the process of failing and learning because your brain catalogs what doesn't work. If something isn't working in a painting I set it aside, sometimes for years, looking at it occasionally until I understand what I did wrong. Self-critique is hard but important. Some people burn their failures, but that only makes sense to me if you understand why you failed, what you did wrong. Otherwise, you keep making the same errors.

I joined MAPS at its inception, thrilled that there was a regional group in my area. Besides MAPS, I also belong to the Maryland Pastel Society, The Pastel Society of America, the Piedmont Pastelists (Charlottesville), and a couple of multi-medium groups: The Fluvanna Art Association, and the Friday Art Group. I exhibit with groups locally, regionally, and occasionally at a national level for juried exhibits. I find it helpful to schedule a solo exhibit yearly to stay motivated. I am humbled and inspired by the tremendous talent that surrounds me at MAPS and anywhere that artists gather. That is worth more than any award.

## MAPS MEMBER EXHIBIT

### All Members Judged Exhibit "Capturing the Color"

September 2 - October 27, 2022

**Nancie King Mertz, Judge of Awards**

### The Center at Belvedere

540 Belvedere Boulevard, Charlottesville, VA 22901

**(434) 974-7756 [thecenterville.org](http://thecenterville.org)**

### Important Dates

May 2 Registration Opens  
July 30 Publicity images due  
Registration Closes  
Sept. 1 Dropoff 10:30-12:00 PM  
Sept. 2 Exhibit Opens  
Sept. 8 Opening reception  
Oct. 20 Awards Reception  
Oct. 28 Pickup 10:30-12:00 PM

**About our Judge** Our judge for this exhibition is **Nancie King Mertz**, PSA-MP, CPP-MP, IAPS-EP. An award-winning artist, Nancie paints in oil and pastel. She holds a BFA and MA in Painting, as well as many masters certifications from major art organizations. She teaches across the U.S. and internationally and will be conducting a plein air workshop for MAPS on Oct. 21-23. More information about Nancie can be found at [www.nanciekingmertz.com](http://www.nanciekingmertz.com).

## UPCOMING MAPS MEMBER EXHIBITS

### Glenmore Yoga & Wellness Center Members Exhibit

March 8 - May 10, 2023

10442 Ridgefield Pkwy, Richmond, VA 23233

804-741-5267

[glenmoreyoga.com](http://glenmoreyoga.com)

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**Fall 2023 Annual Judged Exhibit – Crossroads Art Center, Richmond, VA**

## BOARD HAPPENINGS

We are beginning the transition of our board positions. Shavon Peacock, incoming Program Chair sent a survey to our membership to obtain program ideas and interests. We got a terrific response with some great suggestions. Thanks to all who took part.

Our Exhibit committee has secured a location for our 2023 Annual judged Fall show. The exhibit will take place at Crossroads Art Center, Richmond, VA.

After looking at several options for our spring exhibit, Glenmore Yoga has been reserved.

Reminder- With the voting in of the Bylaw amendments earlier this year, the fiscal year has changed and will now end on May 31st. Please, remember to renew your membership for 2022/2023 by June 1st to continue receiving benefits. (If you joined after March 12th, your dues will be applied to the 2022/2023 season). To renew your membership go to the MAPS website. [MidAtlanticPastelSociety.com](http://MidAtlanticPastelSociety.com). (Please see the instructions below for renewals.)

We welcome our new membership chair Patti Jeffries.

## NEW! - MAPS MEMBERSHIP FORM

- 1) To renew your MAPS Membership electronically, click here [MAPS Membership - MidAtlantic Pastel Society](#)
- 2) Please indicate the date of renewal and your name. If your contact information has not changed, just click that box to indicate nothing has changed.
- 3) Please check the MAPS committees you are willing to assist in some capacity. Then click "Submit."
- 4) Pay your \$25 dues by Zelle or send a check to the MAPS Treasurer.
- 5) The new Membership Chair Patti Jeffries will send you an electronic receipt once your dues are received by the Treasurer.
- 6) **2022-2023 dues are due by June 1.** You will be removed from MAPS membership on August 1 if your dues have not been paid by then.
- 7) **New MAPS members** who have joined since the March 12<sup>th</sup> 2022 program will be paid up through the 2022-2023 year.

## MAPS PROGRAM SURVEY RESULTS

Impressively, 40% of our MAPS members participated in the MAPS Program Survey sent out on April 18th. Thanks to those who participated! Here is a summary of the results.

### **The Top 5 Preferences of Subject Matter for Demos:**

Ocean/Water  
Landscapes  
Skies & Clouds  
Portraits  
Figures

### **The Top 5 Preferences for Zoom Demo Artists:**

Barbara Jaenicke – Landscapes  
Lyn Asselta – Landscapes/Ocean Views  
Karen Margulis – Florals in Landscapes  
Glen Maxion – Figures at the Beach  
Joe Mancuso – Landscapes

MAPS Members were also enthusiastic about having our own members perform a demo! Thanks to Jeri Greenberg and Judy Leasure for volunteering to do a demo in the survey. We also had suggestions for MAPS members Susan Singer and Betsy Kellum to conduct demos.

### **The Top 5 Program Topics:**

Underpaintings  
Pastel Pencils  
Painting Exercises  
Mixed Media  
Quick Draw Activity

Thank you for all the MAPS and other artist recommendations to consider for demo programs, as well as for all the additional program topics you suggested. It looks like we have program ideas for the next few years with your great feedback!

Shavon Peacock – Incoming MAPS Program Chair  
Elizabeth Hood – Outgoing MAPS Program Chair

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Katrina Canfield  
Barbara Harris  
Dave Swallow  
Susan Trimble  
Diane Wilkin



Every good painter  
paints what he is.  
Rembrandt

## MAPS WORKSHOPS

Our three day workshop Painting Portraits in Pastel with **Cuong Nguyen** was phenomenal. Cuong prepared a very structured approach layering colors to achieve skin tones in both the light and shadow of the face, using pastel pencils. He is very easy going and a wonderful teacher. We had a few participants from outside of our membership who have since joined MAPS. It was wonderful hosting an in-person workshop once again.



Our 2022/2023 season will begin with a three day in-person workshop studying **Perspective and Plein Air with Nancy King Mertz**. The workshop will take place October 21-23rd.

A workshop gift certificate toward tuition for this workshop or any upcoming workshop planned or the 2022/2023 season will be given away at our May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Nancy will also judge our Annual show taking place at The Center at Belvedere in Charlottesville, VA. The awards reception will be held on October 20th. Registration for the exhibit begins this week and registration for the workshop will open a day or two after our Member meeting May 13th.

Other artists we are planning to teach workshops in 2023 include **Tony Allain** and **Jacob Aguiar**.

## MEMBER NEWS

Betsy Kellum's work, 'Strength & Beauty', oil on canvas, 24x30" was juried into the INTL GUILD OF REALISM exhibition to be held at the McBride Gallery in Annapolis MD June 10-July 24. Betsy is looking forward to joining up with other members for this 'in person' event.



Also, Betsy's "Dried Rose Bouquet" has been accepted into the Maryland Pastel Society's SHADES OF PASTEL show at the Mansion at Swarthmore to open May 1.



## MEMBER NEWS (continued)

**Pastels for Sale** - Ronda Dandliker has the following pastels for sale. Please contact her my email, [dandliker1@verizon.net](mailto:dandliker1@verizon.net), or by phone (see directory) for an appointment.

1. Sennelier Soft Pastels  
176 colors-wood trays and wood Box  
Asking \$800.
2. Quentin de la Tour Soft Pastels  
225 colors-wood trays and wood Box  
Asking \$1600.
3. Holbein Oil Pastels  
225 colors-wood trays and wood Box  
Asking \$900.

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Joan Dreicer announces acceptance of her work into the 2022 NC Statewide Exhibition: “From the Mountains to the Sea”. Thanks so much to esteemed artist and juror Michael Chesley Johnson!!!

Additionally, her work was chosen for the 2022 Red Rock Pastel Society of Nevada Juried Member Web show. Thanks to jurors- Dawn Emerson, Vanessa Turner, and Sergey Bakin for this wonderful opportunity!!!

### 2020/21 EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### OFFICERS

President: Joan Dreicer  
VP/Program Chair: Elizabeth Hood  
Treasurer: Sheila Chandler  
Secretary: Judy Leasure

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: Shavon Peacock  
Workshops: Joan Dreicer  
Exhibits: Carol Cullinan  
Technology: Elizabeth Hood  
Newsletter: Vickie Knick

### ART RESOURCES LINK ON WEBSITE

Check out the page on our website with links to art resources of interest to MAPS members: <https://www.midatlanticpastelsociety.com/art-resources.html>.

### MEMBER NEWS

Have something artfully newsworthy you wish to share, please email Vickie Knick @ [vknick30@gmail.com](mailto:vknick30@gmail.com), or see link on our website, [www.midatlanticpastelsociety.com](http://www.midatlanticpastelsociety.com)