



Calendar

Next Member Program

Adrian Giuliani

September 13, 2024 (Zoom)

[Get more information](#)

Colette Ody Smith Workshop

ONE SPACE LEFT!

Sept 27-29, 2024

[Get more information](#)

**Purcell Gallery at
Louisa Art Center,
Annual Member
Judged Exhibit**

CLOSES SEPT 10!

Sept 21 - Nov 23, 2024

[Get more information](#)

Expressions newsletter will feature member's pastels each issue. Artwork for this issue is by **Carroll Pennington**, *Sunrise at Big Ball Island*.

■ From the President

Dear MAPS Members,

Welcome back to another exciting year with the MidAtlantic Pastel Society! We are thrilled to have you as part of our creative community once again. Your passion for art and dedication to our society have always been the heart of our group.

As we begin the new season, we have a variety of activities and opportunities lined up for you:

Introducing Our New Board Members

First, I would like to introduce our new board members. I am honored to continue serving as *President and Workshop Chair* for my third consecutive term. Thank you for your vote of confidence. As I plan for the end of my term as President in 2026, I invite anyone interested in this role to reach out to me so we can discuss the responsibilities and opportunities it entails. It will also give us time to discuss the transition over an extended period of time

Our *Vice President and Program Chair* is **Judy Leasure**, who previously served as our Secretary. We welcome **Alison Carter** as our new *Secretary*, and **Dornan Trainer**, formerly our Membership Chair, is now our *Treasurer*. **Trish Volp** has graciously stepped in as *Chair of Membership*.

We are still seeking an *Exhibit Chair*. **Terry Atkinson** has kindly volunteered to chair our upcoming Fall exhibit, but we are looking for someone to oversee all our exhibits and take an active role on the board.

Our *Technology Chair* position also needs assistance. **Sheila Chandler**, who has been a vital part of our Board since its inception in 2015, is ready to train a replacement(s) and support someone new in this role.

Continued on page 2

Member News

Judy Leasure had two paintings juried into *the Red Rock Pastel Society of Nevada Annual Online Exhibit, All About Pastels*. She also had two paintings juried into the *Williamsburg Contemporary Art Center Regional Juried Show* and one juried into the Virginia Artists show at the *Charles H Taylor Art Center* in Hampton.



Tea for Me



Metal and Clay

“The purpose of art
is washing the dust of
daily life off our souls.”

—Pablo Picasso

Finally, our *Newsletter Chair* is **Patti Jeffries**, who took over the newsletter in 2023. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our past and present board members for their continued support of this society.

Plein Air Painting

We hope you had the chance to get outside and paint over the summer. Plein air painting is a wonderful way to feed your imagination and offers an in-depth study of how light, shadow, and atmosphere contribute to your studio work. Whether you spent your summer capturing the landscapes around you or simply enjoyed the inspiration that nature provides, we're excited to see how these experiences will influence your art this year.

Workshops and Programs

We've planned an array of workshops and programs designed to help you grow as an artist. From technique-focused sessions to creative explorations, there's something for everyone. Keep an eye on your emails and our website for detailed announcements and be sure to sign up early, as Workshop spaces tend to fill up quickly! Our website link is: **[MidAtlantic Pastel Society](#)**.

Get Involved

Our society thrives because of the active participation and support of our members. This year, we encourage you to get even more involved! We are seeking volunteers to assist with our social media pages, help manage technology, and contribute to organizing our exhibits. Volunteering is a great way to connect with other members, learn new skills, and contribute to the success of our society. We are happy to answer any question you have about participating.

Your participation makes our society vibrant and dynamic, and we can't wait to create, learn, and grow together.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. Let's make this year our most inspiring one yet!

Warm regards,
Joan Dreicer
President and Workshop Chair of
the MidAtlantic Pastel Society

Upcoming Workshops

Colette Ody Smith

*Landscape Through Your Eyes:
Pastel Painting from Photo
to Finish*

Richmond, VA - (In-Person)

September 27-29, 2024



Aline Ordman

Richmond, VA (Spring 2025)

Karen Margulis Workshop

Richmond, VA (Fall 2025)

Adrian Giuliani Zoom

Winter 2025)

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

Current Exhibition

**Purcell Gallery at
Louisa Arts Center
Annual Judged
Members Exhibit
“Expressions in Pastels”**



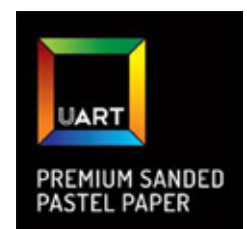
**Judge - Colette Ody Smith
September 27-November 22**

The MAPS 2024 Fall Judged exhibit, *“Expressions in Pastels,”* will be held in the Purcell Gallery at the beautiful **Louisa Arts Center**, Louisa, VA from **Sept. 27 through Nov. 22, 2024**. Registration for the show ends September 10. For more information [click here](#).

The opening reception for this exhibit will be September 27 from 6 to 8 pm at the Louisa Arts Center. The Center is located at 212 Fredericksburg Ave., Louisa, VA 23093. Please plan to attend the reception and support MAPS and the exhibiting artists.

This exhibit will be judged by **Colette Ody Smith**, a widely exhibited, award-winning painter, educator, and juror. The judge’s selections for awards will be announced during the reception. Cash prizes are **1st Place** - \$350, **2nd Place** - \$200, **3rd Place** - \$100, **Honorable Mentions**, 3 awards - \$50 each. Merchandise prizes will be announced and awarded at the opening reception and include the **Terry Ludwig Award, Dakota Pastel Award** and **UART Award**.

MAPS wants to give a special thanks to Terry Ludwig, Dakota Pastels and UART for their generous sponsorship.



Member Spotlight



An Evening in Vermont



Southwest Barn



Sunrise at Big Ball Island

Member Spotlight

Carroll Pennington

My first set of pastels was a gift from my mother when I was in grade school. I remember seeing the Grumbacher box and my eager fingers tugging the shiny cellophane to reveal the soft pastel rainbow beneath. What a beautiful sight! Somewhere in the background was my mom's voice explaining the basics of how to use those tempting blocks of color, but I was already lost in dreaming of the possibilities.

All these years later, it is pastels I turned to when deciding what to pursue during retirement. The forgiving nature of the medium, the instant gratification of seeing a painting coming to life and the endless possibilities for creating art to reflect the beauty found in everyday life is mesmerizing.

Like many others, I fight the inner critic, and I try to be brave enough to lay down those first strokes in hopes of allowing the artist within to record the world in varying degrees of color, value, intensity, temperature, and shape. Not an easy task! Putting the jitters aside and simply starting is a great way to begin exploring the possibilities ahead.

One of the best ways I have found to progress is to use the resources at hand. Between in-person workshops and the incredible digital content available, a whole new world has opened, and it is truly amazing! Joining pastel societies is invaluable for meeting other artists, exchanging ideas and finding opportunities to elevate the pastel medium. It is just so exciting! I can think of few other groups that so willingly share resources, time, and talent.

Happy painting!

Carroll

Member News

Maria Andrade's painting *The Portal* has been accepted into the *Spirit of Pastels Online International Open Exhibition 2024* through the Pastel Artists of Oregon.



The Portal

A Pastel Tip from Tre Rockenbach:

Marian Parsons, an artist and popular vintage blogger who goes by "Miss Mustard Seed," has launched a new site to provide royalty-free reference photos for artists, completely FREE with no fine print and no strings attached. Here are the details...
[missmustardseed.com](https://www.missmustardseed.com)

Member News

Members **Patti Jeffries**, **Elizabeth Hood** and **Robin Ricketts** have paintings in the *All Creatures Great and Small* exhibit at the **Gayton Kirk Gallery** in Richmond. The show will run from September 2 through September 27.

Mon to Thur 9 AM-4 PM
Sunday 8:30 AM-7 PM

RECEPTION -
September 22, 2024 3:30
TO 4:30

All Creatures Great and Small

September 2024
THE GAYTON KIRK, 11421 Gayton Rd, Henrico, VA 23238

Seeker by Maria Stout

Sassafras by Nancy Davis

Golden Light by Patti Jeffries

Masked by Rosemary McKnight

Ewe Called? by Jan Schreiber

Blue Horse with Human Mark by Maria Andrade

Baa Baa White Sheep by Elizabeth Hood

Carl's Goat by Carolyn Davis

Member News

Elizabeth Hood has two pastels in the Sept-Oct *Crossroad Art Center Member's* show "**The Feel of Fall.**" She also has a painting in the *Crossroads All Media* exhibit for Sept-Oct.



The Colour of Autumn



Cool Water



A Thousand Years

Upcoming Programs

Friday September 13, 2024

Adrian Giuliani - *Ideas and Philosophies about Art Making: Looking at Things in a New Light*
Zoom Meeting



12:30 pm: Business Meeting

1:00 pm: Adrian Giuliani Virtual Presentation

We have an exciting series of programs scheduled for this year. Our September program will be inspirational and give us a creative boost to start our new meeting year.

Adrian will be sharing some of her ideas and philosophies about Art Making. These connect to our art making, but all may also be applied to life. Over the years, Adrian discovered some ways of looking at things that may empower us, once we recognize and embrace them. Simply shifting our way of thinking can encourage us to be fearless and experimental, with no judgment about our experiments, whether they become finished pieces or not. Adrian's own work is experimental and fearless, and has been recognized nationally and internationally as well as winning numerous awards. Whatever your style of painting, there will be something in this program that you can take away and apply to your own work.



Saturday, Nov. 9, 2024

Helen Oderisi - *How to Take Better Photographs of Your Art*

In-Person Location: (TBD)

12:30 pm: Business Meeting

1:00 pm: Helen Oderisi



In this fun, hands-on program, Helen will guide us through some simple techniques to get the best possible photographs of our paintings.

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Member News

Joan Dreicer won the *Jack Richeson Award* for her painting, "Quiet" in the **NC Statewide Annual Exhibit**.

Joan has been in several Plein Air events this summer including a trip to Deltaville, VA, Ireland, Blowing Rock, NC and Highland County, VA. She plans to participate in the Foothills Plein Air event in Elgin, NC. In October.



Quiet



Blowing Rock



Highland County, VA

Upcoming Programs...*continued*

Helen Oderisi is the owner of Helen's Place Photography in Williamsburg and has been a professional photographer for over 35 years. She has taken photographs all over the world and distinguished herself locally by photographing several dignitaries including President Bill Clinton, Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, and President Joe Biden when he was a Senator. Her greatest passion has always been photographing children. As she is retiring, she is finding true joy in teaching how to see and how to love the art of photography.

■ Call For Art

Gayton Kirk Gallery, Richmond, VA 2024-2025 Call for Art Exhibit Sign Ups

Small Works - December 2024

This show will include paintings, drawing, collages, and other types of wall art that are no larger than 144 square inches. Each artist may submit two or more works depending on the size. If they are very small, more works will fit in the gallery. The subject is up to you.

[Click here to sign up for the exhibit](#)

Fabulous Forgeries - March 2025

Get ready to have some fun by copying one of your favorite paintings from the past. To avoid copyright issues, the original painting must be from before 1924. So get out your art books, search the Internet, or visit a gallery, and start channeling your favorite artists.

[Click here to sign up for the exhibit.](#)

New Beginnings - April 2025

Easter is in April this year and this exhibit will remind us about new life, rebirth, and renewal. Jesus Christ is the obvious image that comes to mind, but we find many signs of rebirth in the spring - newly emerging flora and fauna are everywhere. Or maybe you'd like to share a painting or drawing of babies or children, new friendships, a sunrise, a new idea, a new direction in life.

[Click here to sign up for the exhibit](#)

Member News



Members **Patti Jeffries**, **Robin Ricketts** and **Shavon Peacock** will have artwork for sale at the *Gallery At First UU* fall show.

Show Dates for 2024:

Wednesday, October 23, 5 - 8:30 PM

Opening Night Artists' Reception

Thursday, October 24, 12 - 7 PM

Friday, October 25, 12 - 7 PM

Saturday, October 26, 12 - 5 PM

Sunday, October 27, 12 - 5 PM



Belle Isle Bridge by Shavon Peacock



Branching Out by Patti Jeffries

Making Water Look Wet

Unison Artist Blog by Regina Hona, AGRAF, PSVA

To achieve water depth I start with the dominant colour layer I see underneath as if the water is still. Squinting helps to judge this. Water is no different to other objects, where we need to use three to four values to create form, movement or depth. I reserve the lights bouncing off the water to go on last. These final strokes, often in pale blue, violet or turquoise are what really bring the water to life and makes it look wet.

Here are some things to take into account when painting water:

1. Water needs to have a landscape perspective to create distance and visual depth, just like in landscapes.
2. If a large boat is my focal point I avoid placing the waterline of the boat halfway down the painting — it tends to cut the painting in half, especially if including a substantial reflection.
3. Reflections under boats are usually darker than the boat itself. I've noticed that the midday sun can cause exceptions, making them look the same, but in a painting, one has to be darker than the other to give the work depth.
4. Reflections of people in wet sand and shallow water are usually warmer and lighter than their shadows.
5. I avoid obvious vigorous strokes if my aim is to paint calm, flat water.
6. It's important to avoid hard edges in water reflections even if the water is still.



The Perfect Camping Spot,
AS Colourfix, Raw Sienna

This applies to the width and length

of the strokes, and the depth and colour value of the water. The foreground strokes are broader and longer, which get narrower and shorter or non-existent as they recede.

Welcome New Members!

Judith Crockett
Paul Drzewiecki
Susan Geary
Lori George
Betty Hudson
Gail Jones
Anita Lee
Leanne Martz
Diane Miller
Kristine Nestel
Tricia Shands
Donna Streisfeld
Barbara Woodward

IAPS Convention 2024

It was another great time at the IAPS Convention in Albuquerque, NM. There were several MAPS Member attending, including board members, **Judy Leasure**, **Patti Jeffries** and **Joan Dreicer**. Member **Michelle Cobb** was also at the convention. **Jan Settle** was there and we were happy to see her painting and one by Judy juried into the 44th IAPS Pastelworld Juried Exhibit! Congratulations, Jan and Judy!

7. I prefer to apply my water strokes horizontally, initially with the side of the pastel and then with the tip when more detail is required. Occasionally I'll drag the pastel or my finger lightly down a section to blur an edge and make a reflection more realistic.
8. Remember that light bounces off water, so use it well to lead the eye and to help create form and interest.
9. When painting the reflections of boat masts, posts, pylons, and trees, whether angled or upright, make sure that they are directly underneath and correct. Straight masts have straight reflections. Angled masts, ropes, posts or trees have angled reflections.
10. I usually paint my reflections as zig-zag lines of masses with broken edges, even if the water is dead calm. This aids in quickly seeing the difference between the physical object and its cast shadow or reflection. Without it, it looks unnatural.
11. To add movement and life to your water subjects use any of the following — clouds; birds; dogs running on the beach or in and out of the water; people walking, running, fishing, or swimming at the beach (correct heights are crucial); children playing in the sand; sailing or fishing boats; water sprays onto rocks or off waves to show wind; using vigorous and bold strokes.

To read Regina's complete blog, [click here](#).



On The Yarra, AS Colourfix, Elephant

2024-2025 Executive Board Members

PRESIDENT

WORKSHOP CHAIR

Joan Dreicer

jdreicer54@gmail.com

VP & PROGRAM CHAIR

Judy Leasure

leasure.judy@gmail.com

TREASURER

Dornan Trainer

dornan.trainer@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Alison Carter

acarter9@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Trish Volp

pmvolp@wm.edu

EXHIBIT CHAIR

Terry Atkinson (Interium)

teeatkinson@gmail.com

TECHNOLOGY CHAIR

Sheila Chandler

scjorlinz@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER CHAIR

Patti Jeffries

patti.jeffries@gmail.com

MEMBER RESOURCES

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



Board Happenings

This was our first Executive Board meeting with the 2024/25 board and the new board members were welcomed. **Trish Volp** has agreed to Chair our Membership Committee and **Alison Carter** is our Secretary. Joan Dreicer, President reviewed with all members to copy her on all communications regarding board issues and reiterated that our board makes decisions as a group. There are no unilateral decisions.

All committee report information is scattered throughout the newsletter and the board meeting minutes will also be posted on our website in the *Member's Only Section* after they are completed.

New business included a discussion about the Workshop fees for non-members. Since our Membership fee increased to \$35, it was mentioned we might consider the non-member fee difference be increased to \$35. We budget the workshop fees to break even and, in an effort to keep the cost down per individual, the total cost is divided by 14, the maximum number of artists the workshop can accommodate. If we get less participants we could suffer a loss in the budget. **Joan Dreicer**, Workshop Chair, was concerned about the general increase in fees for workshops and that the increase for non members from \$25 to \$35 may make it more difficult to attract non-members to participate in unfilled workshop with our members.

MAPS' Social Media sites could use a member to oversee our Instagram, and our Private and Public Facebook pages. This is not a board position. We are looking for someone with some knowledge of posting on these sites, enthusiasm for attracting members to our Private page and to draw attention to our Public page. They would highlight societal events as well as post articles and links related to the medium of pastel. We hope to draw more attention to our Society.



MAPS Members Make Art