



ANNUAL CT PASTEL SOCIETY MEMBERS EXHIBITION

April 6 – May 2, 2024



2024 CPS BEST IN SHOW AWARD: Romeo Ratio Cortez Jr. for *Seven Golden Fish*

The 38th annual CT Pastel Society Members Exhibition is being held at Southington Community Art Center (SoCCA), 93 Main St., Southington, CT.

Judge of Awards: Claudia Post

Opening reception was held on Saturday, April 13 from 1:00PM – 3:00PM.

An online Artist demonstration with pastelist Lana Ballot was held on Thursday, April 18th at 7:00PM.

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2024 Winning Artists who attended the Reception:

First Row, Left to Right: Marianne Berman; Karen Israel; Jane Penfield; Margy West; Jane McGraw
Second Row, Left to Right: Mena Levitt; Heather Quay; Cathy Copeland;
Margaret Schuster; Vicki Caplin Rooney; Heather Brasche; Karen Suponski;
Third Row, Left to Right: Romeo Cortez; Chris Ivers; Steve Brunetti; Beverly Schirmeier;
Mary Montague; Pamela Reese



Heather June Brasche, CPS Member Award for
Winter Drama



Beverly Ann Schirmeier, HK Holbein Award I for
Reflections of Nana's Kitchen

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Jane McGraw, Hull's Art Supply & Framing Award
for *Lillies with a White Pitcher*



Heather Quay, CPS Award for *Wine Bar*



Jane Penfield, CPS Honorable Mention Award for *In the Light of an Early Morning*



Marianne Hadley Berman, CPS Merit Award
for *Caladium*

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Romeo Ratio Cortez Jr., CPS Best in Show for *Seven Golden Fish*



S. Pamela Reese, Wholesale Frame Award for *SOHO Opening*



Karen Suponski, Jerry's Artarama of West Hartford Award for *Meditations*



Karen Israel, CPS Honor Award of Excellence for *Venus Rising*

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Steve Brunetti, CPS Honorable Mention Award for
Valley of the Temples



Christine Ivers, CPS Honor Award for
Contemplating Isabella



2024 Member Show Committee

Left to Right: Heather Quay; Karen Israel; Karen Suponski; Mary Ann D'Ambruoso;
Marianne Berman

<https://ctpastelsociety.org/exhibition/cps-members-exhibition/>
to see all the accepted entries and winners.

ARTIST CORNER

Art is a journey...

Maryann Mullett, PSA-MP, IAPS-MC

“Art is a journey and I feel blessed that it has always been part of my life. Inspiration comes to me from nature, studying close-up views and how shapes and colors interact to form a strong composition. By applying a calculated crop, farmer’s market vegetables create their own still life, boasting their glossy surfaces and textures in mysterious cracks and craters. Luminous colors dance in light and shadow. Flora and all living creatures continue to be my muse. Joy and a sense of purpose surround me as my art journey continues.”

Maryann Mullett has been practicing fine art all of her life. Maryann began her art journey in oils, studying under the well-known painter, Richard Whitney PhD.H.

In her early twenties, Maryann worked in the graphic arts department for *Yankee Magazine* while also doing freelance illustration work for *Yankee Magazine’s* various books and magazines. Her experience as a graphic artist influenced her painting today. Composition is of the



Renaissance 2023 Best in Show
On the Edge, by Maryann Mullett

utmost importance to her. She tends to paint close-up, intimate views of a subject while studying how form, shape, value and hues relate to one another.

Twenty years ago, Maryann joined a very small group of artists and was reintroduced to pastels.

“I’ve never looked back! Pastels are my sole medium. I do, however, love to experiment with wet underpainting using Art Graf, watercolors, or inks. It feels great to use a brush again!”

A few of Maryann’s favorite achievements are receiving her master pastelist w/PSA. It was the first and only time that she was able to attend Enduring Brilliance in NYC and it was truly humbling and amazing. Receiving Best in Show for “Not Everything is Black and White”, her zebra painting at Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod was a night to remember as well as receiving Best in Show for CPS Renaissance last year.



Best in Show
Pastel Painters Society of
Cape Cod
*Not Everything is Black
and White*

ARTIST CORNER

Maryann Mullett, PSA-MP, IAPS-MC *continued*

This year Maryann was invited to participate in “Pure Pigment”, an exhibit of pastel paintings at Mary Williams Fine Art Gallery in Boulder, CO that takes place this June. Only eight pastel artists from around the country were invited to participate and showcase their paintings along with the core group of pastel artists that the gallery represents. Maryann will have four paintings at the show. The exhibition opens on June 6th and will run for a month. There will be an online gallery as well. <https://www.marywilliamsfinearts.com/>

Maryann’s paintings are inspired by nature, animals, and still life. Many of her still lifes find their way to her easel following a visit to local farmer’s markets. The shapes,

colors and especially the textures are what captivates her and calls her to paint them. Cows are a common theme in her works so she is always on the hunt for dairy farms! She is a Signature Member of the Society of Animal Artists.

maryannmullettart.weebly.com

I love Maryann’s advice for artists starting their journey:

“Paint what you love and what inspires you. Take many workshops with instructors that have different styles and techniques. Pick something from each class that you have learned and work to create your own style. Your own voice will come through the more that you paint. Don’t make your painting too “precious”...experiment and enjoy the process. The best piece of advice that I’ve been given was by a dear sweet watercolor artist. Her approach to taking the pressure off: “It’s only paper!” I think back on her comment often when I get frustrated with a particular piece.”



In the Long Run
by Karen Israel

Karen Israel

Karen Israel’s painting, *In the Long Run*, won Second Place in “Realism on the Hudson” sponsored by the American Artists Professional League.

artbykarenisrael.com



ARTIST CORNER

IAPS 15th Pastel Convention

June 11 – 16, 2024, Albuquerque, NM.

Pastel workshops, demonstrations, presentations, international exhibition, fun and social events, music in a relaxed setting with hundreds of your pastel colleagues and dozens of your pastel heroes. Registration opens November 15, 2023. See www.iapspastel.org for details, registration link, schedules, etc.

Joe Baker

Joe has earned Master Circle status at IAPS and will be receiving his medallion at the convention this June. What an honor!

bakerworks.com.

Translation, 12" x 9" pastel was accepted into the IAPS 43rd Open Division Exhibition, Fall, 2023 and won an Award of Merit.



The Day is Done by Elaine Juska Joseph

Elaine Juska Joseph

Elaine Juska Joseph, Signature Member of CPS and PSA, won first place in the Animal/Wildlife category of the 2024 Pastel 100 Competition with her 21" x 27" pastel, *The Day is Done*. Juror Marla Baggetta said about the piece, "This piece has it all. It's a beautifully crafted composition, and the color and the design support both the theme and the sentiment. The technique is woven throughout the piece, making for a very essential statement. It's a superb, unique piece." You can read more about Elaine's painting, and see other award winners, in the Spring 2024 issue of the *Pastel Journal*.

elainejuskajoseph.com

WORKSHOPS

Karen Israel

Oct 25 – 27th Pastel Society of New Hampshire

Karen Israel The focus will be on composition, color harmony and working with photographic references.



Etched in Memory
by Karen Israel

CPS UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Lana Ballot

How Light Affects Colors In The Water And The Coastal Landscape

Friday, May 3 – Sunday, May 5, 2024

3-Day Pastel Workshop

Southington Cultural Arts Center (SOCCA)
93 Main St. Southington CT 06489

Limited to 16 participants

WAIT LIST ONLY

For more information, visit ctpastelsociety.org.

Christine Swann

The POWER Of Pastel

October 26 – 28, 2024

3-Day Pastel Workshop

Community Hall,
Watertown United Methodist Church
305 Main St, (Rte 63), Watertown CT 06795

Limited to 15 participants

WORKSHOPS

Christine Ivers, PSA-MP, IAPS-EP

DEMONSTRATIONS:

May 2, 2024

Wethersfield, Connecticut

NightScape Demonstration 6:00 PM

Sponsored by: Wethersfield Art League

Contact: Cindy McDonald at

cindy.mcdonald@gmail.com

May 13, 2024

Watertown, Connecticut

Don't Be Afraid of the Dark!

Sponsored by: Watertown Art League

Contact: Katie Piazza at piazzakat@charter.net

WORKSHOPS:

Explore the many aspects of different surfaces as well as creating your own! From NightScapes to LandScapes enjoy painting in a relaxed and encouraging environment. Paint from your own reference material or from photos supplied by Chris. All levels are welcome.

christineiversartist.com

June 15, 2024

Albuquerque, New Mexico

NightScape Workshop

Sponsored by: IAPS

To sign up for the workshop: iaps.regfox.com/iaps-2024-class-purchase

September 11 – 14, 2024

Summerfield, Florida

NightScape Workshop

Sponsored by: PSCF

Contact: 831.435.9786 or mary@plandingfineart.com

November 4 – 8, 2024

Redondo Beach, California

NightScape Workshop

Sponsored by: PSSC

Contact: psscwebsite.org/contact

CLASSES:

Weekly Pastel Classes

Meriden, Connecticut

Monday Mornings, 10 – noon, Ivers Home Studio

Contact: Chris Ivers, Christine_ivers@yahoo.com or

203-645-6779



The Blues and Other Colors
by Chris Ivers

CLASSES



Peter Seltzer

Ongoing classes with Peter Seltzer, Pastel Society of America Master Pastelist and Hall of Fame Honoree. Offered in 8-week blocks in Southbury, CT. These classes are for both oil and pastel painters at all skill levels. For more information please contact Peter at (203) 841-7024 or through his website: peterseltzerfineart.com.

ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

Dakota Art Pastels

Soft Pastel Only Juried Competition

to promote and advance the creativity and possibilities of this unique painting medium. This is an annual online competition with quarterly segments. There will be CASH PRIZES awarded in each quarter to contest winners.

Emerging and Established Categories: Quarterly winners in both categories are advanced to the final Grand Prize selections at the end of the year!

dakotapastels.com/products/Pastel-Competition

Second Quarter Now Open

Closes: June 13

Awards: June 29

Third Quarter 2024

Opens: July 8

Closes: September 11

Awards: September 30

Fourth Quarter 2024

Opens: October 9

Closes: December 11

Awards: December 31

For additional exhibition opportunities visit:

showsubmit.com/open-calls

juriedartservices.com

onlinejuriedshows.com

2024 BOARD MEMBERS

President, Karen Suponski (karensuponski@gmail.com), Vice President, Steve Brunetti (sbrunetti51@gmail.com)
Treasurer, Heather Quay (heather_guay@harvard.edu), Secretary, Karen Israel (karenisrael59@gmail.com),
Membership, Phyllis Phelps (phylly7779@gmail.com)

The next CPS Board meeting will be held via Zoom meeting software on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm. Contact CPS if you would like to attend; all members are always welcome.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

31st Annual National Juried Exhibition *Renaissance in Pastel*



2023 Best in Show Award was given to
On The Edge by Maryann Mullett

The Connecticut Pastel Society's Annual Exhibition: *Renaissance in Pastel*, is open for entries **May 28 through August 1st, 2024**.

The Jurors of Selection for this exhibition will be Christine Bodnar, Joelle Feldman, and Vianna Szabo.

Over \$9,000 in cash and material awards will be awarded by Michele Mozzone, PSA, IAPS/MC.

The 2024 Renaissance in Pastel Exhibition will take place September 13 – October 24, 2024 at Lyme Art Association, 90 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT. The reception and awards presentation will be held on Saturday, September 20th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.

Our featured demo is by Master Pastelist Gigi Liverant, on Saturday, October 26, from 2:00 – 4:00pm.

CPS Scholarship

In support of our mission to educate the public and promote pastels as a medium, the Connecticut Pastel Society provides scholarships to aspiring pastel artists. This program is open to all non-professional members of CPS, 16 years of age and older and working specifically in the soft pastel medium. Those interested in applying for the scholarship may view additional information and requirements on the CPS website, ctpastelsociety.org.

FREE PASTEL ONLINE RESOURCES

Tony Allain Fine Art

Many videos on youtube
tonyallainfineart.com

Marla Baggetta

[youtube.com/channel/
UC9ad6jaguLLBrB46_coqyIg](http://youtube.com/channel/UC9ad6jaguLLBrB46_coqyIg)
marlabaggetta.com
paintinglessonswithmarla.com

Emma Colbert

[https://www.youtube.com/
channel/UCG-cKjqKzkysc-L_
Q8b8Og](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG-cKjqKzkysc-L_Q8b8Og)
emmacolbertart.com

Bethany Fields

[www.youtube.com/channel/
UCgBFh1UdOgSmTW_yVozJotQ](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgBFh1UdOgSmTW_yVozJotQ)
bethanyfields.com

Chris Ivers

[www.christineiversartist.com/
video](http://www.christineiversartist.com/video)

Susan Jenkins

[www.youtube.com/channel/
UCqNhhFYP5f1G4IBhdZ
OGZ3g](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqNhhFYP5f1G4IBhdZOGZ3g)
susanjenkinsfineart.com

Susan Kuznitsky

youtube.com/c/SusanKuznitsky
susanKuznitsky.com

Karen Margulis

[https://www.youtube.com/
channel/UCvA1fsVyX78RcZuC-
aFyw4g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvA1fsVyX78RcZuCaFyw4g)

karenmargulis.com

Alain J Picard

[youtube.com/channel/UCWyF5C
vAv8c0oP4M5gWBaFA](http://youtube.com/channel/UCWyF5CvAv8c0oP4M5gWBaFA)
picardstudio.com

Aaron Schuerr

Many pastel videos on youtube
aaronshuerr.com

Gail Sibley

[https://www.youtube.
com/channel/
UCcvkVvNg68NM7VdUVIF-6eg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcvkVvNg68NM7VdUVIF-6eg)
gailsibley.com
howtopastel.com

Liz Haywood-Sullivan

[https://www.lizhaywoodsullivan.
com](https://www.lizhaywoodsullivan.com)

Pastel Techniques, Tutorials, and Resources

artshow.com/resources/pastels

25 free ebooks on painting in various mediums, including pastels:

[www.infobooks.org/free-painting-
books-pdf](http://www.infobooks.org/free-painting-books-pdf)

Dakota Pastel

Several pastel videos on youtube
dakotapastels.com

Jackson's Art

[https://www.youtube.com/
channel/UC_oSNIw9kNkdsLixb1_
tZsw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_oSNIw9kNkdsLixb1_tZsw)

JVArt Resources

[https://www.youtube.com/c/
JVArtresources](https://www.youtube.com/c/JVArtresources)

Love Life Drawing

[youtube.com/channel/
UCA9o111IH1VD8Kxz0YLn8_A](http://youtube.com/channel/UCA9o111IH1VD8Kxz0YLn8_A)

Monet Café

[www.susanjenkinsfineart.com/
www.youtube.com/
monetcafe'withartistsusanjenkins](http://www.susanjenkinsfineart.com/)

Pan Pastel Colors

[youtube.com/channel/UCzdPko
GU9UZ348xw53k1WHA](http://youtube.com/channel/UCzdPkoGU9UZ348xw53k1WHA)

Pastel Today Newsletter

pasteltoday.com/

Unmask Art

[youtube.com/channel/
UCc200efazooi-bz2TQ1_Nuw](http://youtube.com/channel/UCc200efazooi-bz2TQ1_Nuw)

Winslow Art

Every Thursday they have a free
artist's chat and many online
classes.

[https://winslowartcenter.com/.](https://winslowartcenter.com/)

Xrissart

[youtube.com/channel/UCUGB-
U1gh1CCsBa6PiQvONg](http://youtube.com/channel/UCUGB-U1gh1CCsBa6PiQvONg)

Please let us know of any other FREE pastel or art online resources
and we will add them to the list!

