



Mt Pleasant Art Society Newsletter

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Guest Watercolor Artist: Jeffery Jensen

Nov Guest Artist:
Jeffrey Jensen
Watercolor
Jan 6, 2019
2:00pm-4pm

MPAS Demo Schedule

Meeting Time: 2:00- 4:00 PM (first Sun of each month)

Jan 6, 2019

Jeffrey Jensen-Watercolor
Refreshments: Deborah Carr and Carol Durrum
Backroom Artist: Yvonne Hyatt

Feb 3, 2019

Brenda Brannon-Oil
Refreshments: Dolores Wright & Diana Williams
Backroom Artist: Dusty Goodman

March 3, 2018

Janice Hamilton – Pastel
Refreshments: Ann Glaess and Jan Switzer
Backroom Artist: Michele Greene

Workshop

Matt Smith: April 9-11, 2019
The workshop is full. To be put on the waiting list call Linda Pepper, 903-588-2370 or Laverne Arnett, 903-537-4018

Clinton Broyles: Oct 7-9, 2019

Fee: \$275
Sign-up sheet is on the back table.

Jeff has had a love affair with drawing and painting his entire life. Little did he know that this gift would play an important role throughout his education as well as into his chosen field.

After two art pieces were published in a national magazine at age 17, he began to try to figure out how he was going to use this talent to pursue a college degree and ultimately a profession that would fulfill his need and desire to create.

Well known architect Michael Graves once wrote: "Drawing stimulates the imagination and allows us to speculate about ideas, a good sign that we are truly alive."

"Architecture, drawing and creativity all seemed the perfect fit for me" Jensen states. Jeff has continued to hone his drawing and painting skills for the last 40 years focusing primarily on watercolor.

"Watercolor has always been my favorite medium because of its spontaneity, immediacy, and unpredictable nature. My early influences included Andrew Wyeth, Edward Hopper, and John Singer Sargent. Even through their signature styles varied greatly between them, all three artists were absolute masters at being able to capture and portray light and its effect of surfaces."

"Most recently, I have been in awe of the work of some of whom I consider today's modern masters; Joseph Zbukvic, Alvaro Castagnet, and Dean Mitchell and their ability to portray atmosphere and mood in their paintings. Their inspirational work probably explains why my subject matter tends to be the built environments of a lot of the places I have visited during my architectural career. Oddly enough, my primary studio has often the airplane seat I am seated in during my work related travels. The trips sometimes are incredibly long and painting is great way to pass the time while away from home."

Jeff has been a member of SWS for only three years now yet feels a special tie to the organization. Harwood K. Smith, a noted Dallas architect and one of the founding members of the Southwestern Watercolor Society, is the founder and namesake of the firm Jeff has been practicing with for the past 33 years.

"Harwood had already retired when I joined the firm in 1982, but he told me that he still found time to paint every single day! He was an inspiration and I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to know him and to paint with him on occasion. I believe that Harwood was an artist first and an architect second. He was a very gifted individual."

Jeff strives to continue the legacy by teaching workshops to the firm's architectural student interns each summer. "This summer the class size ballooned to over 50 participants and the amount of excitement this has generated has been extremely rewarding for me. I have always been a proponent of an integrated relationship between art and architecture and these workshops allow me to encourage our student interns to continue the journey to develop their skills in watercolor as a life-long passion. Their transformation is often remarkable."

"I am truly fortunate and blessed to have followed a career path that has allowed me and encouraged me to paint and create whenever and wherever I can. The Southwestern Watercolor Society has provided me with a host of new friends with kindred spirits and I look forward to enjoying their company for many years to come."

Jeff, along with his wife Victoria, resides in McKinney, Texas.

President's Letter

By the time you read this letter, Christmas will be in your rear window. I hope you enjoyed the friends, Family, kids, and grandchildren. You are probably knee-deep in wrapping paper and old scotch tape! I don't know about you, but I'm exhausted! Never the less, it's time for me to get back to work and painting.

I enjoyed our December 2nd meeting with a great demo from Walt Davis in watercolor techniques. The refreshments were delicious thanks to Valda Williams, Mary Graves, Linda Pepper, and Donna Monroe.

The December 9th board meeting was very productive. Several committees are to be set up and fund raising efforts will be pursued. More information will be forth coming when all chairmen of committees are contacted. I am excited about this year and the changes that we will all plan.

Our January 6th meeting is shaping up to be an instructive one with Jeffery Jenson our featured watercolor artist. Really looking forward to his demo. Deborah Carr and Carol Durum will handle the refreshments, so look for a wonderful snack! Yvonne Hyatt will exhibit her paintings in the back room. I'm looking forward to the meeting!!

Just to let you know, the watercolor group meets first and third Friday of the month from 10 to 2 o'clock in the meeting room of the Mt. Pleasant Public Library. (Due to allergies the library limits the medium to watercolor and acrylic only, no oil) Let some friends know!!

Thanks Steve

Dec Demo Review

Walt Davis did a wonder watercolor demo for our Dec meeting. There was a lot of informative information plus other teaching info. The demo was presented in a series of three steps. One of which the members voted on for our permanent collection. THANK YOU WALT FOR THE PAINTING! Members look for it on our gallery wall. If you would be interested in a watercolor workshop with Walt, please let me know.

Donna

donna.monroe12@yahoo.com

Condolences

Ann Glaess has lost a love one. Her mother-in-law recently passed away. Keep her and the family in your prayers.



BACKROOM ARTIST

Yvonne Hyatt

The only two times that I can remember creating art, prior to retirement, is in Junior High and as a young adult. In Junior high school, I drew a self-portrait and was a finalist in the school show. As a young adult, I did a drawing of a plant sitting on an antique table.

When I retired from information technology in banking, I began my art journey with a colored pencil class under Linda Lucas Hardy in the fall of 2005. I was hooked on the creativity of art. I had no clue what the classmates meant when they talked about value, warm and cool colors, perspective, composition, etc. I began picking up the “vocabulary” little by little. I was active in the Colored Pencil Society of America national and local chapters. I started seeing color in fruits, vegetables, and nature that I had never noticed before. I participated in a few art shows. I attended national CPSA conferences. I went to see Prix de West with members of the class and was exposed to a higher level of art. I was amazed that Carrie Ballantyne’s colored pencil drawings were in such a prestigious exhibit. Her work was and still is breathtaking in any media. I began going to local art museums and seeing paintings in a completely different light.

Donna Monroe introduced me to oil painting about 6 years ago and became my mentor. She started teaching an oil-painting class. Though I loved colored pencil, I fell in love with the creaminess of oil paint. I was immediately hooked. I began expanding my art vocabulary even more. She taught me basics that were invaluable. Donna introduced me to Andrew Wages and we began taking classes from him. He commented that Donna taught me well. Plus, she had not taught me bad habits. Donna talked about taking workshops from better-known artists through the Mt. Pleasant Art Society. I met talented, friendly people at these workshops. Their talent and skills sometimes intimidate me. I have been privileged to study with them under Jean Chambers, Cecy Turner, Phil Starke, Chiang Huang, and Matt Smith.

I took photography classes that also helped me hone my art skills. I learned a lot about setting up a still life, taking portraits and taking landscape photos that are good reference photos.

What I love about art is I am constantly challenged and learning. There is always a different way to create and see art. There is so very much that I have never seen or experienced. The best part is I have gotten to meet and know such wonderful, talented people.

Yvonne Hyatt