

APS Newsletter – February 2025

From the President:

Dear Artists,

Happy New Year! I am humbled and honored to serve as President of the Arkansas Pastel Society. Over the past few months, our dedicated Board, Committee Chairs, and Committee Members have been planning an exciting year. I'm thrilled to share a high-level overview of what's in store (see the Calendar of Events at the end of the newsletter for more details).

Monthly Programs – Scheduled through June, with more to come for the second half of the year.

Mini-Workshops – Kicking off in March with Dennis McCann, with a second workshop in the works.

APS/OPS Joint Non-Juried Membership Show – Returning to Thea Gallery this July, offering members a fantastic exhibition opportunity.

National Juried Show – Happening in November, judged by the esteemed Colette Ody Smith, who will also lead a workshop.

Our society thrives because of its members. Consider joining a committee, volunteering at events, or mentoring new artists. Every contribution, big or small, helps keep our community strong and inspiring.

I look forward to the year ahead and welcome any thoughts or ideas you'd like to share. Let's make 2025 a year filled with creativity and inspiration!

In the Love of Art,

Caprise

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS:

NOTICE: Our March 4th members meeting will be Zoom only. Jeanetta Darley will discuss selling your artwork. The link to join the Zoom session will be sent via email prior to the meeting time.

"Light and Shadow" - A Workshop with Dennis McCann



Join the Arkansas Pastel Society for a one-day workshop, "Light and Shadow," with award-winning artist Dennis McCann, on Saturday, March 22, from 9:00 – 4:00 at St. James United Methodist Church in Little Rock.

McCann's work uses strong sunlight and shadow to create interesting compositions with a variety of subjects. In this workshop, participants will have a choice of working from a still life onsite or from their own photos.

Class size is limited to fifteen participants. Cost for the workshop is \$35 for APS members, and \$45 for non-members. Participants should bring a selection of pastels to work with, along with an easel, support and floor covering. Paper size should not exceed 18x24.

Send registration and check to :

Shirley Bowen, 42 Nob View Circle, Little Rock AR 72205 (501-339-5519,
Shirley.bowen@gmail.com) Please include your name, email address, phone number and membership status.

Save the date!

Workshop by Colette Ody Smith*

November 18-20, 2025

at Laman Library

North Little Rock, AR



**“Working Your Way:
Painting with Water and Dust”**
Priority Admission to APS members
through August 15, 2025
Check out her amazing work at
www.coletteodysmith.com**

*Maître Pastelliste, Societe des Pastellistes de France; Master Pastelist and Advisory Board Member by the Pastel Society of America, Eminent Pastelist and Masters’ Circle member, IAPS among other distinctions.

**Moving from your inspiration to communicating your vision/version will be the focus of this 3-day workshop. We will explore ways to refine your compositional skills, expand your color choices, and experiment with new ways of approaching your subject matter.

Arkansas Pastel Society's 11th National Exhibition will be held at the Argenta Public Library in North Little Rock from Nov. 21 - Dec. 12, 2025. Entry deadline is Sept. 6 at Onlinjuriedshows.com.

Colette Ody Smith will jury the show. Ms. Smith is a painter of contemporary landscapes that often blur the distinctions between realism and abstraction. Her paintings have received over 70 regional, national, and international awards, and she has written articles and juried for the *Pastel Journal* and *The Artists Magazine*.

The library will not take a commission from sales.

News From Our Members:

Claudia Spainhour is our Sunshine Chair this year. The Sunshine Chair sends cards to welcome new members and to members who are ill or have a death of a spouse or child. Please let Claudia know of anyone who is going through these situations so she can send a card from the Society.

Marti Evans received notification that she is now an Associate Member of the Pastel Society of America. She writes "I'm honored and excited to reach this goal. I also have an official website! Find me at martievansart.com or link from my social media. I'm slow with technology so this is also a goal reached. Thanks!"

Our Joint show with the Ozark Pastel Society will be in July. This is a reminder to get creating. More details to follow. A reminder to everyone, this is a new responsibility for me and I look forward to your help making our summer show a success. It is at the Thea Gallery in North Little Rock. Thanks, **Jody Miller**

Charles Peer Professional Activities:

The International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS) recognized Charles Peer with the status of Eminent Pastelist in November 2024.

Nov 9 - Charles Peer gave a morning demo and afternoon workshop for the Oklahoma Pastel Society in OK City.

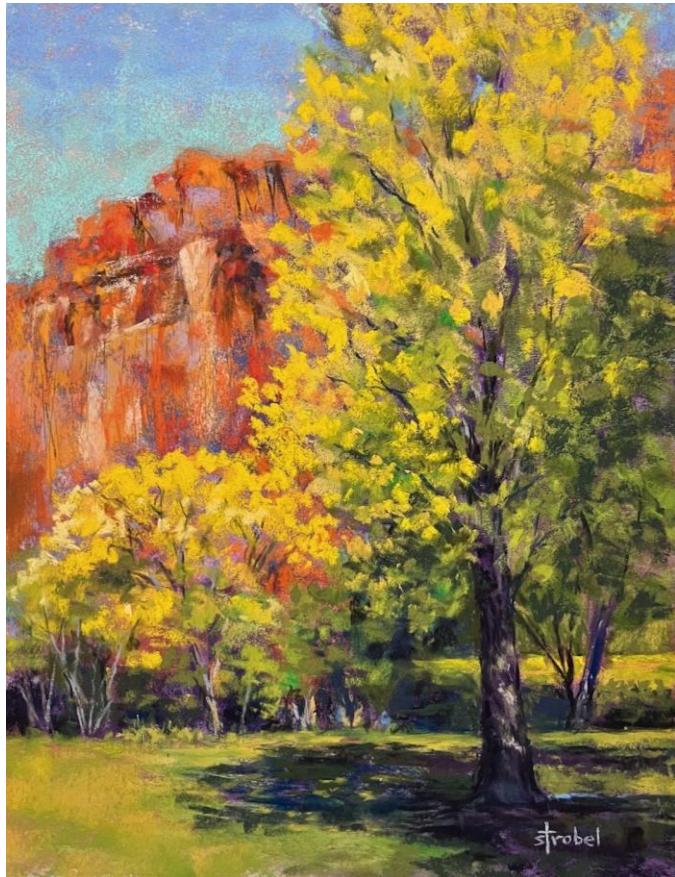
“Evening Crosswalk”, Standing at the Ready” and “Fire of Evening Light”, by Charles Peer, were all accepted into the Pastel Guild of Europe’s Dust Off Online Exhibit in December 2024.

“Evening Crosswalk” was Awarded Best of Show in the Arkansas Pastel Society (APS) Members Exhibit. Nancy King Mertz served as the Juror of Selection and the Judge of Awards.

Deb Meyer received the best of show in the Oakley Lindsey juried exhibition with a pastel of sheep. She also has 2 pieces accepted in the Tall Grass gallery outside of Chicago.



Debbie Strobel got 2 paintings selected for the Pastel Society of Alaska's show: "Show Us Your Finest: A Global Art Showcase." It is an online show. "Overcoming" and "Golden Moment."



CALLS FOR ENTRIES:

2025 IAPS Spring Webshow: The IAPS Exhibition Committee invites you to enter the upcoming Spring Webshow. This exhibition will have Two Divisions - the Open Division and the Master Circle Division. Enter at ShowSubmit.com. Please mail redweberiaps@gmail.com with any questions. Deadline is March 14, 2025.

The Pastel Society of North Carolina is proud to announce our 9th International Online Juried Exhibition Pure Color 2025: Open to soft pastel artists only – and it's completely online! Judge of Selections: Corey Pitkin Key Dates: Online Entry Opening May 5 / Deadline July 7 Notice of Acceptance July 21 Exhibition Dates August 1 thru August 31 Awards: Best in Show \$1500 / 1st \$1000 / 2nd \$800 / 3rd \$600 / 4th \$500 / 6 Honorable Mentions @ \$100 PLUS \$150 Apply & see full prospectus on www.onlinejuriedshow.com.

YMCA of the Rockies: Estes Park Center's Artist in Residence Program is now accepting applications for summer 2025! Painters, musicians, writers, poets, sculptors, photographers, playwrights, and more are encouraged to apply. The program offers a one-month residency at Estes Park Center.

Let the awe-inspiring landscapes of the Rocky Mountains fuel your creativity as you deliver engaging and enriching programming to YMCA guests, all while honing your craft.

Compensation:

- Housing in a spacious 3-bedroom cabin for one month
- 3 meals per day in staff dining hall
- \$1,000 stipend

More information and application here:

<https://ymcaoftherockies.cmail19.com/t/r-l-thpijlk-jthdyukyjk-t/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

March 4, 6:00 – Member Meeting, Zoom only, “Selling Your Artwork”

March 14 – deadline for entries, IAPS Spring Webshow

March 22, 9:00-4:00 – Dennis McCann one-day workshop

April 1, 6:00 – Member Meeting, Susan Hurst, Shirley Anderson, “Entering Shows”

April 14 – APS Board Meeting

May 6, 6:00 – Member Meeting, Clint Howard, “Reflections” - Zoom

June 3, 6:00 – Member Meeting, Dakota Pastels Factory tour - Zoom

July – APS-OPS joint show at THEA

November 21-December 12 – National Show at Argenta Library, North Little Rock

November 18-20 – Colette Odya Smith workshop at Laman Library, NLR. Priority admission to APS member through August 15.

December 6 – Christmas Party and Annual Meeting (tentative date)