

WINTER WHITE-OUT

New Englanders are used to unusual weather patterns, but Mother Nature never ceases to surprise us. While our winters always bring with them cold snaps and snowy commutes, we often have warmer days and rapid thaws in between. This unpredictability is part of New England's charm, but it can also make organizing our days at the gallery a little challenging. Since the holiday season, we have experienced erratic weather which has occasionally delayed our work, caused us to postpone events, or shut us down all together. Fortunately, we have many ways of keeping the community informed of all our plans.

Some ways we do this is through email blasts, our web site, Facebook, and the monthly WaterMedia newsletter. Starting this month, you can also find us on Instagram. For those who are interested in learning how to utilize this social media platform, we will be offering a half-day workshop on February 20th. You can find more information about it in this issue and at our site. We invite you to familiarize yourself with all our digital formats, if you've not done so already, as you'll find a world of information in each of them. Of course, we always welcome folks to give us a call or stop by the gallery (when it's not buried under snow!) if you have any questions.

As we try new ways of reaching the community, we hope you will find one (or more) that works best for you.

President's Corner

Congratulations to the New Artist and New Signature Members! I truly enjoyed the opening and hearing about each individual's journey towards their goals. What is quite wonderful about artists is the enjoyment of multiple art forms. Some members start in watercolor and move towards new mediums. Others enjoy other mediums and then come to love watercolor. It is always the art that is the joy.

While we are a watercolor society, we celebrate all art. offering shows in multiple media. As I hope you have see on Facebook, Instagram, email, and our website, the first Open Juried Show of the year, "Brilliance of Color," is a show for all 2D media.

I give myself a challenge each year to enter every RIWS show. Not only does it motivate me to paint, but also the themes challenge me to think of new ideas for paintings. It is also a great way to support the gallery.

I hope you join me in this challenge for 2018. I would love to see what the whole membership has to offer.

Jackie Habig, President

Director's Corner

As many of you know, one of my favorite questions to ask when members come in the door is, "How is painting going?" Almost without fail I get different versions of the same answer. It's usually something along the lines of, "Oh, it's going well, but life has been very busy." Sometimes the "well" is exchanged for "okay" or even "not great," but regardless, the answer is always in conjunction with how busy life can get. I think we've all felt the effects of a hectic schedule taking away from our art making process. In recent months, however, I've begun to look at this experience in a far more positive manner. Art making, and painting specifically, has a wonderful ability to breath with life. There are days when art making feels completely natural and without effort. At other times, it feels as if we have to concentrate so hard on it that it hurts. Then, of course, there are times when we just can't seem to find the time to even think about it. But it keeps coming back, and that's my point, that no matter how busy or cold or dark February may feel, painting will continue to come back. Maybe not until tomorrow, or Saturday, or even Spring, but that's okay. It will follow you the whole way. So I encourage you all to be mindful and apply this to any passion you may have. Consider why it comes back, or why it left in the first place. Know that RIWS can play a key role in this process for you. We are a resource for you.

We've got 3 short workshops coming up that I believe have the potential to really send the wind into your sails. Cynthia DiDonato is teaching an Instagram workshop about how to effectively market your art. This is something we all could really use. Donna MacLure and Karen Gordon are teaching a collage workshop that could really change the way you look at a painting. Finally, Mary Wojciechowski is running another of her Alcohol Ink workshops which have been incredibly well received. While none of these are traditional watercolor courses, they all bring something really different to the table, creating an opportunity for substantial growth.

Sam Green, Gallery Director

Current Exhibition



WATERMEDIA ART WORK BY: NEW ARTIST MEMBERS NEW SIGNATURE MEMBERS ALL ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

RHODE ISLAND WATERCOLOR SOCIETY OPEN JURIED SHOW Brilliance www.riws.org/brilliance-of-color -All 2D Media-Open to: Any artist residing in New England Exhibition dates: February 24 - April 5 **Opening reception:** February 24, 2-4pm Juror: Ralph Acosta

Submit online: January 27 - February 10

Drop off of accepted pieces by: February 22, 2:00pm Pick up: April 6 - 21

RHODE ISLAND WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

IN-HOUSE

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

SERVICES

ve your artwork photographed in a sfessional quality photography studio





Contact the gallery to set up an appointment: (401) 726-1876 We are open: Wed-Sat 10AM-4PM & Sun 12PM-4PM

New Photo Service Policy

Effective January 2, 2018, RIWS will be implementing a new photo service policy.

Given the time and effort that goes into the image editing process, we will be charging an additional \$3 per image for any edits beyond cropping and exposure.

Please be aware that a digital image cannot not truly replicate that of a painting. While our staff is trained to deliver high quality results, we cannot guarantee the level of quality produced in a high end photography studio.

We encourage you to use this service for our Open Juried Show submissions. RIWS staff will happily walk you through the online submission process at no additional cost.

Vatercolor Sessions Start your week off with a pop of color!

Join us at the RIWS gallery for weekly Monday watercoloring sesssions. Paint with peers in a relaxed setting with the option to participate in an informal critique.

Every Monday / 12:30PM - 3:00PM / \$5 members / \$8 non-members

Drops-ins welcome. Please bring your own supplies.

Miscellaneous

INSTAGRAM WORKSHOP

With so many social media platforms to choose from, it's difficult to know which one is best for our needs, especially if our desire is to market our work as artists. Instagram is a great option to do that, as well as receive feedback about our work, or just find inspiration to get back into the studio.

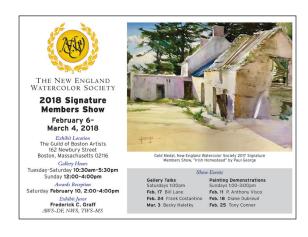
RIWS will be hosting a two-hour instructional workshop in February in which you will learn: why Instagram is great for artists, understand its tools, download the app to your smartphone, upload a photo from your phone gallery, and learn about hashtags. All you need to bring is a fully charged smartphone with your charging cord. Also bring your login information (Apple ID or Android Play Store ID and password) so you can download the free Instagram app.



RIWSGallery

Dates to Remember

January 12 - March 2 Evelyn Bernal: Wet on Wet Techniques in Watercolor Workshop (Intermediate-Advanced) January 13 - February 22 Exhibition: Get Acquainted Members Show January 27 - February 10 The Brilliance of Color Open Juried Show Online Submission February 20 Promote Your Art on Instagram Workshop (being held off-site) The Brilliance of Color Open Juried Show February 22 Drop Off of Selected Entries, by 2pm February 23 - March 10 Pick Up: Get Acquainted Members Show The Brilliance of Color Open Juried Show February 24 Opening Reception, 2-4pm The Brilliance of Color Open Juried Show February 24 - April 5 Collage Course: Painting with Paper March 7 - 8 The Brilliance of Color Open Juried Show Pick Up April 6 - 21 Andrew Kusmin Watercolor Workshop

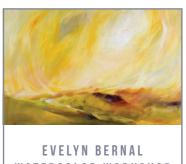


IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROMOTE YOUR EVENT IN OUR NEWSLETTER. PLEASE CONTACT US AT RIWSGALLERY@GMAIL.COM.

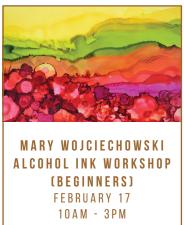
Upcoming Workshops

May 10 - 12

June 20 - 22



WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP JANUARY 12 - MARCH 2 (INTERMEDIATE -ADVANCED) 10 A M - 1 P M



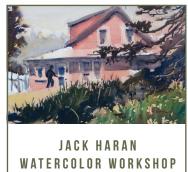
Jack Haran Watercolor Workshop







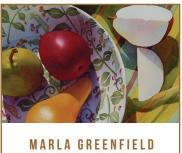








WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP SEPTEMBER 12 - 14 9AM - 4PM EACH DAY



WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP NOVEMBER 7 - 9 9AM - 4PM EACH DAY

RIWS Newsletter Information

Officers: President: Jackie Habig, Vice President: Leslie Godfrey, Treasurer: Dennis Finlay, Recording Secretary: Position unfilled, Corresponding Secretary: Elinor Thompson

Directors: Evelyn Bernal, Paula Correia, Jacquelyn Hayes, Bernadette Pace, Liz Palter, Denise Petrin, Frank Robertson, & Dyan Rook

Editor: Sam Green, Gallery Director

Design & Layout: Andrea Braga, Gallery Assistant

Mail News Items to: Rhode Island Watercolor Society, 831 Armistice Blvd., Pawtucket, RI 02861

Email to: riwsgallery@gmail.com including "Newsletter Submission" in subject title