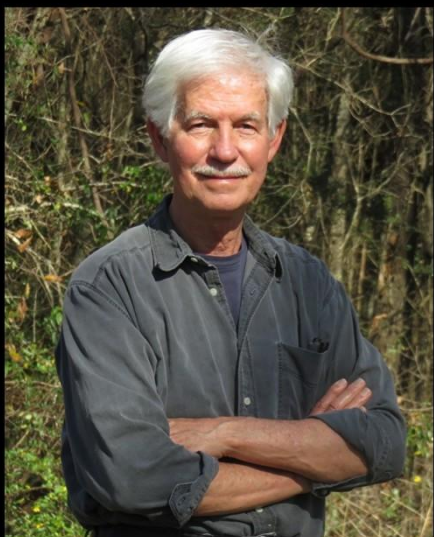


**In Memory of
Alan Flattmann
1946 - 2025**



**President Degas Pastel Society
1999 - 2025**

Alan Flattmann 1946-2025

Alan Flattmann has been a fixture in the New Orleans art scene since studying at the John McCrady School of Art located in the world-renowned French Quarter from 1964-1967. His love for the life and scenes of New Orleans led him to become known for paintings of this area, as well as images garnered from his travels around the world. Mr. Flattmann painted in several media, including oils and watercolor, but was recognized

at the highest level for his works in pastel. He was a driving force in encouraging the art world to look at pastels as a medium equal to oils and not just a device for quick sketches and preliminary works. During his professional life, Alan became active in promoting pastel and accomplished much of this through being a founding member of the Degas Pastel Society in 1984 and president for 26 years. The Society, with the Pastel Society of America out of New York, was one of the first pastel societies in the country. The Degas Pastel Society operated out of New Orleans, but its membership was open to pastelists in the U.S. as well as abroad. Currently, DPS has 140 members and has representation from as far away as France and Hong Kong. The Degas Pastel Society became a member of the International Association of Pastel Societies to lend its voice to support the worldwide pastel movement.

Alan's career included painting his beloved New Orleans as well as the rural south. Mr. Flattmann was commissioned to produce work from trips to Egypt and Israel early in his career. His travels never stopped as he painted scenes from Barbados and Greece to Scotland and China. Known for his landscapes, Alan also greatly enjoyed painting the people of the regions he visited. Many of these works have been featured in many books and magazine articles throughout the years including the Pastel Journal, the Best of America Pastel Artists, Best of Worldwide Artists, An Artists Vision

of New Orleans: The Paintings of Alan Flattmann, and The Contemporary Louisiana Landscape.

For his stunning portrait and landscape works, Mr. Flattmann was honored with many prestigious Best in Show awards. This culminated with him being recognized as a Pastel Society of America Hall of Fame inductee, an International Association of Pastel Societies Eminent Pastelist, as well as garnering a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Degas Pastel Society.

Mr. Flattmann was as much a teacher and mentor as a world-class artist. In 1987 Alan published *The Art of Pastel Painting*, which continues to be one of the best resources for pastel painters of all levels. He also has three additional books featuring his artwork. Alan taught workshops in the U.S. and abroad allowing generations of students to benefit from his vast knowledge of pastel. Indeed, many of his students have gone on to have their own award-winning careers thanks to his mentorship.

Alan was the consummate gentleman, extraordinary mentor and a tireless promoter of pastel. It was an honor to know and study with him. Alan will be sorely missed by the arts community and our hearts go out to his family for their loss.

New Degas Pastel Society Officers

Please welcome ***Glinda Schafer*** as our new President. We appreciate Glinda agreeing to step into the very large void that Alan Flattmann's death has left. ***Darlene Johnson*** is our new vice president and ***Beth Ann McDonald*** will be in charge of social media. Thank you all for agreeing to help keep the Degas Pastel Society alive and well.

Degas Pastel Society's 24th Members Exhibition

Our exhibition is officially open at the Hammond Regional Arts Center, 217 E. Thomas Street, Hammond, Louisiana until August 28, 2005. We

wish to thank Phil Sandusky, a well known artist and teacher, for jurying entries and selecting the award winners. The show can be viewed on ShowSubmit.com. At the top of the ShowSubmit webpage, click on galleries and find the Degas Pastel Society 24th Biennial Exhibit. It will also have a link to the DPS website.

Exceptional Merit Awards of \$750 ***Janet Johnson for "The Collection"*** ***Nancie King Mertz for "Strut"***

Award of Excellence \$400 ***Glinda Schafer for "Ft. Pickens Low Tide"*** ***Vicki Lueb for "Vaiden"***

Award of Merit \$150 ***William Schneider for "Nightlife"*** ***Lyn Asselta for "The Crevice"*** ***Carol Peebles for "The Devil Waits"*** ***Jill Wagner for "Magic Dusk"*** ***Nancy Stainton for "Sammy Waiting"***

Honorable Mention \$100 ***Takashi Ogihara for "Jail Break"*** ***Melissa Ladner for "Light Crossing"*** ***Jessica Bertsch for "How Can I Tell You"*** ***Mundise Mortimer for "Twilight Prayers"*** ***Anne K. Spivey for "Simply Gorgeous"***

Lagniappe Merchandise Award: ***Earthberry Pastel Set - Value \$150*** ***Nancy Stutes for "Jacob"***

Welcome New Members

We are happy to welcome the new members from so many different areas of the world.

New Signature Members

Elizabeth Amacher, Colorado Springs, CO

Lyn Asselta, Damariscotta, ME

Jessica Bertsch, New Orleans, LA

Stephanie Birdsall, Redding, CT

Anna Hingle, Baton Rouge, LA

Art Jacobs, Minneapolis, MN

Takashi Ogihara, Tokorozawa Saitama, Japan

New Associate Members

Andress Tullier, Annapolis, MD

Leslie Jones, Slidell, LA

We look forward to seeing your work in future exhibitions.

News of Our Members

Shoshanna Ahart has work appearing in the Still Points Arts Quarterly Magazine Summer Issue 2025. The magazine may be purchased online. Her work will also be available in the Degas Pastel Society Member Exhibition at the Hammond Arts Center from August 1-28, 2025.

Sandra Burshell will be doing an **INTERVIEW: WE TALK – PASTEL SOCIETY OF THE WEST COAST**, November 15, 2025. She will talk about her art, process, philosophy... with Bonnie Zahn Griffith in their bi-monthly guest Zoom series.

Nancie King Mertz has been named Pastel Society of America 2025 Hall of Fame Honoree. Congratulations Nancie!

Workshops

Sandra Burshell Atmospheric Mood in Interiors Through Color Complements in Pastel, Sponsored by Pastel Society of America. October 10-12, 2025 (Friday-Sunday) 9:30 am - 4:30 pm (ET) at the PSA Studio, National Arts Club, NYC
Tuition: \$430 Members | \$475 Non-Members. Max: 10 Participants. Register: psaoffice@pastelsocietyofamerica.org

Immerse yourself in the art of creating evocative roomscape that capture the essence of light, color, and atmosphere. In

this workshop, Sandra Burshell will guide you through the process of transforming everyday interior scenes into compelling works of art. Drawing inspiration from her extensive experience, Sandra emphasizes the importance of observing the interplay of light and color in domestic settings. She believes that these elements, when skillfully rendered, can convey a profound sense of mood and intimacy. Participants will explore various techniques, including quick tonal sketching and use of complementary colors, to depict the quiet tranquility of daily life. Sandra's approach encourages artists to find beauty in the commonplace, capturing moments of stillness and warmth that resonate on a personal level.

This workshop offers a blend of demonstrations, individual attention, and interactive critiques, fostering a supportive environment for artistic growth. Students are encouraged to bring several digital images or photos showcasing a variety of color and light, with additional reference materials provided.

Jeri Greenberg

August 9-10, 2025 Paint Passionately with Pastels still life, figures and more at the Delaplaine Arts Center, 40 S. Carroll Street, Frederick, MD. \$200 for non members and \$175 members. Contact: info@delaplaine.org or 301 698-0656.

For more information or to register for these workshops visit www.jerigreenbergart.com.

Black, White and Red All Over 2 day workshop
August 30-31 at Cameron Art Museum,
Wilmington, NC

Powerful Pastels in Stills, Figures, Interiors 2 day workshop
September 13-14, all levels of students
at Pine Shores Art Association, Manahawkin, NJ

Power of Pastels a 6 week class from September 19-October 27, 2025 for all levels OLLI at UNCW, Wilmington, NC. Registration opens August 27, 2025.

Vicki Lueb will be giving a 2-day workshop, "The Power of Value", sponsored by **The Pastel Society of Mississippi** August 28-29 in Flowood, Ms. The cost is \$200 for PSM members and \$250 for non-members. A \$50 deposit is required. For information on how to register, contact Sue Grubbs at grubbsdf@aol.com.

Nancie King Mertz

August 18-20: ArtDeTriumph, Rockford, IL pastel plein air painting workshop--focus on all those Greens! Call Nancie to join at 773 458-3205.

October 2-4: Kansas City, MO, MAPS jury and workshop.

October 13-16: Tallapoosa School of Art, Dadeville, AL

To join the October workshops visit Nancie's website NancieKingMertz.com.

Carol Peebles drawing Atelier, located in Uptown New Orleans, BlueEaselClub.com, teaches Portrait and Figure Drawing Weekly classes. Come learn how to draw portraits from life in the Classical Realist Tradition with Carol Peebles in her Uptown New Orleans Studio. Portrait Class, both Monday Night 6pm-8:30pm and Tuesday Morning 9:30am-12:30. \$275 per 5 week session, start anytime. Details at BlueEaselClub.com Gift Certificates are available.

Blue Easel Club one day workshops will be posted online at www.blueeaselclub.com

Earthberry Pastels: A Review

By Vicki Lueb

To review this product, I used two 6-piece sets (Morning Fog and Rustic Landscape) to create a small painting on UArt 400 paper. Since this limited palette contained only two greens (both cool) and a smaller value range than I needed, I augmented my palette with a few NuPastels and Terry Ludwigs.



Upon opening the boxes, I was immediately struck by how beautiful the packaging is. The pastels arrived in recycled cardboard boxes with fibrous, coconut shell material for protection. Having made the trip from Russia with no breakage; the coconut shell material did its job. Inside each box were six luscious pastels along with a color guide adorned with botanical illustrations and the color name and product number of each pastel.

The color guide also contained an indication of the lightfastness rating of each color and whether a particular color was a "chameleon" (more on that later). On the back of the color guide was a blank chart for making color swatches for each pastel. I recommend taking the time to do this since I found that some of the pastels don't go on as light or as dark as they appear in the box.

The rectangular sticks themselves are substantial in the hand, neither too slender nor overly bulky. They have good, sharp edges which are perfect for indicating grasses or making a hard edge.

With respect to texture, I found that Earthberry Pastels occupies a middle ground somewhere between buttery softness and structural firmness. For example, they are softer than Holbeins and Rembrandts, but firmer than Terry Ludwigs, Blue Earth, and Senneliers. I liked the way they handled. They glided across the UArt 400 paper smoothly and consistently, with just the slightest scratchy feel (which I enjoyed). I found them to be well-suited to layering, allowing for both blending as well as bold strokes.

As I mentioned earlier, some (not all) of these pastels are classified by Earthberry as "chameleon". They are so named because rubbing them will cause a slight change, either in color or value. This is an interesting feature and one I plan to explore more fully in the future. If you intend to use the chameleon pastels, I recommend making a color chart with two columns - one for the unblended color and next to it the blended color.

Conclusions

Though I only had twelve Earthberry pastels to work with, I thoroughly enjoyed my painting experience with them. From a price standpoint, they compare favorably to other well-known brands. And I do love Earthberry's commitment to eco-friendly packaging and the use of non-toxic pigments.

New from UArt

Nancie King Mertz reports that UArt has introduced a self-stick paper in 2 sizes and colors. She has used it and likes it.

***If you have news that you would like to
share, please contact the newsletter
editor, Brenda Delle at bdelle@gmail.com.***