



From the President's Desk

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Dear Members and Friends,

The 21st Biennial International Exhibit was a tremendous success, thanks to the dedication of our hardworking team who advertised the event, hung the artwork, and prepared a beautiful reception at the prestigious Louisiana State Archives Building. Thank you to everyone who submitted work, and congratulations to those whose pieces were accepted. It is truly an impressive showcase of the pastel medium.

We have an exciting event coming up this fall. Be sure to check the coming events section and mark your calendars for the Art Swap and Demo.

Thank you again for your continued support and participation in our society. Your ideas and suggestions for future programs — or anything that helps educate, inspire, and support our members — are always welcome.

Glinda Schafer, President DPS

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Coming Events

Open To The Public – Bring your friends!

NOV. 7, 2026 - ART SWAP/SALE, DEMO, GENERAL MEETING

LOCATION – Lakeview Presbyterian Church, 5914 Canal Blvd., New Orleans, La

TIME - 10 am -1 pm Open To The Public.

ACTIVITIES - General meeting, 'Meet & Greet', Light refreshments.

DEMO – 1-hr Demo by acclaimed artist Jerrod Partridge

ART SWAP & SALE – Trade or sell your gently used materials (only members can sell or swap). Anyone, including non-members, can buy.

DEMO ARTIST – JERROD PARTRIDGE



Jerrod is a full-time studio artist, educator, and curator on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He and his wife own Palmette, a flower shop and art gallery in downtown Ocean Springs, MS. Jerrod leads Visual Explorations trips around the world and organizes Art Space 86 community art events. His work can be seen at Palmette; Fischer Galleries in Jackson, MS; Southside Gallery in Oxford, MS; and Claire Elizabeth Gallery in New Orleans, LA. Jerrod earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting from the New York Academy of Art in 2004. Jerrod is a 2011 recipient of a Visual Arts Fellowship from the Mississippi Arts Commission, was named distinguished Alumnus of the Year for the Mississippi College Department of Art in 2017, received the Jane Crater Hiatt Fellowship from the MS Museum of Art in 2025, and received the Visual Arts award from the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters in 2026. His website is www.jerrodpartridge.com and his Instagram page is @jerrodpartridge.

21st DPS International Exhibition

The exhibition opened on June 30th at the Louisiana State Archives in Baton Rouge. \$5000 in cash and merchandise awards were announced by esteemed judge Aline Ordman at the reception on July 10th. The award winners are as follows:

Degas Pastel Society Award of Exceptional Merit

Kippen, Tanzania - Margaret Larlhan

**Alan Flattmann
Memorial Award**

Nordic Mist - Julie Skoda

Degas Pastel Society Award of Excellence

Glistening - Dianne Parks

**Degas Pastel Society Award of Excellence**

Dusk Aglow – Eve Miller



21st DPS International Exhibition

Awards of Merit

Pastel Society of America– Blowin In The Wind – Stephanie Birdsall

Louisiana Watercolor Society – Hot Chili Fixins – Barbara Archer-Baldwin

New Orleans Art Assoc.– Ordinary World III – Tagashi Ogihara

Pastel Society of Mississippi – The Art of Nature – Janet Johanson

Pastel Painters of Cape Cod – Anenomes – Maryann Fyda

Merchandise Awards

Jack Richeson & Co., Inc – Silver Lining – Glinda Schafer

Jack Richeson & Co., Inc - Still Water – Vicki Lueb

Jack Richeson & Co., Inc – Selfie '76 – Darlene Bigus-Doherty

Jack Richeson & Co., Inc - Sunlit Giverny – Nancy King Mertz

Dakota Pastels – Tribute to Auseklis Ozols – Carol Peebles

Dakota Pastels – Untamed Curls – Katy Despot

Blick Art Materials – Unspoken – Bryan Zeig

Blick Art Materials – Evening Routine – Chana Snyder

Blick Art Materials – Grey Winter Day – Lyn Asselta

Blick Art Materials – Amiss – Betty Efferson

Purchase Awards

Joyce Kelly Memorial Award – Mirror, Mirror – Sandra Burshell

Jerry Kelly Memorial Award – Unspoken – Bryan Zeig

See the full exhibit online at showsubmit.com

Member Showcase: Bethany Fields



“As artists, we have the honor of conducting our work and guiding it, like a shepherd. We are the storytellers and dream-makers! We are the spinners of emotion.” – Bethany Fields

Bethany is best known for pastel paintings that are compelling and memorable, with a strong sense of atmosphere and light. She seems less concerned with describing every detail and more interested in capturing the experience of being in a place. Her loose, expressive handling of the pastel medium gives her paintings energy and freshness with a lyrical quality that invites the viewer in. She seldom seems to rely on dramatic lighting or spectacular scenery; instead, she seems to find beauty in quiet moments.

A committed educator, Bethany offers courses, books, seasonal inspiration, and artist resources from her home studio in Texas. She regularly hosts and teaches workshops around the country and is the creator of *The Beauty of Pastel*, a platform and community for pastel artists worldwide.

Fields has exhibited her art at the Salmagundi Club and the National Arts Club in New York City, as well as the prestigious Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio. Her pastels have been featured in *Plein Air* magazine and *Pastel Journal*, and in 2020 Fields was named “Editor’s Choice to Watch” for *Southwest Art Magazine*.

Discover more at bethanyfields.com or on Instagram @bfields.

Works (Left, Top to Bottom):

Summer and Shadows

A Deep Pause

Canyon Floral

Tips From The Pros

Eve Miller – Freedom to Play

My goal has always been to feel good during the creative process, regardless of outcome. A daily painting process allows me to experiment with new ideas and concepts which leads to unexpected discoveries. For more than five years, give or take a few days, I have kept to this practice. I commit to it by posting on social media, whether the results are “good or bad”. It’s a matter of putting myself out there and letting my experiments speak for themselves.

Tips for daily practice:

1. Use a timer. Take 10-15 minutes to doodle/play. If you have more time, e.g., 30-60 mins, do a 5x7 or 6x8 using a reference photo or plein air setup.
2. Embrace being out of your comfort zone. Push limits.
3. Be consistent. Consistency means showing up at the easel.
4. Stay present . Start with an inspirational quote or look at a piece of art in a book. Decide what your intention is for that particular practice. Intention can be triggered by a word or a concept to explore and refine. Pick something you want to work with. If it doesn’t feel good don’t do it.
5. Find a space that is welcoming no matter the size or the direction of the windows. I am grateful to have a space, however, if it was only a closet, I would do it anyway. The time I spend at the easel is sacred time, it’s spiritual, meaningful, magical.
6. Be ready. Get out in nature. Find 5 items of the same color. Sometimes that morphs into more creativity . When I go to the studio I am ready at the easel with some ideas.
7. Set up the night before so the easel is ready when you are.
8. Practice positive self-talk

Eve, winner of numerous awards, is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America, IAPS/Eminent Pastelist, Juried Journeyer member of The Pastel Guild of Europe, Juried Member of the Women Artists of the Southeast, Juried Full Member of the Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, Juried Elected Member of the Salmagundi Club, Associate Member of the American Impressionist Society, signature member of the Degas Pastel Society, and others.

New Members

DPS welcomes new signature members:

Olga DeLuca, Ellensburg, Wa

Francois Malnati, Pertuist, France

Paris Williams, Baton Rouge, La

Bryan Zeig, Gainesville, Fl

DPS welcomes new associate members:

William Harbinson, Chicago, Il

Roxie Snyder, Biloxi, Ms

Jane East, Tx

Member News

Shoshana Ahart – Shoshanna and Andreas Karlsletter opened their *Garden of Creation* on June 21st at the Galerie im Ahart Atelier in Eichstaett, Bayern, Germany. The exhibit is available for viewing through August 2, 2026.

Lyn Asselta - Received Blick Art Materials award for *Amiss* at the Degas Pastel Society's 21st International Exhibition.

Darlene Bigus-Doherty - Red Rock Pastel Society of Nevada's 2026 International Online Exhibition 'GREEN' received Honorable Mention for "In a Green Light". 2026 Forty-Eighth IAPS Juried Open Division Exhibition received Award of Merit for self-portrait pastel 'Happy'. At the Degas Pastel Society 21st Biennial International Exhibition in Baton Rouge, received a Jack Richeson Merchandise Award for 'Selfie '76'.

Stephanie Birdsall - Received Award of Merit for *Blowin In The Wind* at the Degas Pastel Society's 21st International Exhibition.

Brenda Delle – Had 3 paintings exhibited in the Preservation Resource Center's May Tchoup Hop Fund Raiser Auction in New Orleans. Her paintings were the first to sell.

Member News continued

Olga DeLuca – Awarded signature status with the Degas Pastel Society. *The Woman In The Hat* was juried into 2026 IAPS 48th Pastel World Exhibition Open Division & received Hon. Mention in Dakota Pastel Society 1st Qtr. Competition. *Lost in Thought* received 1st (Block II) in the National Union of Pastelists of Russia's 16th Int'l Online Exhibition. *First Performance: Young Ballerina's from the Children's Theatre of Saint Petersburg* & *Portrait of Sofia Kovalevskaya* accepted into Pastel Society of Russia's 2026 online exhibition, Archaeology Through Time. Recently launched her website: olgadeluca-art.com.

Betty Efferson - Received Blick Art Materials Merchandise award for *Amiss* at the Degas Pastel Society's 21st International Exhibition.

Bethany Fields received the Eminent Pastelist designation by International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)

J Kay Gordon was honored with a Lifetime Honorary Membership in the Appalachian Pastel Society.

Isabelle Lim is PSA's 2026 Hall of Fame Honoree

Vicki Lueb – *Looking Up* was juried into the 2026 IAPS 48th Pastel World Exhibition Open Division. Received Jack Richeson and Co. Merchandise award for *Still Water* at the Degas Pastel Society's 21st International Exhibition. One of 12 Mississippi Artists selected to be featured in Oxford Magazine.

Wendy McClatchy was awarded Master Circle status by International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)

Eve Miller was awarded Eminent Pastelist status by International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)

Carol Peebles was awarded Eminent Pastelist status by International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)

BF Reed was awarded Master Circle status by International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)

John Sherry was awarded Master Circle status by International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)

Julie Skoda was awarded Master Circle status by International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)

Member News continued

We want to share your news!

If you have news to share such as awards, shows, inclusion in publications, etc. —please email us at DegasPastelSociety@gmail.com so we can celebrate your achievements.

Use subject line: News To Share

You can now post on [**Facebook – Degas Pastel Society Community page.**](#) This is a space for you to share art-related news and images of your work.

Photos from the DPS 21st International Exhibit



More Photos from the DPS 21st International Exhibit



Education Corner

Quarterly Book Recommendation

Darlene Johnson recommends **The Woman Who Painted the Seasons** by Penny Fields. This is a biographical fiction novel about abstract expressionist artist Lee Krasner. The focus is on her artistic journey, her complex marriage to Jackson Pollock, and her fight for recognition in a male-dominated art world.

Workshops, Classes, and Demos

Lyn Asselta – for details go to www.lynasselta.com

Aug 27-29, Mississippi - sponsored by Pastel Society of Mississippi

Oct 11-17, Sicily - Marsala Sicily (see sicilyartistretreats.com)

Sandra Burshell – Sandra hosts weekly New Orleans Drawing Group zoom sessions. For information see : [Sandra Burshell - Page - NEW ORLEANS DRAWING GROUP via Zoom](#)

Bethany Fields – for details go to www.bethanyfields.com

Elements of Art book now available

Jeri Greenberg –

Aug 9 - Black & White, Gold & Silver Workshop, Wilmington, NC

Weekly Classes - at the Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, NC.

Oct 17-18 – Paint Your Food & Eat Your Models, Wilmington, NC

Albert Handell – www.alberthandellstudio.com

Aug 22-23 – Deep Dive Into Adobes & Dynamic Symmetry, Santa Fe

Oct 7-10 – Santa Fe Plein Air Workshop

Education Corner Continued

Workshops, Classes, & Demos

Nancie King Mertz –

Sep 14-16 – Pastel Society of America Fall Workshop

Oct 18-24 - Marsala Sicily (see sicilyartistretreats.com)

Carol Peebles –

Carol's Blue Easel Club in New Orleans offers classes in Portrait and Figure drawing from life. Come draw with us. For more information: www.BlueEaselClub.com

Free Resources

Dakota Art Pastels - Several pastel videos on youtube
dakotapastels.com

UART – Tips & Videos
Uartpastelpaper.com

Monet Café' with Artist Susan Jenkins – Tips & Videos
SusanJenkinsFineArt.com

Pastel Care Guide by Bethany Fields – See her website

Photos from the IAPS Convention



More photos from the IAPS Convention



Looking Ahead

As we look toward the next quarter, let's continue to uplift one another, share our passion for pastel, and seek new horizons in our creative journeys. The Degas Pastel Society thrives because of you—your talent, enthusiasm, and camaraderie.

Thank you for being a part of this luminous circle.

Warm Regards,

Degas Pastel Society Board of Directors

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