



PASTEL  
SOCIETY  
OF  
NEW  
MEXICO

# HIGHlight

*April 2011*

## From the President...

Dear PSNM Friends —

Many years ago, at a family dinner, someone remarked they had read that there are people who see numbers and letters in color. My immediate response was, “Doesn’t everybody?” Which drew some silent stares. This was the first time I was aware that seeing letters, numbers, months, days, in particular colors was peculiar ! My question and their stares are the typical reactions for people who have Synesthesia, an unusual situation where the brain fails to disconnect some things at about age 3 or 4. Or, as a scientist said, is a “cross-wiring” in the brain. Many folks with this “affliction” (or blessing) also associate a taste or color with a musical note, or have a distinctive geometric pattern of their alphabet (not linear). The most common synesthesia is number-color, though. And for people who have this, the numbers and letters, etc. remain the same throughout life, though they differ from others with synesthesia.

The famous neurologist, Oliver Sacks, has written about this in “Musicophilia”, as have Richard Cytowic,

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MD and David Eagleman PhD, in their book “Wednesday is Indigo Blue”. (I can categorically state that Wednesday is a medium-dark green!).

Many of us saw the show at the Albuquerque Museum called “Synesthesia in American Art” last year. That was a slightly different take on the subject and very interesting indeed, with some famous artists who were synesthetes: Georgia O’Keeffe, Joseph Stella, Max Weber.

I am not sure what being a synesthete has contributed to my own painting, but it certainly colors my everyday life. For example, March, which is pale green, was preceded by dark-crimson January and deep teal February. And April will be yellow!

I would love to hear from anyone who sees things this way. For those who don’t, try this website: [sensequence.de/indexen.html](http://sensequence.de/indexen.html) We are all into color as artists, anyway.

~ Leila Hall

## Monthly Meeting at the Albuquerque Museum

Saturday, April 9 • 10 - Noon

### Aerial Perspective Demonstration

Lee McVey, will show us how using aerial perspective helps us create the illusion of space and distance in landscape paintings. Linear perspective deals with vanishing points and is often thought of in connection with buildings, fences, and such. Aerial perspective deals with value and color temperature. Color temperature is just as important as value to create aerial perspective.

Lee is a signature member of Pastel Society of America, Plein Air Painters of New Mexico, Pastel Painter’s Society of Cape Cod, Sierra Pastel Society and PSNM. Her pastels have been featured in full-length magazine articles *American Artist* and *International Artist* and in the books *How Did You Paint That? 100 Ways to Paint the Landscape* and *Plein Air New Mexico*. Her work has been in numerous juried national shows and has garnered many awards. She was a finalist in *The Artist Magazine’s* annual competition in 2010.



*Evening Light Abiquiu Hills by Lee McVey*

**Coming up... Maggie Price - May; Nance McManus - June**

# MasterWorks Calendar

**Opening Reception and Awards** - Friday, April 1  
5 - 8 pm at Hispanic Arts Center. Awards at 7 pm

**FREE Demos - No Registration Required**

**Sunday, April 3** - 1 - 2:30 pm

“Watercolor on the Edge”, Presenter: Todd Tibbals

**Tuesday, April 5** - 1 - 2 pm

Watercolor, Presenter: Karin Pitman

**Saturday, April 9** - 9:30 am

Oil Painting, Presenter: P. A. Nisbet

**Sunday, April 10** - 1 - 2 pm

Colored Pencil, Presenter: Melissa Miller Nece, CPSA

## Open House & Paint-in

**Sunday, April 17** - Noon - 4 pm

All artists, whether or not they are in the show are encouraged to bring their art supplies to paint, sketch or sculpt. Open to the public • FREE

## PSNM Officers & Committee Chairs

President	Leila Hall
Vice President	Gwen Wilemon
Treasurer	Mack West
Secretary	Sally Prince
Past President	Fred Miller
Communications	Nicholas Tesluk
Evaluation	Carol Lovelady, Peggy Orbon Enid Sorenson
50/50	Ann Gladstone
Librarians	Linda Bonds, Panola Lisle
MasterWorks Rep	Peggy Orbon
Membership	Gaye Garrison
National Show	Nicholas Tesluk
Newsletter	Marilyn Drake
Programs	Maryann McGraw
Program Review	Natasha Isenhour
Publicity	VACANT
Refreshments	Judy Allen
Signature Membership	Paul Murray
Website Manager	Marilyn Drake

\* To send emails to people on this list, go to [www.pastelsnm.org](http://www.pastelsnm.org) then click on Contacts.

## March Program Review

by Collin Fry - captions by Marilyn Drake

### A 5-Value System for Painting the Figure & Landscape

This system, using a middle value paper, putting in darks, lights, and finishing with darkest darks and highlights is a quick, easy way to establish a strong value structure in a painting. Especially when painting *en plein air*, where the shadows are “locked in” right away.

The 5 values in order of application:

1. Middle value - the paper (background)
2. Paint pattern of darks
3. Paint pattern of lights
4. Accents of darkest darks
5. Highlights (lightest lights)



left: Collin's simple travel setup, with pastels in 5 plastic containers (one for each value). right: Wooden case resting on cross-braces of lightweight easel.

*top: 3 value start - middle (paper), darks and lights.*  
*middle: during demo, Collin adds color in the 3 values he's established.*  
*bottom: finished painting, with values 4 & 5 added.*



## March Program Review - cont.

Besides his fascinating demonstration in painting with only 5 values, Collin Fry also spoke to us at length about how to get published. His recommendations are based on his success in having written over 20 magazine articles which have been published in various art magazines, including *American Artist*, *The Pastel Journal*, *Watercolor Magic*, and *The Artist's Magazine*.

Below is the text of the hand-out he gave to all present at the meeting.

### HOW TO GET PUBLISHED

by Collin Fry

#### Why should I want my art published?

Promotion and recognition are important to the development of an artist's career. Art magazines can be a valuable resource for gaining recognition and publicity. Major publications look for submissions from qualified professional artists. They need material that can offer valuable information and learning experiences to their artist readers. Artists want to learn from others about working methods, materials and techniques, and how to resolve creative and professional problems.

Here are some suggestions and things to consider before seeking publication of your art:

#### Is my art ready?

Think about the quality and subject matter of your art. Is it ready, suitable in style and content for this particular publication? Have you mastered the basics of drawing, composition, values, color, and medium? Is your work original, creative and of a professional standard? Is it unusual, unique or different? What about your art would make collectors and other artists want to read about it? If worked from photographs, is the source material your own? Have you put your own personality and ideas into the work, or merely copied photographs (with accompanying distortion, etc.)? Ask for objective opinion from qualified fellow artists and friends. Considering these topics will aid you in making a decision.

#### How do I start?

Do you have an idea or concept for an article? Look closely at recent issues of the target publication to see if your art is appropriate and would fit in well. Each magazine is different, with its own editorial approach and interests. Examine the writing for style and content.

See how visuals and captions support the title and text. Note how often step-by-step demonstrations are used. Magazines are usually not interested in personality profiles and generalities. To interest and educate the readers, pieces generally have a "hook", the single theme that is expanded on and supplemented with explanatory text and brief biographical detail about the artist and his or her career.

#### The proposal letter:

A letter can be sent to the publication's managing editor. It should include a description of the article subject/idea, and include a brief resume, contact and website information, and 15-20 titled slides or visuals on a cd. To assure return of a declined submission, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. It may take several weeks for a response. If accepted, a writer will be assigned and contact will be made by phone or email. The interview is usually done by phone.

#### Write your own article:

Check the target publication for writing style and format. See how many articles are staff-written and how many self-written by artists or by outside writers. Create a title and subhead that will intrigue editor and reader, written in the style of the magazine. A finished piece should contain 1200-2000 words. Begin by stating the idea or concept in an interesting, concise way. Then expand on and supplement the introductory text in a logical, sequential way, followed by text that expands and supplements the topic. Detailed information about tools, papers, canvas and other surfaces, mediums, technique and style add value to the piece. Step-by-step demonstrations are usually welcome and can increase the chances of an article being published. Professional advice, along with specifics about working methods and problem solving can enrich the text. Biographical and personal detail should be brief and relevant. Keeping the artist-reader in mind, and "sticking to the point" is the rule.

#### About pictures:

The art that accompanies the article is, of course, vitally important. Visuals accompanying the article should illustrate or supplement the text in a meaningful way, and be consistent in subject, technique and quality. 15-20 are usually enough. They should be photographed with image only, without frames or backgrounds showing. Resolution should be high, with titles and captions kept clear and brief.

# Member News

**Carol Ast** had a painting, *Good Night, Lake*, accepted into the Northeast National Pastel Exhibition at Old Forge, NY. The show runs from May 14th to June 25th. (*Good Night Lake*, was part of my solo exhibit at the State of the Art Gallery in Ithaca, NY, during August, 2010.)

**September McGee**, CPS, PSWC, just became an elected member of the Allied Artists of America Society in New York. AAAS was founded in 1914 and is one of the oldest societies for contemporary American artists. September was also just juried into the 25th Annual Pastels USA International Exhibition, with the Pastel Society of the West Coast, of which she is a Signature Member.

**John De Young** took 1st Place in the Pastels category at the 2011 9th Annual New Mexico Veterans Creative Arts Festival for his *Chief Joseph* painting (24 x 33). By winning this award he is juried into the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival being held this October in Fayetteville, AR.



**Nancy Silvia** has a painting included in the Horizon Line show - an exhibit of landscape artists working in all media presented by the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission Community Gallery from March 18 - June 3, 2011. The gallery is located at 201 W. Marcy, at the intersection of Marcy & Sheridan, and is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10 am - 5 pm,

**Colette Ody Smith** is pleased to announce she is a contributing artist to **Maggie Price's** newest how-to book *"Painting Sunlight and Shadow with Pastels"*. She has several step-by-step paintings included which illustrate specific lighting and reflection situations in the landscape. Colette says, "It is a wonderful, instructive book with lots of quality color reproductions. I am in some great company and delighted to be part of this new resource for those who love pastels." <http://www.northlightshop.com/product/painting-sunlight-and-shadow-with-pastels>

Colette also served as one of the jurors in the abstract/non-representational category of the 12th annual "Pastel 100" competition sponsored by the *Pastel Journal*. You

can click on "Juror Spotlight" under "In the Latest Issue" to read the jurors' comments on the winning paintings and see examples of the jurors' work.

<http://www.artistsnetwork.com/pasteljournal/>

## Call for Entries

### IAPS 18th Juried Exhibition

#### CD Deadline: March 30, 2011

There will be lots of local publicity for this event and a good turnout of art collectors is expected. The 1st Master Circle Exhibition (only open to IAPS Master Circle members) will hang at the same time and place, increasing the interest for potential buyers. Download prospectus from: [www.pastelinternational.com/COMPETITIONS/exhibitions.html](http://www.pastelinternational.com/COMPETITIONS/exhibitions.html)

### "Little Gems" Juried Show

#### Digital Deadline: Wednesday, August 3, 2011

September 3 - October 28, 2011 at Open Space Visitor Center • 6500 Coors NW • Albuquerque, NM. An adjunct to the annual fundraising "A View with Room Exhibit", "Little Gems" offers small (6" x 8" max.), reasonably priced paintings which depict the City of Albuquerque Open Space lands.

The prospectus is available now at:

<http://www.cabq.gov/openspace/visitorcenter.html>

Scroll down the page until you see:

[Prospectus for 2011 "Little Gems" Juried Art Exhibit.](#)

[Deadline: August 3, 2011.](#)

## IAPS UPDATE!!!

As the IAPS Convention gets closer, frequently there are things to communicate to people who are planning to attend or considering attending.

Instead of a barrage of emails, IAPS has created an IAPS Convention blog. Postings will be made to it frequently, with updates, news, a sneak peek at planning progress, and information that will help you prepare for the convention:

<http://iapsconvention.blogspot.com/>

We suggest you bookmark this page, and check it frequently. We hope you'll enjoy the posts!

# Workshops

**LISTING POLICY: All new announcements will be published with as much detail as space will allow. Repeat listings will be abbreviated. Deadline for submissions is 15th of month preceding next issue. Please send your listings for classes, events, workshops, or news via email to: [psnm.news@gmail.com](mailto:psnm.news@gmail.com)**

*To find out about other workshops, shows, etc. check magazines and online sources. Use Google to search for additional information.*

## TAUGHT BY PSNM MEMBERS

### Michael Chesley Johnson Workshops

Now thru April 2011 • Sedona, AZ

A wonderful opportunity to study Plein Air Painting with Michael Chesley Johnson PSA, MPAC, PSNM. Workshops will include Traditional workshops; Advanced Topic workshops (this year's topic, Large Format painting); Mentoring workshops. Open to artists working in all media. Tuition \$300. For details, visit [www.PaintSedona.com](http://www.PaintSedona.com)

### **NEW!** Mike Mahon Workshops

"Painting Process" for Pastel, Oil, or Acrylic. Focus on the step-by-step painting process from concept to final stroke.

May 5 - 7 • Amarillo, Texas

June 9 - 11 • Andrews, Texas

July 13 - 15 • Santa Fe, New Mexico - Process/Plein Air

August 1 - 3 • Clovis, New Mexico

August 10 - 12 • Santa Fe, New Mexico (Artisan)

Sept. 26 - 30 • Taos, New Mexico - Plein Air

Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 • Hot Springs Village - Portrait

website: [www.mmahon.com](http://www.mmahon.com)

email: [art@mmahon.com](mailto:art@mmahon.com) or phone: 505-473-1098

### Jakki Kouffman Workshops

Master Pastellist, PSA; PAPNM, Signature Member

May 7 - 12 • Abiquiu, NM

Saturday - Thursday Outdoor Painting (all media)

Registration: Jakki Kouffman, (505) 466-1800 or

[art@jakkikouffman.com](mailto:art@jakkikouffman.com)

**NEW!** June 11 & 12 • Albuquerque, NM

At New Mexico Art League - Acrylic Landscape class.

Tuition: \$235 Go to: [www.newmexicoartleague.org](http://www.newmexicoartleague.org)

### Maggie Price, PSA Workshops

Landscape painting; beginning to advanced welcome. Indoor classes designed to help create better paintings from photo reference; outdoor classes specialize in plein-air techniques. Workshops include demonstrations and personal assistance at artists' easels, with an emphasis on technique and information about working in pastel, and encouraging students to develop their

own painting styles. For information about Maggie, see [www.MaggiePriceArt.com](http://www.MaggiePriceArt.com)

**April 25 - 29** • Albuquerque, NM @ New Mexico Art League - Technique-intensive class focusing on painting from photos. Learn about pastel, design and composition, value structures, focal points and direction, color temperature and aerial perspective, etc. [www.newmexicoartleague.org](http://www.newmexicoartleague.org)

**June 2 - 5, 2011** • Albuquerque, NM

Two sessions at the Ninth Biennial Convention of the International Association of Pastel Societies. For more information about the convention, classes, or to register on-line: [www.pastelinternational.com](http://www.pastelinternational.com)

**July 11 - 15, 2011** • Santa Fe, NM

At Artisan/Santa Fe's art school facility. Indoor portion will focus on techniques in pastel, daily demonstrations and lots of assistance at your easel. Weather permitting, we'll go outdoors for a couple of sessions to paint in and around Santa Fe. Contact Meg Davenport at Artisan/Santa Fe to register or for more info: 505-954-4179 ext. 117, or email [megdavenport@earthlink.net](mailto:megdavenport@earthlink.net)

**Aug. 27 - Sept. 7, 2011** • Anstruther, Scotland

Based in small village near St. Andrews. Day trips to fishing villages and castle gardens. Sponsored by Jack Richeson & Co. Download brochure at: [www.MaggiePriceArt.com](http://www.MaggiePriceArt.com)

**September 15 - 17** • Hot Springs Village, AR

Indoor class, focusing on creating lively paintings from photos. Learn problems and advantages of working from photos. Sponsored by Brush Strokes; contact Teresa Widdifield, 501-922-9292

**October 8 - 17** • Andalucia, Spain

The Genal Valley in southern Spain has been mostly unspoiled by tourism or industry. We base in a small village at a lovely hotel and take day trips to surrounding towns, cities and painting spots.

Download flyer at [www.MaggiePriceArt.com](http://www.MaggiePriceArt.com)

**October 21 - 23** • New York City, NY

Indoor technique-intensive workshop, covering issues specific to pastel as well as concentrating on important elements such as value, color temperature, composition,

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# Workshops

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aerial perspective, design, and compensating for the flaws of photography. Sponsored by the Pastel Society of America,

[www.pastelsocietyofamerica.org](http://www.pastelsocietyofamerica.org)

**November 7 - 11 • Sautee, GA**

Five-day workshop, both plein air and studio techniques, in the mountains of northern Georgia. We should have spectacular fall color and lovely weather, but the indoor facility is exceptionally spacious and comfortable as well. Special for this class: work in pastel and/or water-soluble oils. Sponsored by Art Immersions; email Cynthia Whitney at: [cwhitney@hemc.net](mailto:cwhitney@hemc.net)

## Nance McManus Workshop

**May 14 - 18 • Big Island of Hawaii**

Pastels, Both Fun and Serious. 3-5 hours per session. Held at the Kona Village Resort. \$1687pp for 4 night stay in double occupancy hale. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Hawaiian Art Journey at: [hawaiianartjourney@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiianartjourney@gmail.com) or 510-808-4424, or contact Nance McManus directly at: [nance@avianambassadors.com](mailto:nance@avianambassadors.com)

## Terri Ford Workshops

**July 9 - 11 • Bend, OR**

Cascade Fine Art Workshops -  
Contact: Sue Manley 541-408-5524 or  
[info@cascadefineartworkshops.com](mailto:info@cascadefineartworkshops.com)  
[www.cascadefineartworkshops.com](http://www.cascadefineartworkshops.com)

**July 14 - 17 • Mt. Vernon, WA**

Sponsored by La Conner Art  
Workshops

Contact: [info@laconnerworkshops.com](mailto:info@laconnerworkshops.com)  
[www.laconnerartworkshops.com](http://www.laconnerartworkshops.com)

**August 3 - 5 • California Coast**

Near Carmel/Pacific Grove, CA. Contact Terri Ford,  
408-286-3801 or [tford@terrifordart.com](mailto:tford@terrifordart.com)

**August 26 - 28 • Maquoketa, IA**

Sponsored by Maquoketa Art Experience  
Contact: [maquoketaartexperience@hotmail.com](mailto:maquoketaartexperience@hotmail.com)  
[tford@terrifordart.com](mailto:tford@terrifordart.com)

**Sept. 9 - 11 & 13 - 15 • New Hampshire**

Pastel Society of New Hampshire  
Contact: Shaunna Smith, 603-566-8611  
[sdsmith7@comcast.net](mailto:sdsmith7@comcast.net)



**Sept. 18 - 28, 2011 • South of France:**

Terri returns to Domaine du Haut Baran in the beautiful Lot Valley. Plein air painting, historic villages, fabulous food! Contact Terri Ford, 408-286-3801

[tford@terrifordart.com](mailto:tford@terrifordart.com)

[www.terrifordart.com](http://www.terrifordart.com)

Terri also offers private instruction by appointment.

## WORKSHOPS TAUGHT BY OTHERS

### Jack Pardue, PSA Workshop

**September 19 - 23, 2011 • Albuquerque, New Mexico**  
Study plein air painting for 5 days. Beginning to advanced students welcome.

For information about Jack Pardue, see his website at [www.parduestudio.com](http://www.parduestudio.com)

Contact Jack at 703-765-2622, or email: [parduestudio.com](mailto:parduestudio.com), or contact Sandy Rosen at: 505-771-0963, email: [sandyart1@live.com](mailto:sandyart1@live.com)

### Alicia Sotherland Portrait Workshop

**September 20 - 23 • Killarney, Ireland**

Using her personal approach and working on suede matboard, students learn to create atmospheric portraits. Held at the beautiful Lake Hotel. Special rate of 50 Euros pp/do. For hotel reservations: [www.lakehotel.com](http://www.lakehotel.com)  
Workshop Cost: \$500.00

To register for workshop please contact: 760-746-6256 or email: [aliciasotherland@hotmail.com](mailto:aliciasotherland@hotmail.com)

## NATIONAL SHOW WORKSHOP

### DESMOND O'HAGAN

November 1, 2, 3, 2011 - Tues, Wed, Thurs  
9:30 am through 4:30 pm

Hispanic Arts Building at EXPO New Mexico  
Maximum 18 participants

Tuition: Members: \$350 (non-members \$385)  
Deposit: \$100 by July 1<sup>st</sup> • Balance Due: Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>

**To register, contact Marilyn Drake at:  
[psnm.nswkshop@gmail.com](mailto:psnm.nswkshop@gmail.com)**

Desmond O'Hagan is a very accomplished artist and an experienced teacher. He has garnered numerous accolades, including a listing in *Who's Who in American Art*, Master Pastelist with the Pastel Society of America, and International Association of Pastel Societies' "Masters Circle" member. To learn more about him, go to: [www.desmondohagan.com](http://www.desmondohagan.com)