



Newsletter

September OPS Regular Meeting

DATE: Saturday, September 13, 2025

**LOCATION: John Brown University (JBU)
Art Barn Building**

TIME: 9:30 AM

MAIN PROGRAM:

"TIPS & TRICKS" - A number of OPS members will share their Tips & Tricks they use for gathering subject matter, sketching, preparing a painting surface, underpainting techniques, painting techniques, framing, **ETC..** Questions and an open discussion on any art related subject with everyone attending the meeting will be accepted and encouraged.

BONUS PROGRAM:

Following the "Tips & Tricks" presentation, and a break for some refreshments, Randall Kronblad will give us a visual presentation showing us the steps required to "attend/watch" the upcoming October ZOOM Meeting.



Remind your friends, or invite a friend who may be interested in joining us. Offer a friend a ride if you come a long distance. HOPE to see you & a friend on September 13th!!

October Meeting via ZOOM

DATE: Saturday, October 11, 2025

LOCATION: ZOOM on your laptop/tablet/phone

TIME: 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Debora Stewart, psa-mp, iaps/mc



www.deborastewart.com

This will be a **FIRST** for OPS...a virtual meeting via ZOOM **ONLY!**

Debora Stewart from Clinton, IA, known for her colorful and organic abstract pastel paintings, will give us a live demonstration of her painting technique. She plans to do 2 paintings, a Landscape and a Floral, in the 2 hours long ZOOM presentation. Plan to join us...it will be fun and informative!!!



"Stream: Reflecting Light"



"Secret Garden 2"

NOTE: You will receive, and **NEED**, an electronic "invite" to this meeting. It will be sent to you, via email, about **ONE (1)** week before the meeting. Be sure to keep track of it in your Inbox as it will be the **ONLY** way to "attend" this meeting. "Invitations" will not be available the morning of the meeting.

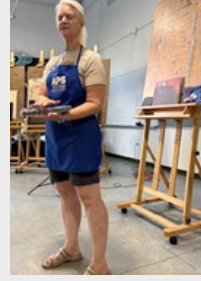
July Meeting Recap

- Though the weather wasn't friendly, the OPS General Meeting held on Saturday, July 12 was wonderful! The meeting began with an update from Diana Harshbarger on the now past Diane Fechenbach workshop, Aug. 7-9, 2025, the July APS/OPS Member Exhibit at the Thea Gallery in North Little Rock, and a report from Charles Peer on the Sept. 11-Nov. 18, 2025 OPS Member Exhibit that will be held in Fort Smith, AR at the Arkansas Colleges for Health Education (ACHE) building.



Caprice during her morning demonstration.

- Caprice Cooper, from the Arkansas Pastel Society, then presented an amazing demo on a wide variety of techniques for painting RUST in a painting. She also introduced many products that can be used to create texture and a glistening effect to your rust paintings.

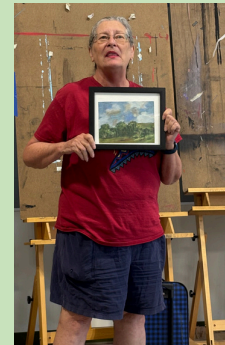


Caprice

- Following lunch, Caprice led an afternoon "mini-workshop" on the painting techniques demonstrated in the morning and provided an opportunity to try all of the products she had mentioned earlier. There were some wonderful works created by those that stayed!



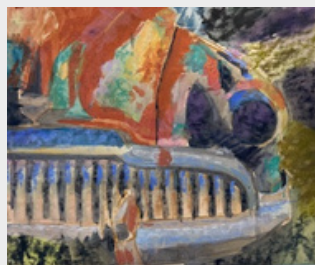
- After enjoying the large spread of snacks members shared their "Show and Tell" paintings based on the theme of **Summer Green**.



Bonnie Richardson



Jeanette Foreman



- Examples of wonderful work done during the "mini workshop" - artists unknown.

APS/OPS Joint Exhibit Recap



"The Lovely Lady" by
Bill Kinneman

The third Joint Member Exhibit featuring works from both APS & OPS is in the books and it was another success! The closing Reception, held on Friday evening July 18 at the Thea Gallery in North Little Rock, was well attended. The People's Choice Award went to Bill Kinneman from APS for his painting "The Lovely Lady". CONGRATS to Bill!!!! Second Place went to Charles Peer for his painting "A Light Through the Window". Third and Fourth Place went to Randall Kronblad for his paintings "That Golden Moment" and "Ode to Summer" respectively. Here are some stats from the exhibit:

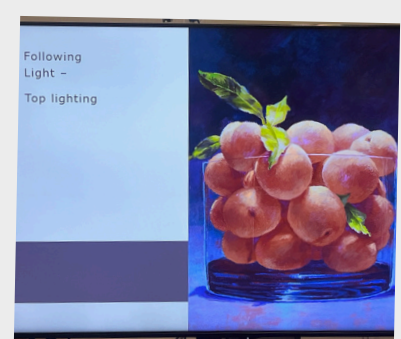
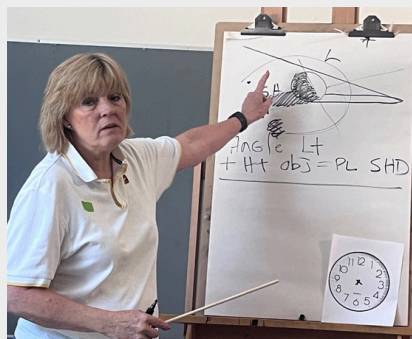
37 artists participated in the exhibit: 22 APS Members, 15 OPS Members
73 paintings were in the exhibit: 46 by APS Members, 27 by OPS Members.

Five members from OPS attended the Friday night reception...Diana Harshbarger, Cindy Rowden, Mary Anne Garnett, Burneta Venosdel and Charles Peer.



A **BIG Thank You** to Burneta Venosdel and Diana Harshbarger for transporting artwork to/from this event AND to Suzanne King for storing over 60 pieces at her home until the upcoming exhibit at the ACHE venue in Fort Smith!!!

Diane Fechenbach Workshop Recap



Nine people took part in Diane Fechenbach's workshop, which blended hard work with plenty of laughter. Diane's engaging teaching helped them to see sunlight and shadow in entirely new ways, placing familiar ideas into a clear and understandable framework. Participants found themselves joking about the "physics and geometry" behind her lessons, reflecting the enjoyable spirit of the class. Rather than teaching them something completely new, Diane organized and clarified what they already knew, giving them tools they didn't realize they needed. Everyone agreed she's a fountain of information and an excellent instructor and would love having her back. They all left inspired - none of them will see light and shadow quite the same way again.



Fall OPS Member Exhibit



IMPORTANT EXHIBIT DATES:

- **Artwork Delivery Dates:**
Tuesday, Sept. 2 - Friday, Sept. 5 - 8:30AM-4:00PM
- **Exhibit Dates:** Sept. 11 - Nov. 18, 2025
- **Reception:** Sept. 11, 2025 - 5:00 - 7:00 PM
- **Artwork Pick-Up Dates:**
Wed. Nov. 19 - Friday, Nov. 21 - 8:30AM-4:00PM

- The **DEADLINE** is **AUGUST 15, 2025...ONLY TWO (2) days away...**for submitting information on your work to be in the Fall OPS Member Exhibit at the ACHE Facility in Fort Smith.
- All of your painting information **MUST** be submitted via the *Google Forms* sent to you via email by Randall Kronblad on July 21, 2025.
- At time of publication there are 23 artists registered to show their work in this "Brick & Mortar" Exhibit at the wonderful ACHE venue.
- Numerous OPS Members will be doing live painting demos at the Reception.
- **Still looking for volunteers to do a "Storyboard"...**contact Charles Peer (cpeerstudio@gmail.com)
- Exhibit Location:

Arkansas Colleges of Health Education (ACHE)
1000 Fiana Way Fort Smith, AR 72916



Next IAPS Convention

June 16-21, 2026 is the next IAPS Biennial Convention. Sometime in November Registration will open for the 2026 Convention. Then in November or December you will need to make hotel reservations, if you plan to stay in one of the Convention hotels. Then in January 2026 you will signup for your classes, demos., etc. Further details will be published on the IAPS website and also on their Facebook page in the coming months. www.iapspastel.org

Quotes for ARTISTS

"Happy are the painters, for they shall not be lonely. Light and color, peace and hope, will keep them company to the end of the day."
-Winston Churchill

"There are painters who transform the sun into a yellow spot, but there are others who, thanks to their art and intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun."
-Pablo Picasso

"An artist is not paid for his labor but for his vision."
- James McNeill Whistler



How did the art student make a million dollar work of art?

He started with 2 million.

Jokes Quotes Factory.com

Member News



"Ain't Gonna Make Me Smile"

Karen Brannon

- Karen's painting of her grandson, "Ain't Gonna Make Me Smile" received Honorable Mention at Arts on Main's Annual Adult Art Competition. The exhibit will be up through Sept 27th.
- Karen's painting "Secrets" was accepted into the Fort Smith Regional Art Museum's Annual Invitational for professional artists. The theme is "Beasts of the Imagination" & will be up through Sept 7th.



Karen with her painting "Secrets"

Heather Zanow

- Heather was accepted as an art vendor for the 2025 Dog Fest in Oklahoma City, OK. She will be painting live at the event. The Event will be held October 5 at Scissortail Park. Heather's work focuses on bringing awareness to canine cruelty and to spread the message of compassion and empathy for our loyal companions. She travels to art shows and pet expos out of state whenever possible.

Randall Kronblad

- Randall had two of his paintings accepted by juror and judge Nancy King Mertz into the MidAmerica Pastel Society's (MAPS) **2025 National Exhibition: "Adventures in Pastel"**. Opening reception in Merriam, KS will be October 2 and the show shall run until November 1.



Marge Tucker

- Marge's painting "Feeling Blue" was awarded Top Finalist in the June 2025 Plein Air Salon Art Competition. This is the 2nd time this painting has received national recognition...obviously a WONDERFUL piece!



Charles Peer

- In late July Charles served as juror, along with Robin Frisella, for the 2025 "Marks of Distinction" Exhibit for the Central Massachusetts Pastel Society. This "brick and mortar" show will run from Aug. 26 through Sept 26 at Fivesparks in Harvard, MA. He is scheduled to give a Zoom demo for their society on Oct 1.
- Charles has had a painting juried into the upcoming **2025 PSA Enduring Brilliance** exhibit at the National Arts Club in NYC. The jurors, Steph Mouw, Richard G. McKinley, and Loriann Signori, selected 125 works for the exhibit out of 1043 submissions. The exhibit will run Sept. 2-25, 2025 at the National Arts Club. Charles will post an image of his selected painting after the opening.

Member News (con't.)

Charles Peer

- Charles taught at 3-day workshop titled "Pastel Painting with WOW! in Springfield, MO from June 27-29, 2025.



IAPS JURIED FALL WEBSHOW

**TWO DIVISIONS - ONE EXHIBITION
OPEN & MASTER CIRCLE**

CALL FOR ENTRIES - JULY 25, 2025

DEADLINE TO ENTER - SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT - OCTOBER 10, 2025

For more information and to enter see: iapspastel.org
ShowSubmit.com

There is still time to enter...don't hesitate, GREAT way to earn points towards OPS Signature status and the ultimate recognition of IAPS Master Circle! Entry deadline is September 8, 2025, midnight.



A warm welcome to the following new Member. We look forward to meeting you at our next meeting.

Marti Evans from Conway, AR

