



# Purely Pastel

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## Out with the Old in with the ...

We, oh so happily, said good bye to 2020 and welcomed the new year. Excited for all of 2021 possibilities. Only to find that not much has changed, and still no idea when it will. There is much hope that with vaccines and continued vigilance we will begin to see this pandemic fade by summer. While we continue to wear our masks, wash our hands, sanitize and stay apart, we are also planning. Planning to do the things we can with the restrictions required

to keep us safe. Planning for a time when we can have an in-person show, a reception with hors d'oeuvres and attend an in-person workshop. Please know that the CPS Board is working very hard to offer opportunities for CPS members. The information in this newsletter may change due to COVID requirements, but the Board's intention is to move forward, keeping our group strong, active and connected!

## Exciting New Format for the 2021 Member Show

Due to COVID and safety concerns, our annual Member Show will not be held at Southington Cultural Community Arts. Our FABULOUS Show Chairs found a virtual gallery to showcase our work online! Although the show will be all online, you will feel like you are taking a virtual tour through a gallery and seeing artwork on the walls; each piece will be framed and hung! This is a huge undertaking for the chairs, they will hang the show without the assistance of a room full of volunteers. You will be able to click on each painting to see it larger, with all pertinent information. You will also be able to share the virtual gallery show with your supporters and on social media. To download the prospectus and find how to enter the 35th Annual CPS Member Show, look on the Exhibitions/Member Show page of our website <https://www.ctpastelsociety.org/exhibition/member/>

CPS is honored to have Marla Baggetta, an award winning, innovative, prolific painter and teacher, as our 2021 Member Exhibit Awards Judge. Marla's artwork and workshops are nationally recognized. Her work has been represented nationwide for over 30 years and can be found in numerous public and private collections. Marla is a signature PSA member and an IAPS Master Circle Recipient. Among her numerous awards and honors, she has been featured in the Pastel Journal and is included in Pure Color: *The Best of Pastel and Sketchbook Confidential II*. She authored "Step by Step Pastel" (Walter Foster Publishing). Marla graduated from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

### Key Dates:

Entry deadline

**Sunday, February 21, 2021 midnight**

Awards posted on [ctpastelsociety.org](http://ctpastelsociety.org)

**Sunday, March 21, 2021**

Exhibit opens online

**Sunday, March 21, 2021**

Exhibit closes

**Sunday, April 25, 2021**

### OVER \$4,000 in Cash & Prizes

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

*Diana Rogers, Co-Chair*

[diana.rogers@comcast.net](mailto:diana.rogers@comcast.net)

*Mary Ann D'Ambruoso, Co-Chair*

[mcdcapri@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdcapri@yahoo.com)

*Marianne Berman, Co-Chair*

[mariannehadleyberman@gmail.com](mailto:mariannehadleyberman@gmail.com)



Connecticut Pastel Society



# Artist Feature: Vicki Rooney



Such a pleasure to interview Vicki Rooney for this feature. I met Vicki shortly after I became a Member of CPS when I volunteered to help with the Renaissance Show. I honestly don't remember what I did that first year that was of service, but I got a glimpse of what Vicki did and I was impressed! As I've worked with her since I have come to admire her dedication and commitment to CPS and the Renaissance Show. I wanted to feature her because I would like all the members of CPS to have the opportunity to know and admire her for her work on the show as well as her art!

Vicki has co-chaired the Renaissance Show for 4 years. The show is a national juried show held in high regard in the pastel community. It has a reputation for its high standard of artwork, jurors of selection and awards judges. The show is a large undertaking, venues are secured 2 years in advance and planning for the next show begins the day after the current show closes. There are a few periods of inactivity throughout the year, but as the show date nears the amount of work intensifies. During our interview Vicki expressed her gratitude for the co-chairs she worked with over the years and the expertise and help of CPS board members and volunteers.

Of the show Vicki said: *"I would like everyone to know that as big an undertaking as it was, it was also an honor for me to hold the position of co-chair for so many years, to be trusted with that responsibility and to serve CPS."*

I think that quote explains Vicki best, she is committed and dedicated, humble and honored to serve! She told me that one of the things that was really nice about the position was the gratitude and appreciation she received from artists and CPS members, either in person or in email communication. The 'Thank you for all you do' made the effort worth it! According to Vicki she also enjoyed "the interaction with so many artists I never would have met if not for the Renaissance Show, whether in person, over the phone or through email; connecting with so much talent and artists I admire was a definite highlight of the position."



Portrait of Peony 16x12

As an artist Vicki has always strived to connect with the viewer. "I would like my work to be felt by the viewer, whatever that means to them, not just another pretty picture." She has always danced back and forth between art, music and writing. She has a collection of novels, screen plays, short stories and songs that she wrote, that now fill up a drawer. She says "although none of them were ever published and it's unlikely that they will ever be, it's like the mounting piles of pastel paintings...I have them, I know I did them, and that feels good!" She says she has always been creative, and music was her first love. She studied jazz piano for many years, until she hurt her hand and began painting 10 years ago. She studied with Rae Smith, taking weekly painting classes for 6 years. She is grateful for those classes with Rae, as well as for all the artists who share their talent at workshops, classes and online. They have all helped her improve her skills over the years.

Although this has been a difficult year, it was a good art year for Vicki. She won awards in 3 different shows! "I don't put a lot of emphasis on winning awards or getting into shows, but winning definitely feels better than not! It is a nice acknowledgement from peers that my work is progressing."

I am looking forward to seeing Vicki and her painting at the 2021 Renaissance Show – well rested, enjoying beautiful art and the reception. I will thank her for graciously helping me understand the work involved in making a show come to life. I will also not forget to thank the show chair/co-chairs of all the shows I have the fortune of being in in the future.

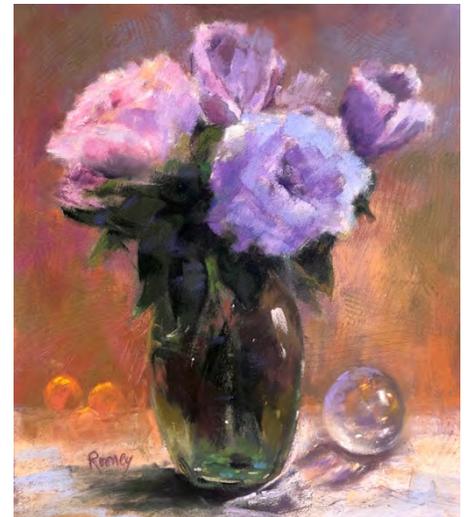
Thank you Vicki and wishing you continued success on your artistic journey!



Esperance Roses 20x16



Bottle Light 20x16



Lavender Dream 16x12



# 2021 Workshops

## Connecticut Pastel Society is proud to present three exciting Workshops for 2021!

These classes are offered on a first come, first served basis, so don't wait to reserve your spot! Registration is **online only** and is found on our website. These classes are already filling.

If CPS cancels any workshop due to the Coronavirus, the tuition will be refunded to you in full. Please see our Cancellation & Refund Policy posted on our website.

Tuition for the three day workshops is \$350.00 for Members and \$375.00 for Non Members. For more information on all of these workshops, please visit [www.ctpastelsociety.org](http://www.ctpastelsociety.org), under the Education Tab.

If you have any questions, please contact:  
MaryAnn D'Ambruoso, Workshop Co-Chair / [mcdcapri@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdcapri@yahoo.com)  
Katy Despot, Workshop Co-Chair / [kdespot2@gmail.com](mailto:kdespot2@gmail.com)

## NANCY NOWAK, PSA, IAPS-EP

Dates: June 25, 26, 27  
Time: 9 - 4  
Location: Southington Community Cultural Arts, Southington, CT

### "Taking Your Pastels To The Next Level"

Nancy travels to us from Atlanta and focuses on helping art students with insightful knowledge to broaden their skills and think like a Master painter! Learn many of the techniques of composing and designing your painting, including how to select and work from a reference photo and the importance of simplifying, massing and telling a story. Learn to create this Wow Factor to elicit an emotional response from the viewer through discussion and critique. This workshop includes lots of one on one at your easel, combining en plein air work on Day Three with the knowledge you gained in Day One and Two in the studio.

## NANCIE KING MERTZ, PSA-MP, IAPS-EP,

Dates: August 20, 21, 22  
Time: 9 - 4  
Location: Florence Griswold Museum, Old Lyme, CT

### "Painting Structures In Your Landscape"

Examine space, perspective and design through hands on lessons to help you gain confidence with Nancie King Mertz from Chicago! This en plein air workshop is all about using rapid plein air pastel methods to help you "get the drawing right". We will turn your favorite views into dramatic, expressive paintings using an early brushwork technique in the darks, and by using one and two point perspective. Nancie offers short demos throughout the workshop to help clarify her techniques

## DAWN EMERSON, PSA Signature Member

Dates: October 29, 30, 31  
Time: 9 - 4  
Location: Southington Community Cultural Arts, Southington, CT

### "Pastel Innovations"

Dawn offers us something very unique - a fast paced, fun exploration of the many techniques in her new book *Pastel Innovations*. The goal of this class is to enhance each artist's mark making language through the use of non-traditional drawing tools, thereby opening up new possibilities for self-expression through additive and subtractive layering of imagery! Students will focus on the six elements of art, brayer drawing, Monotype making, carving into dry ground and an analogous color assignment. Get ready to be charged up by this fabulous innovator from Oregon!

## WELCOME New Members

It is always exciting to have new artists join us on our journey!  
If you have the opportunity to meet any of our new members, please welcome them kindly to CPS.

*Laura Bleau*  
*Deborah LaFogg-Docherty*  
*Elaine Langer*  
*Matthew Ward*



# INSTRUCTORS

email your  
website so we  
can have a  
current list of  
CPS members  
offering classes  
and workshops!

Please email [mayoumail@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mayoumail@sbcglobal.net)

## 2021 Board Officers and Volunteers

President – Jane Penfield [penfieldjane@gmail.com](mailto:penfieldjane@gmail.com)  
 Vice President – Steve Brunetti [cmbrunetti@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cmbrunetti@sbcglobal.net)  
 Secretary – Karen Israel [karenisrael59@gmail.com](mailto:karenisrael59@gmail.com)  
 Treasurer – Linda Madin [lindamadin@gmail.com](mailto:lindamadin@gmail.com)  
 Membership – Elaine Benevides [ebladyhiker@aol.com](mailto:ebladyhiker@aol.com)

Renaissance Show Chairpersons  
 – Gigi Liverant [mail@gigiliverant.com](mailto:mail@gigiliverant.com)  
 – Jean Watson [geniewatson@att.net](mailto:geniewatson@att.net)

Member Show Chairpersons (annual non-juried member show)  
 – Diana Rogers [diana.rogers@comcast.net](mailto:diana.rogers@comcast.net)  
 – Maryann D'Ambruoso [mcdcapri@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdcapri@yahoo.com)  
 – Marianne Berman [mariannehadleyberman@gmail.com](mailto:mariannehadleyberman@gmail.com)

Purely Pastel Show Chairperson (biennial)  
 – Stacy Mayou [mayoumail@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mayoumail@sbcglobal.net)

### Additional Volunteers:

Awards Co-chair – Pat Boes [memoriesinpaste1@gmail.com](mailto:memoriesinpaste1@gmail.com)  
 Awards Co-chair – Maryann D'Ambruoso [mcdcapri@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdcapri@yahoo.com)  
 Newsletter Editor – Stacy Mayou [mayoumail@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mayoumail@sbcglobal.net)  
 Website Liaison – Linda Madin [lindamadin@gmail.com](mailto:lindamadin@gmail.com)  
 IAPS Representative – Christine Ivers [christine\\_ivers@yahoo.com](mailto:christine_ivers@yahoo.com)  
 Workshop Chairpersons  
 – Katy Despot [kdespot2@gmail.com](mailto:kdespot2@gmail.com)  
 – Maryann D'Ambruoso [mcdcapri@yahoo.com](mailto:mcdcapri@yahoo.com)  
 Scholarship Committee Chair  
 – Diane Stone [dstone322@gmail.com](mailto:dstone322@gmail.com)

### Signature Member Committee

– Christine Ivers [christine\\_ivers@yahoo.com](mailto:christine_ivers@yahoo.com)  
 – Gigi Liverant [mail@gigiliverant.com](mailto:mail@gigiliverant.com)  
 – Claudia Seymour [claudiaseymour@aol.com](mailto:claudiaseymour@aol.com)

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## FROM THE EDITOR

I am honored to be the Newsletter Editor and hope to bring you information that you feel is valuable and fun to read.

I welcome feedback, as well as your ideas and interests. Please contact me if you have material you would like included in an upcoming newsletter or if you would like to be a contributing author. Please forward member news, photos from CPS events, reviews of CPS workshops, or pastel tips.

I am looking forward to getting to know everyone better and I eagerly welcome member content additions to future newsletters.

[mayoumail@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mayoumail@sbcglobal.net)

Please include CPS in the subject line

Stacy Mayou

