



JUNE 2026



## Upcoming Dates

### August

Set deadline for  
Member show –  
Georgetown

### September

#### October

10 - Exploring  
Neurographic Art.  
Janet Fulk

17 – Demo

18 – 21 Workshop:  
Lauren McCracken

#### November

14 - Christmas Card  
Collage, Helen Green

#### December

Holiday Party –  
Date TBD

#### January

9 - Portraits in  
Watercolor, Jennifer  
Polnaszek

#### February

20 - Watercolor with  
Kathleen Kathleen  
Stafford

#### April

10 - Landscapes,  
Florals/Other, Sue  
Kemp

## From the WWG President

Dear Artists,

Walking through art fairs and galleries often brings up an age-old question for working artists: should we create for the soul or for recognition and awards? This dilemma is not new, yet it continues to shape how artists think about their practice. In reality, both approaches have value, and a balanced relationship between them often leads to the most sustainable creative life.

Creating for the soul is the foundation of authentic artistic expression. It gives artists the freedom to experiment, take risks, and develop a personal visual language without worrying about judgment. In this space, work becomes honest and intuitive, reflecting emotion and lived experience. This sincerity is often what gives art its lasting impact, while also helping to protect artists from burnout by keeping the process meaningful and enjoyable.

At the same time, creating with recognition in mind requires discipline and awareness. When preparing work for exhibitions or awards, an artist must understand submission guidelines, themes, and audience expectations. This does not mean losing authenticity. Instead, it is about refining ideas so they communicate more clearly and effectively within a given context.

A healthy artistic practice often moves between these two modes. Some works remain deeply personal and experimental, created purely for exploration and emotional release. Others are more structured and polished, shaped with exhibitions or competitions in mind. Studying successful works can offer insight into technical and conceptual standards, but it should never restrict originality.

Ultimately, growth as an artist comes from this ongoing balance. Recognition can provide motivation and open doors, but the essence of art lies in expression, healing, and joy. When external pressure becomes overwhelming, returning to the original reason for creating restores clarity. Art thrives when it remains both honest and evolving, rooted in the soul while open to the world.

On this note, let's return to our studio and start painting again, allowing the brush to lead us back to where creativity begins.'

Best,  
Rashmi

'Life is beautiful with colors, keep art alive '





**Waterloo Watercolor has the honor of hosting the  
legendary Laurin McCracken at a Workshop**

**October 19–21, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Artists are coming from far and wide to attend, so you'll want to register while there are still places available:

<https://waterloowatercolor.org/event/laurin-mccracken-3-day-workshop/#tribe-tickets> [tickets-form](#)

He is known for being an exceptional teacher in addition to being a *signature member in more than a dozen watercolor societies*. He has served as an Exhibit Juror for many art organizations and watercolor competitions around the globe in addition to being an ambassador for Daniel Smith products.

Laurin will help us depict not just the obvious subjects of our paintings but also, all the surrounding life reflected there. You can see why there is such enthusiasm to learn from him.

Fruit, Crystal and Chinese Ceramics

The venue will be either St. Michael's Episcopal Church or the Gallery at Bee Caves Arts Foundation.



## News from Judy Copeland



Following is my schedule through the Fall. It is exciting to show my work at these venues:

- Grace Covenant Church until November ([grace360art.com](http://grace360art.com)).
- Austin Auction Gallery, sale June 5-6, catalog on-line now.
- New Round Rock Library in August with the Center Art Club
- Art Direct show is planned for September.

### ART DIRECT GALLERY SHOW

Announcing a non-juried show for members at the Art Direct Gallery in Cedar Park. We will hang the exhibit on Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 and strike the show on Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30. There will be a reception on August 8<sup>th</sup>.

There is no cost to enter and the gallery takes a 30% commission. We will accept one painting per member (no larger than 22 x 30) up to 40 paintings in total, in any watermedia. Artists will also be able to submit 2 prints each. Look for an email with further details.



## News from Bee Cave Arts



Capture the Movement of Water with Celebrated Artist Wade Koniakowsky

Join Bee Cave Arts Foundation for an exciting, two-day workshop, October 23 & 24, 2026

Register today!



## Fall 2026 – Spring 2027 WWG One Day Workshops

As we begin the summer season, it's not too early to plan for fall activities. WWG will again be offering a series of one day (Saturday) workshops to introduce, enhance and fine tune your painting skills. For the second year, the workshops will be held at St. Christopher

Episcopal Church, 8724 Travis Hills Dr., Austin, 78735. The location off Southwest Parkway is relatively easy access from Mopac and Highway 290. We are grateful to Rev. Alyssa Stebbing and the St. Christopher congregation for providing WWG the spacious community room to hold the workshops. All workshops will begin at 9:30 and end at approximately 3:00 -3:30.

*Here is the lineup:*

**October 10, 2027**

Exploring Neurographic Art. Janet Fulk

**November 14, 2027**

Christmas Card Collage Helen Green

**January 9, 2027**

Portraits in Watercolor Jennifer Polnaszek

**February 20, 2027**

Watercolor with Kathleen Kathleen Stafford

**April 10, 2027**

Landscapes, Florals/Other Sue Kemp

We have wonderful teachers on board to share their knowledge and expertise with you. More in depth information about each workshop will be announced on the website and in our Wet Paint newsletter.

The cost for the workshops will remain \$60 for members and \$75 for

Guests.

Colette Sirhal

One Day Workshop Chair



## Please join me for “Summer Splash” at Laguna Gloria!

I'm offering a Sunday workshop with fun watercolor techniques, so come paint with me!

June 14, 10am - 4pm

Register through the Contemporary Art School:

<https://thecontemporaryaustin.org/courses/summer-splash/>

Sue Kemp, Artist

View my watercolor paintings:

[www.suekemp.com](http://www.suekemp.com)

## The Genius of Paul Klee

So I Googled, “Who were famous watercolor artists in history”. Imagine my surprise to see Paul Klee on the list. I’ve always been an admirer of his work but did not know that a vast amount of his work was watercolor! I suppose I’d always attributed great historical watercolor to realists like Homer or Dürer.

Swiss-German painter Paul Klee was a pioneer of abstraction who experimented with cubism, surrealism, and expressionism. Klee was born in Switzerland in 1879. His parents were musicians, and an early interest in music influenced his artistic career.

In 1906, Klee moved to Munich, where he joined German expressionist collective Der Blaue Reiter (The Blue Rider). The painter cultivated a signature style: he used bright colors and geometric shapes to produce fantastical works with a surrealist quality.

In the early 1920s, Klee joined the faculty at the Bauhaus, an iconic German school of art and design. In 1933, he left Germany to escape the growing influence of the Nazi Party, returning to his native Switzerland.

Klee adapted multiple movements and mediums to suit his method. He studied in Munich, at the time the centre of contemporary art, where he mingled with Expressionists such as Wassily Kandinsky (with whom he became lifelong friends), Franz Marc and Gabriele Münter. A visit to Paris introduced him to the Cubist compositions of Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, while trips to Tunisia and Egypt awakened his sense of colour.

Read the entire article:  
<https://artuk.org/discover/stories/the-surreal-and-celestial-compositions-of-paul-klee>



Tale à la Hoffmann



Adam and Little Eve



Black Columns in a Landscape



Hammamet with Its Mosque

# Featured Artist

Yingying Chen is a pastelist and watercolorist whose work blends realism with a bold, expressive use of color. She is an active member of the Austin Pastel Society, the Waterloo Watercolor Group, and the Pastel Society of America. Her paintings have been



accepted into and have received multiple top awards from juried exhibitions.

Inspired by the natural world, Yingying enjoys capturing landscapes and seascapes, focusing on light, atmosphere, and

emotional depth. Her work is known for its vibrant palette, refined detail, and the sense of calm and beauty it evokes.



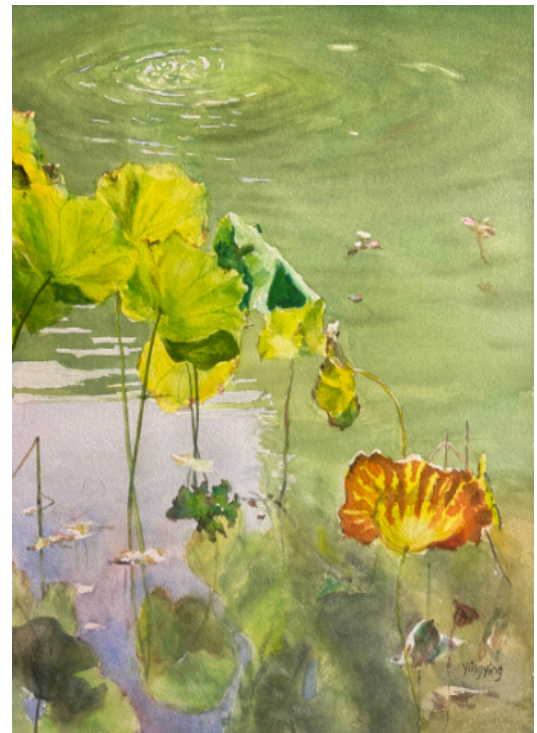
### Last Light on the Pond

Bathed in luminous reflections and glowing color, this watercolor celebrates the fragile elegance of late-season lotus blossoms. Rich pinks, golds, and violets dance across the water's surface, creating a sense of movement, warmth, and fleeting beauty suspended in time.



### Whispers of Autumn Lotus

Delicate lotus leaves drift through the fading season, their softened edges and muted earth tones suggesting the quiet beauty of transition. Through layered washes and subtle negative space, the painting captures a contemplative atmosphere where decay becomes poetic and serene.



### Morning Light on Lotus Pond

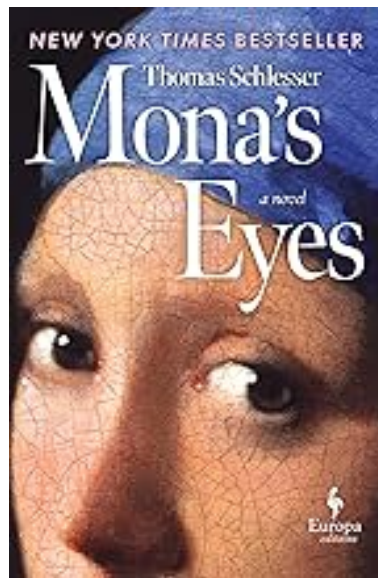
Radiant green lotus leaves rise above tranquil water, illuminated by sunlight and mirrored reflections below. The composition balances freshness and quiet introspection, inviting the viewer into a peaceful moment where light, water, and nature exist in harmony.

## Bookworms

If you are interested in attending Bookworms and are not already on our mailing list, send an email to [bookworms@waterloowatercolor.org](mailto: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.

## News from Jennifer Spurling Polnaszek

I am teaching a watercolor portrait class and would be so grateful y'all if you could spread the word for me. Thanks for your consideration.

**Painting Faces:**  
The art of watercolor portraiture

Jennifer Polnaszek, artist  
Williamson County Art Guild







three Wednesdays

Time: 4pm–7pm, June 17, 24, & July 1

At The NEST (Georgetown Project), 2201 Old Airport Rd

cost \$175 WCAG members, \$185 nonmembers

210-896-7459 -text please or email [jenniferpolnaszek@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferpolnaszek@yahoo.com)

Please contact Instructor directly to sign up. Fees to be paid to Instructor before the first session.

## WWG 2026 Board Members

<p><b>President</b> Rashmi Thakur <a href="mailto:rashmithk@gmail.com">rashmithk@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>1-Day workshop</b> Colette Sirhal <a href="mailto:Colette.sirhal@gmail.com">Colette.sirhal@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Vice President</b> Dan Spanton <a href="mailto:dspanton@live.com">dspanton@live.com</a></p>	<p><b>Shows</b> Shevawn Eisman <a href="mailto:shevawn@aol.com">shevawn@aol.com</a></p>
<p><b>Secretary</b> Susan Dunning <a href="mailto:skdunning@outlook.com">skdunning@outlook.com</a></p>	<p><b>Audio Visual/Activities</b> Janet Fulk <a href="mailto:janetfulk@gmail.com">janetfulk@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Treasurer</b> Nancy Charbeneau <a href="mailto:ncharbeneau@gmail.com">ncharbeneau@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Newsletter</b> Cathy Brown <a href="mailto:cathybrown10355@gmail.com">cathybrown10355@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>3- Day Workshop</b> Kathleen Stafford <a href="mailto:Staffors333@gmail.com">Staffors333@gmail.com</a> Lonni Swanson <a href="mailto:lswanson1@Austin.rr.com">lswanson1@Austin.rr.com</a></p>	<p><b>Social Media</b> Elayika Lakshmanan <a href="mailto:shop@elakiya.art">shop@elakiya.art</a></p>
	<p><b>Advisory</b> Helen Green <a href="mailto:helenfaythegreen@icloud.com">helenfaythegreen@icloud.com</a></p>