



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

It’s been a while since our last newsletter and PSSC has been busy. In addition to our regular meetings, we held a two-day workshop in May with Nancie King Mertz. We completed our logo contest and began our rebranding. We held our Annual Members’ Exhibition in June and our first online International Exhibition “Luminosity & Light” is currently being presented via [ShowSubmit](#).

From a volunteer perspective we are excited to announce that Tommy Bennett of Myrtle Beach has agreed to be our new Web Master and Lisa Rutledge of Spartanburg is heading our Social Media Committee.

All the while our community continues to grow as we have welcomed new members throughout South Carolina, Florida and Georgia.

We are so fortunate to have a talented group of members with such varied interests and we would love your help to continue growing. Whether you are interested in joining a committee, would like to volunteer on a more limited basis, or prefer to work remotely we have opportunities for you such as taking pictures at a meeting/exhibit, bringing refreshments to a meeting, or assisting with our online presence to name a few.

None of this would be possible without your support and for that the Board thanks you.

Debbie Poynter
PSSC President

2024 BOARD MEMBERS

President: Debbie Poynter
Vice President: Joan Dromey
Secretary: Debbie Rosato
Treasurer: Susan Hodge
Director: Michael Uricchio

2024 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Programs: Joan Dromey
Membership: Susan Hodge
Exhibitions: Lynne Tennyson and Leigh Royer
Publicity: Sarah Kuhnell
Newsletter: Vicky Tuten
Events Coordinator: Leigh Royer
Web Master: Tommy Bennett
Social Media: Lisa Rutledge
Advisor: Barbara Kohn

2024 AT A GLANCE

JANUARY 13, 2024 - General Meeting, Jeri Greenberg Demo & Workshop

MARCH 9, 2024 - General Meeting & Julia Lesnichy Demo (ZOOM only)

May 3-4, 2024 - General Meeting & 2-day Nancie King Mertz Workshop

June 1- 29, 2024 – Annual Members Judged Exhibit at JIACC

September 14, 2024 - General Meeting (ZOOM only) and *Light & Luminosity* Awards Reception

November 9-10, 2024 - General Meeting, Demo - Details to Follow

Exhibitions

THROUGH OUR MEMBERS' EYES

This year our members' exhibit, "Through Our Members' Eyes", was held in June at James Island Arts and Cultural Center. Once again you all embraced the exhibit whole-heartedly with twenty-one (21) members entering fifty-one (51) pieces in the show. Thank you all for making this show a success by sharing and showcasing your talents.

Eve Miller, PSA, IAPS/MC, judged the exhibition and presented these awards at the June 29th closing reception.

Signature Division



Tammy Papa "Moonlight Through the Palms"

Members Division

1st Place

Withdrawn by artist



2nd Place

Julie Raney "The Reader"

3rd Place



Joan Dromey "Palmetto Heart"

Honorable Mentions



Al Leitch "Saluda in the Morning"



Amy Minson "A Day Out, May Afternoon"



Karen Gaag "Marsh Creek"



Renee Bruce "Off We Go"

JIACC, as always, was instrumental in the success of our show. Please join us all in sincerely thanking them for their partnership with PSSC for this event and throughout the year. Their hard work and dedication to PSSC allows us to continue expanding our programs and grow our society.



September 2024

Exhibitions

LUMINOSITY & LIGHT

PSSC is hosting its first International Online Juried and Judged Exhibition, *"Luminosity & Light"*, this year, running September 14, 2024 through October 19, 2024. The exhibition is being presented through ShowSubmit and includes both members and non-members. We are excited that our first online exhibit had 202 submissions from 89 artists (including 25 members) from 10 countries other than the United States – including Turkey, Cypress, Germany, France and New Zealand to name a few.

Jeanne Rosier Smith served as both Juror of Selection and Judge of Awards. Jeanne is an IAPS Master Circle member and Eminent Pastelist, a Master Artist with the Pastel Society of America, a fellow at St Botolph Club of Boston, and a Copley Society Master Artist. Additional information on Jeanne is available at www.jeannerosiersmith.com.

Jeanne shared that she was impressed by the quality of the works entered in the show as well as the variety of pieces and as a result it was "incredibly tough to judge". Prior to the presentation of awards, Jeanne shared her process for selecting award winners as well as her judging rubric. Firstly, she focuses on theme and how a piece aligns with a show's theme, a "gut" reaction (what she is drawn to first) in a piece, while checking herself against subjects that appeal to her to ensure she is giving equal consideration to all entrants.

Her judging rubric includes:

- Composition – is it interesting and dynamic, leading the viewer throughout the piece

- Technical Merit – including application of pigment, confidence in applying marks

- Emotional Content – what feeling the piece conveys, overall mood

- Originality – did the artist take risks, are there unexpected elements

Such enlightening insight and wonderful information for us to consider! Thank you, Jeanne, for sharing.

80 pieces were juried into the exhibit with awards presented to the following pastelists. Please enjoy the full exhibit of accepted works at <https://showsubmit.com/gallery/pssc-luminosity-light>. A link to the show is also available on our website.

Best In Show



Christine Swann "Dervish"

This piece grabbed Jeanne immediately with its

- few intense bright colors-the gray hair and the darks in the sweater
- beautiful backlighting
- originality of the bold expression
- emotionally striking quality
- freedom of the lines/mark making and the light in her hair
- contrast of the loose edges and background with the detailed and defined facial quality

Second Place

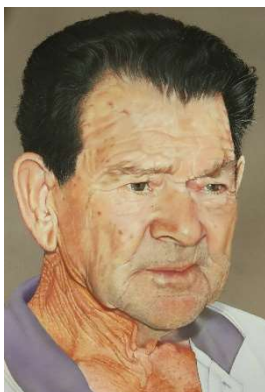


Yael Maimon "Behind Her Eyes"

This piece had

- A masterful use of light throughout the cat that draws the viewer to the green eye focal point
- Exquisite control of marks

Third Place



Jose Vasquez "Tiemb"

This piece was selected for

- Its controlled light quality
- The way the artist captured in the intense gaze of the subject
- The way it draws the viewer to wonder what important thoughts the subject is reflecting upon

Michael Uricchio Memorial Award



Debbie Rosato "Snowy in the Mix"

This piece had

- A use of striking colors and lighting
- As well as a strong sense of reflection
- Birds were fluidly drawn and loose and in varying positions giving them a lively quality

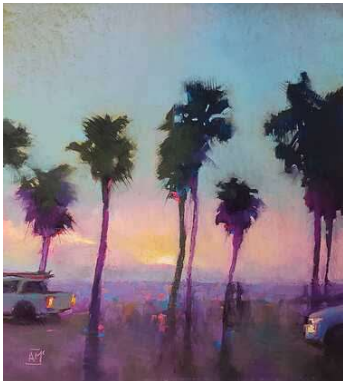
Awards of Excellence



Roberta Condon "After the Rain"

This piece was selected for

- Daring composition
- Interesting textural quality
- Mystery – enhanced by the varying textures and marks, notably the scratched telephone wires in the background



Andrew McDermott "Sunset Palms"

This piece was selected for

- Its great mood
- Luminous glow and warm atmosphere
- Interesting surface texture
- Suggestive loosely drawn palms

Awards of Excellence



Shoshanna Ahart "Entrance to a Magical World"

This piece was selected for

- The depth it displays while showing the garden in full sun
- The beautiful creation of flower clusters

This show would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our member Joan Dromey. Please give a big THANK YOU to Joan for encouraging us to pursue this and for the countless hours she spent making it a success. Also, many thanks to Jeanne Rosier Smith for presenting us with a beautifully diverse show.

Membership

PSSC is pleased to welcome the following new members since April 2024.

Camilla Wilson-Spartanburg SC	Kristin Peterson-Beaufort SC
Lisa Rutledge-Spartanburg SC	Lisa Mills-Hilton Head SC
Tommy Bennett-Myrtle Beach SC	Jane Hearn-Seabrook SC
Rene Gallipeau-Charlotte NC	

As of this newsletter PSSC membership has grown to 57 members.

Please see the membership application at the end of this newsletter if you know someone who would like to join.

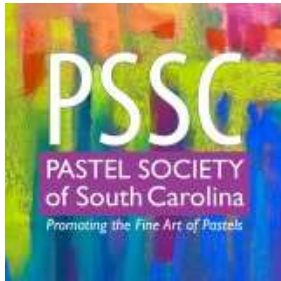
New Contact Information?

Have you moved recently, gotten new phone numbers, email addresses or websites?

If so, please email Susan Hodge at yddesigns@yahoo.com with your updated information so that she can keep our membership directory current.

Logo Contest

Yes, we have a new, updated logo! This Spring, Barbara Kohn led the initiative to select our new logo which resulted in nine different logo designs being submitted. All entries were judged by Julie Frazier, Paula Borgstadt, and Debbie Poynter against the criteria to select the one best representing our society while also being adaptable for use in large and small formats.



Tammy Papa's logo included in this newsletter was chosen and she was awarded one signature point. As a result, Tammy has earned three signature points and is now a Signature Member of PSSC. Congratulations Tammy for your winning design and becoming a Signature Member!

Our sincere thanks to Barbara, Julie, Paula, and Debbie for your hard work and dedication and to everyone who entered designs in the contest.

We hope you enjoy our new look!



IAPS Recap

PSSC was well represented at the 2024 IAPS convention with several of our members in attendance.



L to R: Lynne Tennyson, Julie Raney, Joan Dromey, Eve Miller, Lisa Rutledge & Christine Swann

We're also very proud of the fact that five of our members had pieces accepted into the IAPS exhibit (please see them below). What a testament to the talent in our group that roughly 10% of our membership had work accepted. Congratulations Anita Beaty, Beth Williams, Eve Miller, Judy Sullivan and Tammy Papa!



IAPS Recap



Anita Beaty *"The Lavender Queen"*



Beth Williams *"The Fog Rolls In"*



Eve Miller *"Nuances of Light"*



Judy Sullivan *"The Lookout"*



Tammy Papa *"Leaning Into It"*

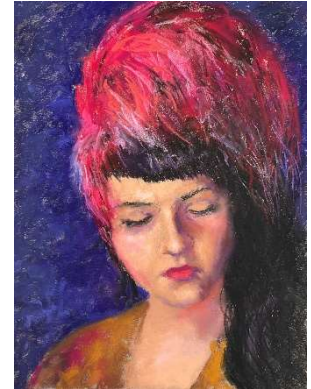
Past Education

March 9, 2024 – Julia Lesnichy Portraits

In response to many requests for a class on portraiture, Julia Lesnichy led a portrait demo during our March meeting. For this demo, Julia used a reference photo she had taken and focused on how to do a fairly quick portrait, capturing the likeness of the image while retaining a feeling of freshness and vibrancy.

Julia is a PSA Associate Member, Southeastern Pastel Society Signature Member, Northwestern Pastel Society Signature Member, and a member of the MidAtlantic Society. She has won numerous awards, received two Honorable Mentions in the Pastel 100, and been featured in Plein Air magazine. For more information, please see <https://www.julialesnichyfineart.com>

Julia, thank you for sharing your talents with our group.



May 3-4, 2024 – “Paint What Scares You...” Workshop



Nancie King Mertz, PSA-MP and IAPS-EP led our May workshop titled “Paint What Scares You – Man Made Structures & Figures in the Landscape!” and encouraged all of us to step out of our comfort zone.

Nancie started with some pointers and insights on perspective, including...

- First, determine sight line – where there is no convergence of points either up or down.
- The vanishing point will be on this sight line.
- Above the sight line, items merge downward.
- Below the sight line, items merge upward.



And drawing, including....

- Rather than start with a detailed drawing start with a broad, loose “tick mark map” to place the items in your reference where they belong in the painting.
- Remember to keep architecture vertical and foliage more organic.

Next, with respects to applying pastels, Nancie

- Works darks to lights.
- After applying her darks, Nancie washes her darks in to affix them to the surface.
 - Prefers denatured alcohol for the wash due to the fast-drying time, but 90% rubbing alcohol will work as well.
- Prefers to finish with hard pastels applied with a heavy, firm touch. They are also good for layering in color.
- Reiterated that much of a pastel painting is the pressure used to apply pastels for emphasis and effect.



And most importantly remember – “viewers like to fill in the blanks” and “feel the soul of the artist”.

May 3-4, 2024 – “Paint What Scares You...” Workshop



Throughout the 2-day session Nancie shared other tips including some on glass, paper, and mounted board.

- AR (anti-reflective) glass is a good alternative to museum glass as it is just like museum glass except it doesn't have UV protection.
- Nancie uses an archival dry mount tissue to bond pastel paper to gator board.
 - Ordering goes pastel paper, tissue, gator board
- Nancie often uses an 8-ply rag board for mounting.

Joan thank you for planning another great workshop and Nancie thank you for helping us conquer our fears by sharing your thoughts on how to “simplify” compositions involving man-made structures. And as always, our sincere thanks to JIACC for their generosity.

EDITOR'S NOTE

I hope you have enjoyed catching up with PSSC events since our last newsletter and are excited to see all the activity we've had in 2024 so far.

On a personal note, I had planned on including a section for sharing exciting news from our members - upcoming art events/shows, awards we've all won, etc. - and several of you shared this information and for that I am thankful. But I have not done the best job of capturing and retaining it. So rather than omit someone, I beg your indulgence as I come up with a way to make sure I keep all these notes, comments, etc. for inclusion in future newsletters.

Welcome Fall! May we find beauty and inspiration as this season begins. Happy Painting!

Vicky



Pastel Society Of South Carolina Membership Information

Please Print Clearly

Membership is open to all persons interested in the dry pastel medium upon application for membership and payment of dues. Dues are \$40 per year. Completed application and payment should be mailed to Susan Hodge, 2710 Old Oak Walk, Johns Island, SC 29455

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Circle the number you would prefer to be contacted on

Email Address _____

Web Site _____

What skills are you willing to share with members _____

What committee are you willing to work on _____

Dues Paid _____