

# Pastel Talk



*Pastel Reflections* by  
Christine Mikesell-Bidwell

## Fall 2011 Juried Show

### SHOW DATES:

Saturday, November 5 through  
Saturday, November 19, 2011

### LOCATION:

Manheim Gallery, 747 N. Main St.,  
Cottonwood, AZ 86326  
928-649-0130

### JUDGE:

Betty Carr



*"Morning At Jerome", watercolor,  
Betty Carr*

### IMPORTANT DATES:

September 21: Entry deadline (entries may be given to Karen Budan at the APAA meeting on Sept. 11th)

October 19: Notification of acceptance

November 2: Drop off of juried art at gallery from 12:00pm to 2:00pm

November 5: Reception 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

November 20: Pick up of art at gallery from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

Go to [www.azapaa.com](http://www.azapaa.com) to download application.

### NEXT MEETING:

#### September 11

(Date change due to  
Labor Day)

1:00 pm General  
Meeting

2:00 pm Program

#### New Members:

Kendra Noone  
928-567-5237  
noonerandk@gmail.  
com

#### Addition:

Joyce Ashe's website:  
[www.Jbluchina.com](http://www.Jbluchina.com)

#### Newsletter Items:

Please send news and  
items of interest to  
editor Gary Binder  
at [Gary.Binder@  
gdc4s.com](mailto:Gary.Binder@gdc4s.com) or Julia  
Patterson at [julia@  
writedesignaz.com](mailto:julia@writedesignaz.com).

#### For general questions, contact:

Karen A. Budan, President  
5689 E. Hedgehog Place, Scottsdale, AZ 85266  
480-473-1752, [budan@cox.net](mailto:budan@cox.net)

#### For membership questions, application & renewals, contact:

Kathy Herranen, Membership  
Chair, 4114 Union Hills #1011, Phoenix, AZ 85050  
602-569-6209, [kathyherranen@cox.net](mailto:kathyherranen@cox.net)



# Message from the President



Dear APAA Members,

Welcome to September and the start of our meeting year! It seems strange

for me to write that opening sentence as it is actually only August 4th! I am writing my president's letter for the September newsletter early as Bob and I are getting ready to take a two week driving trip to Colorado and northern New Mexico that will have us on the road when the newsletter is being developed.

Our first meeting of the year is scheduled for September 11th which is the second Sunday of the month as the first Sunday falls on Labor Day weekend. Unfortunately I am going to miss this first meeting of the year as Bob and I will be in California to celebrate his birthday which is September 12th. However, Gary Binder has agreed to run the meeting in my absence. If Gary's busy work schedule prevents him from being available that day, Lee Borden has agreed to take

on the duty. Thank you to both of you for your willingness to cover the meeting! Although Bob and I will be enjoying his birthday celebration getaway, I am sorry to be missing this meeting for a number of reasons:

1. It is always great to see everyone after the summer break!
2. The meeting program promises to be a great one with Susan Falcon-Hargraves doing a presentation on Photoshop for Artists.
3. Ellen Harper has been very busy on show locations and has booked GREAT locations for our shows! I will let her announce the great news.
4. Cycle I Art Challenge kicks off with participants receiving their object(s) or word(s).
5. The first Artist of the Month competition takes place

By the time you receive this newsletter you should have received the show prospectus for our fall juried show which will be judged by Betty Carr and hung at the Manheim Gallery in Cottonwood. This location was

well received last year and we are looking forward to being there again this year. Remember that you are welcome to turn in your show entry materials at the meeting to save postage.

September means that our fall workshop with Lorenzo Chavez is just around the corner for those who signed up to work with this national level instructor. Whether you are in the workshop or not... make sure you have cleared your calendar to attend the October meeting for Lorenzo's demo. I know I am definitely not missing that meeting!!

I hope you had a chance to visit some exciting places over the summer break. Remember that any art related activities would be of great interest to your fellow members in the form of a newsletter article!

I hope to see you soon.....but in the meantime....keep painting!

*Karen*

Karen Budan  
President



## IAPS Show

Maggie Price, President of IAPS asked to share this information here:

The prospectus for the 2011 IAPS web show is now available on the IAPS website. Entry date is October 15, and the exhibition is on the web so no work needs to be shipped. To download the prospectus, visit: [www.pastelinternational.com/COMPETITIONS/exhibitions.html](http://www.pastelinternational.com/COMPETITIONS/exhibitions.html)

We've posted a collection of videos and photos from the 2011 convention on the web site. A highlights video and links to other photo and video pages is at: <http://www.pastelinternational.com/CONVENTIONS/conventions.html>. We hope you enjoy the convention memories!

## Ideas Wanted!

There are a few topics needing solution alternatives, so please provide ideas when you see something the APAA members might enjoy.

### Judge/Juror for the Spring 2012 show:

The show is again in Sedona, so someone close to that area with pastel knowledge would be ideal.

Please send any idea to Show Coordinator, Ellen Harper ([ellen@harperstudio.net](mailto:ellen@harperstudio.net)) or Karen Budan ([karen@karenbudanfineart.com](mailto:karen@karenbudanfineart.com)).

### Next Season's Art Challenge:

This year's challenge was not only a great experience for participants and the viewing audience, but also resulted in some juried and awarded winning paintings. Send your great ideas for challenge topics or objects to Marcelline

([mangoartwk@aol.com](mailto:mangoartwk@aol.com)).

### Newsletter:

Write us about your art experiences, events attended, what you learned or anything else the APAA members would benefit from seeing and reading. You draft it, we edit it and it goes online. Send pictures with the text since at heart we all enjoy the visualization.

### Programs for future season:

Many of the monthly slots are already filling in, but do not let that stop you from sending ideas in for demos or informative sessions for our meetings.

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# Mile High International Show

This past Saturday, the Colorado Pastel Society had its "Mile High International" show opening, reception and awards



Best of show: Cherie Nobilette's Music

ceremony. Over 200 entries were viewed to reduce to 80 finalists representing 17 states in the U.S. Richard McKinley was the juror.

From APAA, Dodie Ballantine, Cindi Underwood and I had paintings juried into the show, and were also in attendance at the opening.



Richard McKinley at gallery talk

The show had two categories, traditional and "non-traditional", and was hung in groupings of figurative, landscape, still life or abstract

in well thought out pairings. The venue was the Curtis Arts and Humanities Center in Greenwood Village, CO, south of Denver. The show runs through Sept 16th.

Diane Fechenbach and Sandy Marvin were the show chairs who organized a wonderful opening filled with high quality and technical and aesthetically pleasing work. Diane told us she is already working on show dates and jurors for the next few years to ensure continuity for the group.

Richard McKinley's gallery talk was very well received as he explained aspects of the paintings that highlighted compositional design, techniques and originality that caught his eye. He did add a caveat that judging is "one man's opinion on a given day," but the talk provided insights to the distinctive elements

of award winners. He also added some comments on paintings and framing. I found this part of the show opening to be especially useful as a way to contemplate taking my own work to higher levels.



Dodie Ballantine



Dodie and Diane Fechenbach



Gary Binder



Cindi Underwood

If you happen to be in Denver before Sept 16th, make sure to see the show.

Gary Binder




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*"For All The Angels In My Life",  
oil & mixed media, Diane Sanborn*

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# Member News & Accomplishments



*Mockingbird's Nest* by Cindi Underwood

**Cindi Underwood** has great news : She entered three pastels into the National Paint America Competitions "Paint the Parks." Her submissions were in the mini category to hopefully get into the Top 50 and this along with their larger Top 100 travel to various galleries across the US for almost two years. Two of her three entries made it into the Top 50: *Splash* and *Mockingbird's Nest*. *Aspen Breeze*, the third entry, did not get into the show but received honorable mention. This is a big feather in the cap for pastels.

Congratulations to **Cheri Saffro** who was accepted as a Signature member of the Pastel Society of America! This is certainly a distinction for her and an honor for the caliber of APAA membership. [www.saffro.com](http://www.saffro.com). Cheri 's painting "First Floor" (next page) will be in the Chicago Pastel Paint-

ers Third Biennial National Juried Exhibition "Pastels Chicago" opening on Sept. 22.

**Judith Goggins** sends us this tip: "While traveling to California we found a great retreat in Oceanside. On Thursday the city has a small Street Fair with fresh produce, flowers, fresh fish and food. The fresh fish and shrimp tacos are really great. A block away is the Oceanside Art Museum. On the first floor they were showing *Transitions* --Works by Francoise Gilot--over 40 pieces. The exhibition explores the evolution of Gilot abstracts from the 1960's to present. She was married to Dr. Jonas Salk and was the ex of Picasso. It's great! It runs thru September 2011."



*Turret Arch* by Roger Krouse

**Roger Krouse** had his pastel painting "Turret Arch - Arches National Park" juried into the 2011 Paint the Parks 100 competition. This national competition celebrates our country's national parks with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the

National Parks Foundation. Roger's painting will be part of the Paint the Parks 100 National Exhibition. The Exhibit travels throughout the U.S. and is held at various galleries and museums. [www.paintamerica.org/index.html](http://www.paintamerica.org/index.html)



*Grand Canyon* by Mei-June Liao

**Mei-June Liao** offers these news items:

"I gave a pastel demonstration to about 35 artists at the Prescott Valley Art Guild on 8/9/11 and received excellent feedback. My story was published in the Prescott Valley Tribune the next day on 8/10/11. A copy is attached. The reporter informed me on 8/11/11 that a 71-year old gentleman from Prescott was inspired by my story and immediately signed up an art class at the Yavapai College. I was really moved by this news.

"In June-July, my Grand Canyon pastel painting received



"Best of Show" in the New West exhibit at Prescott Center for the Arts (Prescott Fine Art Gallery).

"A couple of weeks ago, I was also notified by the *Artist's Magazine* that my Grand Canyon painting won the 2nd place in the Artist's Magazine's 28th Annual Art Competition student/beginner division (for people pursuing art for no more than 4 years). The painting and my profile will be published in 2012 January/February issue of the *Artist's Magazine*."

**Dodie Ballantine** is at Terry Ludwig's Pastel this week after attending the CO Pastel Society's "Mile High" International Show where she had a piece juried in. She will also be creating a portrait selection of Terry Ludwig pastels as part of her teaching experience. Look for it soon!

PAGE 2 • August 10, 2011 • Prescott Valley Tribune • Internet Address: www.pvtrib.com

### 'Accidental discovery' leads to newfound talent for PV woman

Mei-June Liao describes how she altered a scene of Willow Lake from the photo to a sketch before demonstrating pastels to members of the PV Art Guild on Tuesday. Liao's pastel of the Grand Canyon, right, has won five awards in two states, and will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Artist's Magazine*.

**By Sue Lane**  
Prescott Valley Tribune

Mei-June Liao is relatively new to the world of art, but her talent is evolving in leaps and bounds. In fact, her recent pastel of the Grand Canyon has won five awards – so far – and will be published in the January/February 2012 edition of the *Artist's Magazine*.

Liao, 63, moved to Prescott Valley two years ago this month, took a couple of art classes and already has won top prizes in several juried art shows in Arizona and New Mexico, including Prescott Valley's Fall for the Arts, and the annual National Pastel Exhibition in New Mexico. The "Grand Canyon" painting received Best of Show in the New West exhibit at Prescott Center for the Arts, and 2nd place in *Artist's Magazine's* 28th Annual Art Competition student/beginner division for people pursuing art for no more than four years.

Liao came to the United States in 1975 to attend graduate school at Yale where she earned a PhD degree before gathering post-doctoral training at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a career working in the pharmaceutical industry in New Jersey. After 25 years, she retired in 2008, although she continues to work as a consultant for two biomedical companies on the East Coast.

"I keep my brain active. I spend about 50 percent of my time painting," she said, "so one half in art, one half in science. I keep my left and right brain busy."

It was soon after retiring that she accidentally discovered an interest in art after visiting a Chinese painting club in New Jersey with a friend. She took a Chinese watercolor painting class, practicing the traditional Chinese style painting in black and white.

In Prescott and Prescott Valley, Liao looked into Western art training and began pastel lessons with Don Ilantz. She joined the Prescott Valley Art Guild and participates in its monthly competitions. In July, she moved up from Level B to Level C in the pastel category, and has begun entering oil paintings at Level A. She also won the Guild's June special "Trees" theme competition.

At Tuesday's PVAG meeting, Liao demonstrated her pastel techniques, and how to sketch from photos.

Liao's husband also is retired and her son is pursuing postgraduate education in the field of computer video gaming arts. He played video games while young, which led to an interest in graphic arts and designing. He plans to work in "environment art" providing the background art for video games.

Liao advises retirees or those getting to "senior" age to keep learning new things.

"It keeps your life much more interesting."

Article on Mei-June Liao in the Prescott Valley Tribune.



Dodie Ballantine with student.



First Floor by Cheri Saffro



# Denver Art Museum & Botanical Garden

While in Denver for the "Mile High" CO Pastel society show, I had time for a side trip to two great venues in the area. Both the Denver Art Museum and Botanical Garden are worth a visit.

The Denver art Museum includes 7 floors of art of many varieties and globally regional venues. Its outside setting is much like an Edward Hopper painting, and indoors has many interesting exhibits and topical art selections. My main interest was in the contrast of its western art with one room devoted to past masters like Thomas Moran and Maynard Dixon and a second area with contemporaries such as Jay Moore and Clyde Aspevig. Norman Rockwell and NC Wyeth were also represented. Several other floors housed world and period art.

Close by is the Denver Botanical Garden another great venue. It was especially wonderful that the weather was very nice the day I visited. The comparison of created art at the Museum and botanical compositions at the Garden was a good leading up to the pastel show later that evening.

Both are worth a visit when you are in the Denver area.

Gary Binder



*Clyde Aspevig's "October in Montana" (my personal favorite of the contemporaries work)*





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# Call for Entries & Opportunities

## Exhibit Submissions

### Deadline: September 1

13th Annual Pastel 100 Competition. \$10,000 cash awards + merchandise awards. For complete information, juror biographies, entry forms, or to enter online, visit: [www.artistsnetwork.com/pasteljournalcompetition](http://www.artistsnetwork.com/pasteljournalcompetition).

### Deadline: September 1

Pastel Society of the Southwest, 30th National Juried Exhibition. November 1-28, 2011. Held at the Eisenmann Center, Richardson, Texas. Juried by Doug Dawson. Awards in excess of \$4,000. Best of Show receives \$1,000 cash award. Prospectus at [www.pssw.info](http://www.pssw.info) or contact Connie Erickson at [c.art.erickson@gmail.com](mailto:c.art.erickson@gmail.com).

### Deadline: September 7

Northwest Pastel Society's 25th Annual International Open Exhibition at the American Art Gallery in Tacoma, WA. November 12-December 31. Juror is Clark Mitchell. \$3,500 in awards. Details at [www.nwps.org](http://www.nwps.org)

### Deadline: September 16

Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild's 42nd Annual River Road Show. December 5-January 27, 2012. Artists 18+, juried/judged exhibition. Slide/CD entries, \$40 for 3

entries, \$5 each additional. Limit is 10. \$3,000 cash awards. Prospectus at [www.laag-site.org/River\\_Road\\_Show.html](http://www.laag-site.org/River_Road_Show.html).

### Deadline: October 15

2011 IAPS web show is now available on the IAPS website. Exhibition is on the web so no work needs to be shipped. To download the prospectus, visit: [www.pastelinternational.com/COMPETITIONS/exhibitions.html](http://www.pastelinternational.com/COMPETITIONS/exhibitions.html)

## Classes/Workshops

### Life Drawing Classes

George Palovich, the former curator of the West Valley Art Museum, is now offering Life Drawing classes every Tuesday at 6:30 pm. Email him at [tripl42@cox.net](mailto:tripl42@cox.net) for details.

### Arizona Artists Guild

is offering Open Drawing Sessions, Thursdays beginning June 3rd. 9:30-12:30 AM, 10.00 fee for members and non-members, 5.00 fee for college students with ID. The Guild is also offering Open Studio Sessions with a \$5 suggested donation for artists who wish to work on paintings in a studio setting. AAG Building is on 7th Ave. just south of the intersection of 7th Ave. and Union Hills.

### BRIO Fine Arts Center

has expanded to 4 new geographical locations:

1. Foothills Holland Community Center
  2. Fountain Hills Community Center
  3. New Vision Center
  4. Working Artist Studio
- [www.briofinearts.com](http://www.briofinearts.com) lists its class schedule and course descriptions.

### APAA member Michael Chesley Johnson

offers a series of advanced workshops for the plein air painter in Sedona from November through April 2012. Each week offers 20 hours of instruction and painting time. Price: \$350. Workshops are limited to 4 students. For full details, schedule and to register, visit [www.PaintSedona.com](http://www.PaintSedona.com) or contact Michael at [mcj.painter@gmail.com](mailto:mcj.painter@gmail.com) or 575-267-2450.

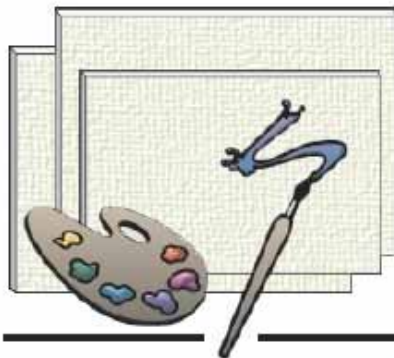
### Donna Stenger

is offering the following:

- Phoenix Center for the Arts [www.phoenix.gov/recreation](http://www.phoenix.gov/recreation) Painting with Dry Pastel, Tuesdays 5:30-8:30
- The Artery Building 623 E. Indian School Rd. [dsart89@gmail.com](mailto:dsart89@gmail.com). Thursdays and Saturdays 9:30-12:30 ongoing.

## Other

**Gilbert Art Walk** every fourth Friday, starting September 23. Water Tower Park, 6-9PM.



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# *The Upcoming Year*

MONTH	ACTIVITIES	PROGRAM
Sept 11	Art Challenge Cycle I begins Artist of the Month	Photoshop for Artists, Susan Falcon-Hargraves
October 2	Artist of the Month	Demo by Lorenzo Chavez
November 6	Artist of the Month	Art Challenge Cycle I Discussion/Critique
December 4	Holiday Party Potluck	Art supplies auction
January 8	Artist of the Month	The Art of Selling Art, Ellie Milan
February 12	Artist of the Month	Art Challenge Cycle II Discussion/Critique
March 4	Artist of the Month	Beginning a Painting: Three Different Styles, Collin Frye
April 1	Artist of the Month	Members' Information Exchange Q & A Session
May 6	Artist of the Year Board Installation	Art Challenge Cycle III Discussion/Critique