



APRIL 2026



Upcoming Dates

April 1-May 1 – WWG Spring Member Show - Bee Cave Arts Gallery

11 – Reception : Member Show at Bee Cave Arts Gallery

19 – Demo: Alicia Farris

20 – 22 Workshop: Alicia Farris

May 2 – 12:30 Gather at the Bee Cave Arts Foundation for awards ceremony, then strike Bee Cave Arts

June

July

August
Set deadline for Member show – Georgetown

September

October 17 – Demo

18 – 21 Workshop: Lauren McCracken

November

December
Holiday Party – Date TBD

From the WWG President

Dear Members,

It is always inspiring to pause and reflect on the remarkable journey of our most cherished medium, transparent watercolor. This luminous art form evolved as artists refined water-based pigments to emphasize light, clarity, and delicate layering rather than opacity. Across Asia, it developed through rich ink-and-wash traditions, where expressive brushwork and harmony with nature were central. In Europe, watercolor advanced during the Renaissance, and later in America, it gained popularity in the 19th century, especially for landscape painting and illustration.

The development of watercolor was also shaped by key material innovations. Early manufacturers standardized pigments and improved accessibility, allowing artists greater consistency and freedom. Over time, expanded palettes and new formulations enriched the possibilities of expression, from delicate washes to vibrant, mineral-based hues.

Equally important are the surfaces that support this medium. Paper remains the most widely used, particularly high-quality rag paper known for its absorbency and durability. Historically, artists also painted on parchment and vellum, especially for manuscripts, while in Asia, silk and rice paper provided unique textures and fluidity. Each surface plays a vital role in how watercolor flows, absorbs, and reflects light, contributing to its signature luminosity.

Looking ahead, our Spring Show at the Bee Cave Arts Foundation is our next exciting highlight. Please mark your calendars for these important dates. The reception will be held on April 11th, alongside the Sumi-e Society of America's exhibition in the adjacent gallery. Invited artist Alicia Farris will judge the show on April 19th, followed by a live demonstration the same day at St. Michael's Episcopal Church. Her multi-day workshop will take place from April 20th through April 22nd. We encourage you to sign up soon, as only a few spots remain. The show will conclude on May 2nd. Let's celebrate the rich history of this wonderful medium together. Happy Painting !



Rashmi Thakur,
President

Just a Few Weeks
to go...



Alicia Farris is bringing her fresh energetic watercolors to Austin!

Save the date for the Sunday, **April 19th** Demo at St. Michael's Episcopal Church and bring your friends. The Workshop is **April 20th to 22st** and you can still get in by registering here:

<https://waterloowatercolor.org/event/3-day-alicia-farris-workshop/>

Workshop location: St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 1500 North Capitol of Texas Highway, Austin, TX, 78746

**Discover what happens
when watercolor
meets Yupo!**



Primal Gallery



Recently, our Members Show at the new venue at Primal Gallery was a wonderful success. This additional exhibition created more opportunities for members to showcase their work while also introducing new artists to our community. It is important to remember that artists and galleries function in symbiosis; our participation through promotion, attendance, and engagement at events such as receptions is essential to this shared success.



48th Annual Members Show

April 1 - May 1, 2026

Waterloo Watercolor

BEE CAVE
ARTS FOUNDATION
12912 Hill Country
Boulevard, F160,
Bee Cave, Texas 78738
beecavearts.foundation

The 48th Annual Spring WWG Juried Exhibition has been hung at the Bee Cave Arts Foundation gallery and it is stunning! SO much talent exhibited in one place. We encourage everyone to attend the reception on **April 11th**. The show runs through **May 1**. Invite all your friends and family.



A Special April Event!



As many of you know, I'm a member of both the Waterloo Watercolor Society and the Sumi-e Society of America. This year, I also have the honor of serving as National Co-Chair for the Sumi-e Society of America's **63rd Annual National Exhibition**, where sumi-e artists from across the country will be exhibiting. Because of that connection, both of our organizations will be showing at the Bee Cave Arts Foundation's Gallery, side by side in adjoining spaces. What makes this especially meaningful is that we are both working in watercolor—one from a Western perspective, and one from an Eastern perspective.

Our reception on **Saturday, April 11, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.** will be a shared event, with one food and beverage table for both groups—easy, welcoming, and full of good conversation.

From **2:30 to 3:30 p.m.**, the Sumi-e Society will present a live performance by *The Ruan Sisters*, Claire Zhang and Cleo Wang. The *ruan* is a traditional Chinese instrument with a history of nearly 3,000 years, and their music beautifully weaves together history, culture, and storytelling.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you there and sharing this special event together.

Gail Threinen



We feature one artist per month to learn more about them and their work, any details you'd like to share. You can nominate a friend or yourself!



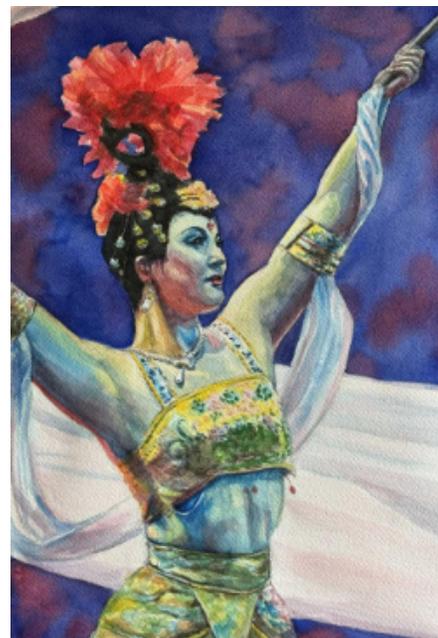
This month, we feature Fred Fung!

My Watercolor Portrait Journey

I have always been drawn to portraits, whether they are paintings, drawings, photographs, or sculptures. The challenge of creating a true likeness fascinates me, but I also believe there is an underlying desire to connect with another person through art. When an artist depicts the emotions of a subject, those feelings are reflected back to us, even if only for a brief moment. Achieving a likeness is difficult, and capturing genuine emotion is even more challenging, yet that is what makes the process so enjoyable.

About three years ago, after retiring from the medical field, I decided to try watercolor painting. I began by taking drawing classes at Laguna Gloria to establish a solid foundation. I then participated in several introductory watercolor classes there, including one taught by Sue Kemp. I enjoy painting from live models during Open Studio sessions at Atelier Dojo in Austin. Painting a live model is significantly more difficult than working from photograph because of the limited time. This constraint encourages broader brush strokes and reduces the focus on fine details, helping me to loosen up—an important step in advancing my skills.

Joining the WWG has provided me with valuable opportunities to learn from other watercolor artists and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow painters. The workshops have been particularly helpful, introducing new skills and broadening my artistic development.



Lost Pines Art Gallery



Jennifer Sabolcik's watercolor was accepted into the Lost Pines Art Gallery's exhibition of "Free as a Bird". Jennifer has been a member of WWG since 2022. The

work is titled, "Looking Forward, and Ignoring the Duck". The opening reception will be **May 2nd** at 1204 Chestnut in Bastrop, at the Lost Pines Art Center **from 6-8pm**.

There is also a Birdfest that weekend in Bastrop, for all you fellow bird lovers out there.

J. Sabolcik



Sunset Valley ARTFEST

Waterloo member Supriya Kharod will be exhibiting her original watercolors and prints at the 18th Annual Sunset Valley ARTFEST on Saturday, **April 25st**. The outdoor event features 120+ artists, live music, food trucks, and fun activities for the whole family to enjoy!



Time: 10am - 5pm

Location: Toney Burger Center, Sunset Valley TX 78745

Free admission & free parking!

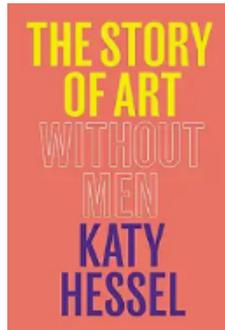
More info: www.sunsetvalley.org/artfest

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SunsetValleyArts>



Bookworms

The art book club Bookworms is open to all members of WWG. Our next meeting will be held on Friday, **May 1**, at 9:30 am. At our May 1 meeting, we will discuss Katy Hessel's work of nonfiction, *The Story of Art without Men*.

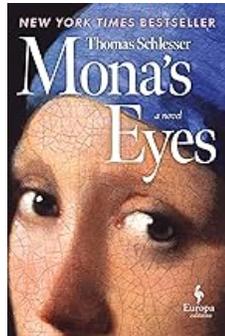


As the title suggests, this book is an overview of many women artists, both the well-known and the little-known, throughout the ages. It is not necessary to read the entire book since so many women artists are covered. There will be plenty to discuss.

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. The address will be sent to you in an informational email.

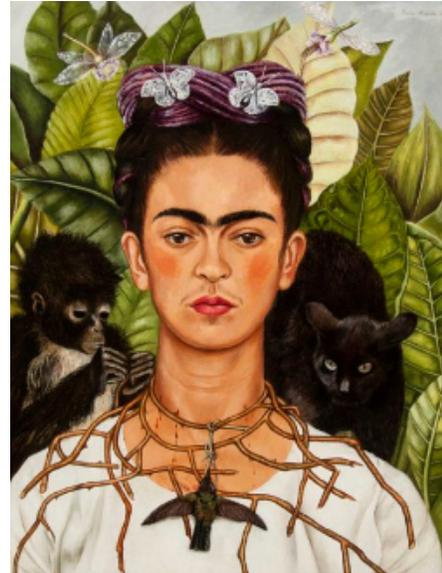
There are four meetings a year: February, April or early May, September, and November. We try to avoid conflicts with holidays and summer vacations.

Our first fall meeting will be held on Friday, **September 18**. We will read Thomas Schlessler's international bestseller *Mona's Eyes*. This book was originally written in French and has now been translated into English. It is a novel, but it incorporates much about art history and art appreciation. The story line is that a ten-year-old girl has a (hopefully) temporary bout of blindness and her grandfather then makes a plan to take her to an art museum in Paris once a week for a year so that she will have a mind full of beautiful images if she goes blind permanently. They start with the Louvre, then go to the D'Orsay, and then last to the Beaubourg/Pompidou. Each week they look at only one painting, which is described in detail before the two engage in a discussion of its historical context, techniques, and meanings. Illustrations of the paintings are also included as part of the elaborate cover. The story about the young girl proceeds as well in each chapter with issues such as her fear of going blind, her relationships with other students at school, her father's problems with alcoholism and with his career, and a mystery concerning her grandmother.



"Frida: The Making of an Icon"

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Closes **May 17, 2026**
Closed on Mon. & Tues.



My husband and I really enjoyed this wonderful experience! It includes 30 of Frida Kahlo's works plus others inspired by her creativity.

Sue Kemp

WWG 2026 Board Members

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