



September 2025



Wet Paint

The Waterloo Watercolor Group Newsletter

Upcoming Dates

- **September 22**
WWG Fall Member Show entry deadline
- **September 27**
Bookworms
Saturday, 9:30 am.
- **September 30,**
WWG Fall Member Show notification of accepted entries
- **October 11**
Accepted entries should be delivered to North Hills Gallery between 10:00 and 12:00 pm
- **October 12**
Ken Call free demo from 4:00 to 5:30 PM
3-Day Workshop:
October 13, 9:00 am to October 15, 4:00 pm
- **October 19**
The reception 12:15 in the gallery.
- **October 25**
WWG Fall Member Show strike
- **November 8**
Saturday workshop at St. Christopher Episcopal Church

From the WWG President

Dear Members,

As we begin our new Fall 2025 – Spring 2026 season, I would like to take a few moments of your time to share my experience, these last few years, as President of Waterloo Watercolor Group. Reestablishing our momentum after Covid, as an organization, has been a group effort. I am especially grateful to the Board members and Activities Chairs for their time and effort. Our biggest challenge has been the launch of our new website. While there remain some kinks that occasionally pop up, the site is operating smoothly. We brought a web manager on board; a definite necessity in this digital world. Our website and newsletter are the major source of information for our members. We also have streamlined our group email communication to make it easier to convey timely information and reminders with the click of a button!

WWG has also explored new venues for our juried member shows and open call member shows. Our offering of Saturday workshops and two annual 3-day workshops featuring nationally renowned artists are well subscribed. WWG remains the premier artists' group in Austin to sponsor and organize these 3-day workshops.

WWG is devoted to providing these creative, instructional opportunities to any artists in Austin, Central Texas, and beyond. It is our mission!

I have learned so much and forged friendships through this opportunity to collaborate with the smart, creative women (and gentlemen too): our Board and member volunteers. WWG will need fresh ideas and new goals and perspectives moving forward. As WWG approaches its 50th anniversary (yes...50th!), I would like to invite any member willing to volunteer some time to join our Board. More interesting venues to exhibit, partnerships with surrounding community art centers, larger social media presence, and more social activities/outings for members are all part of our WWG wish list. We value and need ideas and input from our members. Length of membership doesn't matter, only a love of water media and the desire to grow your connection with our member artists in the Austin metro area. If you are interested in joining the WWG Board, please contact me at president@waterloowatercolor.org or any Board member.

This is a remarkable group of artists!
Colette Sirhal, *President*

Workshop News—Directors: Lonni Swanson and Kathleen Stafford

Three Seats Have Opened Up for the Ken Call Workshop, October 13 to 15th.

Register here at the member price of \$350.00:

<https://waterloowatercolor.org/events/category/workshop/>

Something unique and exciting: Workshop participants are invited to bring in one of their paintings (that is not part of the workshop) for Ken to critique. Now that alone is worth the price of admission!

Also, if the workshop schedule doesn't fit yours, then come meet Ken, visit with Waterloo members, and enjoy the free demo on Sunday, October 12th from 4:00 to 5:30 PM, **Saint Michael's Episcopal Church**, 1500 North Capital of Texas Highway, Austin, Texas

Ken, noted nationwide for his portraits, won first place at the Texas Watercolor Society Annual Exhibition this summer. He graduated from the American Academy of Art and went on to create more than 500 illustrations for books and numerous print media.



Show News—Helen Green & Rashmi Thakur

WWG Fall Show Calendar:

September 22 Entry deadline

September 30 Notification of acceptance via email. Results will be available in your OnlineJuriedShows artist profile.

October 11 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Hand deliver accepted entries to North Hills Gallery

October 19 12:00 pm–1:30 pm
Reception and Awards presentation

October 25 Saturday 10.00am–12.00pm Strike

The WWG Fall Show will be jurored by **Ken Call**.

For the past several years WWG has been using onlinejuriedshows.com to manage our entries and are continuing to use them.

Please know that they are very helpful if anyone has difficulty with the process and the show chairs can also help.

News from WWG Members

Eileen Pestorius, who greatly misses the Austin vibe and her painting pals, has been accepted in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Exhibition. The show will hang at Arts Barn and Kentlands Mansion Galleries in Gaithersburg MD and the juror is Joe Popadics, AWS, ASME. Eileen submitted a watercolor of one of the Ginger Cove waitstaff, Jesus. The show runs from Nov. to Jan. 2026.

Congratulations Eileen!

eileenthepainter@aol.com



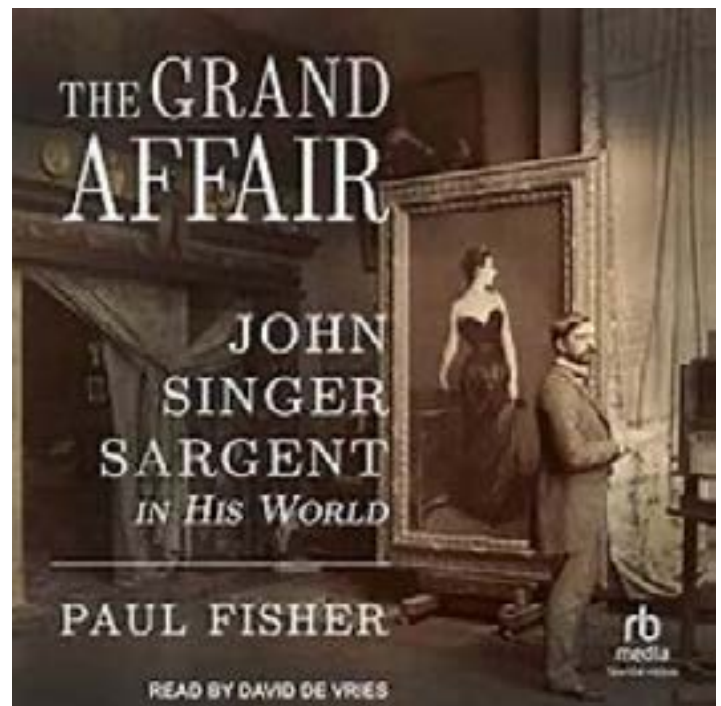
Bookworms

The art book club, Bookworms, is open to all members of WWG. Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, September 27, at 9:30 am.

If you are interested in attending Bookworms and are not already on our mailing list, send an email to Bookworms@waterloowatercolor.org in order to be added to the list for notices. We move around to the homes of different members, so each meeting will be held at a different location. This information will be sent to you in an informational email.

There are four meetings a year: February, April or early May, September, and early November. We try to avoid conflicts with holidays and summer vacations.

At our Saturday, September 27 meeting, we will discuss Paul Fisher's 2022 biography: *The Grand Affair: John Singer Sargent in His World*. It is OK to read a different book about Sargent instead, but this one is full of fascinating information about his art and his very full life. Sargent is known for his society portraits, but he also painted a number of portraits of people who were less known as well as a variety



of scenes from places such as Venice. Known as an American painter, he grew up in Europe and lived (Italy, Paris, London, etc.) and traveled extensively there for much of his life. He knew a number of the famous writers and artists of his era. In short, there is much to enjoy and discuss.

Come join us on September 27 for a lively discussion of a great artist.

Opportunities

Inquiry for Artist

WWG received a request for an artist to illustrate a children's book. The email was sent by Adrian Campos, an Austin resident. His email is *bigstubs1@yahoo.com*.

The email came through the *president@*

waterloowatercolor.org email account. WWG cannot verify the legitimacy of the request. We are passing along this information for any interested member to research and contact on your own.

2025 WWG Board of Directors

President Colette Sirhal

Vice President Dan Spanton

Secretary Susan Dunning

Treasurer Beth Fox

Directors, shows Helen Green, Rashmi Thakur

Directors, workshops Kathleen Stafford, Lonnie Swanson

Directors, 1-day workshops Sue Kemp, Carol McCollum

Director, Activities Janet Fulk

Membership

Newsletter Priscilla Wicker

Past President Leslie Kjellstrand