



Coachella Valley
Watercolor Society

Brush Up

November 2024

General Meeting: November 11, 2024

6:00 PM, Social. 6:30 General Meeting

at the Joslyn Center

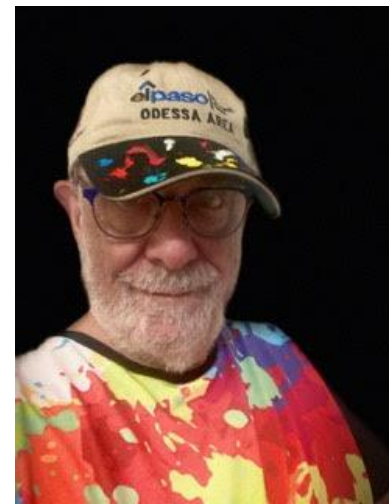
73750 Catalina Way, Palm Desert, CA 92260

Demonstrator: David Lobenberg

David Lobenberg's high level of excellence in figurative/ landscape watercolor and acrylic painting is well recognized by artists and collectors nationwide. He has completed commissioned works for The United States Air Force, Thunderbirds Alumni Association, The Amgen Tour of California, The Sacramento Kings and River Cats, Major League Baseball Players Barry Zito and Nick Swisher, IMAX Corporation, and Sure West Corporation, to name a few.

David has a master's degree in fine arts from UCLA and is an adjunct art professor at Sacramento City College. He teaches year-round art workshops in California and out of state.

His work has been reproduced in American Artist, Southwest Art, and American Art Collector magazines, and Pratique De Art.



<https://www.lobenbergart.com/>

Instagram: @davidlobenberg



President's Message



Bob Hannah, President

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Alleyn Yasskin

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Ian Cooke

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Equipment: John Ressler

Grants: Nancy Rizzardi

Membership:

Connie Collins

Painter of the Month/Year:

Marilyn Blitz

Raffle: Tracy Hartman

Sunshine: Cindy Green

Web Chair: Lance Brechbill

Workshops:

Sue Ober & Traci Davis

The Watercolor Season is officially open with the first General Meeting in the books. We had some wonderful and some quite unusual paintings from the summer Self Portrait challenge as well as some wonderful paintings in the Board Members Only Painter of the Month. Congratulations to all ribbon winners.

Because I teach watercolor classes, I'd like to impart to you some tips and techniques I've found helpful in my own paintings, and these were imparted to me by some world-renowned watercolor artists. Check out Alvaro Castagnet, Joseph Zbukvic, Bev Jozwiak and other great artists. See how they treat their darks and where they position them for maximum effect. I hope you'll find this helpful in your paintings too.

My first and biggest challenge as a teacher is getting my students who don't have years of experience to make their darks DARK enough. Don't be afraid to really push your darks; they can make the lighter areas of your paintings really pop! I find rather than using Lamp Black or Neutral Tint (which when dry looks chalky) to achieve your darks, try mixing Ultramarine Blue and Burnt Umber for your darks. You'll find that the colors stay true, don't lose their hue when dry and will enhance your paintings. Another tip: In landscapes try putting your darkest darks in the middle ground against your lightest light to draw the viewers' attention to your center of interest or focal point.

One of the real benefits we have in our watercolor society is access to world class demonstrators and workshops. A two-for-one opportunity awaits with the atmosphere of encouragement and fun. Which is why we are bringing David Lobenberg to the CVWS. For the first two days he will cover his famous California Vibe Portraiture style. What's really great about this is no real drawing experience is required so beginner through advanced painters can attend this workshop. As an aside, I've taken his workshop, and it truly is one of the most fun I've ever attended—and I've attended many from some of the best in the world. The final two days will feature his On-The-Go Sketching Technique. I know most of us can use more sketching in our lives to both improve our skills and provide many great memories. This is a workshop you don't want to miss. Contact Sue Ober at watertonsue@gmail.com for details.

Keep putting those miles on your brushes,

Bob Hannah

CVWS President

Painter of the Month

1st Place: Bob Hannah



2nd Place: Marilyn Blitz



3rd Place: Connie Zane & Cindy Mason



A venerable CVWS tradition is the competition that takes place each month at our General Meeting

Twelve artist members display their paintings to be judged by the fellow members and to win ribbons. This event gives each meeting a dedicated time for members to learn about the artists and the thoughts behind their work as well as having some fun casting their ballot for their personal favorite. Some important rules and regulations:

- Current Member of CVWS
- Your original work, made within the past 2 years
- Not created in a workshop
- Not shown previously in a CWVS judged show
- Framed paintings, with plexiglass if larger than 16 x 20
- Unframed paintings matted and clear plastic covering or sleeve
- Paintings delivered after 5:30 cannot be included
- Members voting begins at 5:45

Once you have won any ribbon in the Painter of the Month event, do not enter POM again. Your ribbon becomes your ticket to enter the 2024-25 Painter of the Year Event in May at the end of the season. If you are named Painter of the Year, you get to sit out the POM/POY events next year.

There are three ways to enter this confidence-building event:

- Sign up for the next month at the General Meeting POM desk (Best!)
- Email Marilyn Blitz, POM Committee Chair mblitz@gmail.com (deadline Friday before the meeting)
- Call Marilyn 252-381-0993 (same deadline)

2024 SUMMER CHALLENGE

Thank you to all who participated!

Photos courtesy of Terry Simmons & Lance Brechbill

Some CVWS members who shared their self-portraits:



David Howell



Tracy Hartman



Mike Cedeno



Mary Anne Brower



Terry Simmons



Ellen Jean Diederich



Alannah Kern



Bobbie Wilson



Jean Grover



Marilyn Blitz



Alleyn Yasskin

Membership

Welcome to New CVWS Members:

- Sandra Dyer
- Crystal Forsley
- Karen Quest
- Peter V. Davies



We were happy to meet some of our new members at the October CVWS meeting!

From left to right:

Sandra Dyer, Crystal Forsley, Lorna Boa, & Carla Graifer

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

"The Muse" - Submitted by Connie Zane



Muses come in all forms. Mine appeared today in a little spider I met on the windowsill near where I sit and waste time with computer games while I eat breakfast. I noticed a movement to my right and there he was, a tiny little guy with huge front legs and six skinny legs behind. I was studying his body shape when suddenly he leaped forward about two inches. I estimated that to be about 10 times his body length. If I could jump 10 times my height, that would be over 50 feet!

While I was marveling over this he jumped again, but this time he just bonked his head on the window frame and fell backward. It made me laugh and I said out loud, "You're really not so good at this, Kiddo." I was thinking that maybe he was just young and needed more practice. He didn't say anything, but I'm sure he heard me because he swiveled his chunky, little body in my direction. I leaned in closer to see if I could make out all of his multiple eyes. Then I thought, what if he decides to jump on me? That's when his cuteness rating went downhill.

I didn't really want to leave the table. Breakfast wasn't over yet. But a 'Caution' sign flashed somewhere, so I very slowly straightened up and carefully lowered the blind. When I peeked through later, he was gone. But it got me thinking how completely caught up I'd gotten in curiosity and imagination with this simple stimulus. Where is all that creative thought when I sit down to paint? I've decided that it comes from the unexpected: that serendipity moment or event that takes us by surprise. I cycle back again to the idea of not having expectations. When I am too planned, too careful, about what I'm working on, it rarely pans out. When I shoot from the hip in art (at least some of the time) good things can happen. Thank you, Mr. Spider, for the inspiration, and providing me with a subject for drawing in my sketchbook today. Good luck on your jumping skills, and please don't grow much bigger.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU!

Written by Kathy Weyer

Crystal Forsley is a woman beginning her nursing career as well as dipping her toe into watercolor painting with Elaine Trei, one of our members.

Crystal grew up in Twentynine Palms and now lives in Cathedral City with her husband of six years, two cats and a senior dog. She has been in the valley over twenty years and just graduated with a master's degree in Infomatics last March. (This reporter learned Infomatics combines science and nursing to improve nursing skills and patient outcome.)

After working at her art for about a year, she has produced several pieces she is proud of and looks forward to contributing to the Painter of the Month program from time to time. She wants to keep practicing her art along with the new skill of knitting (and a practiced one of baking) and picking up an old skill of sketching once again.

Welcome, Crystal!



Carla Graifer moved here fifteen days ago as of this writing from New Jersey to be close to family. After arranging for house and life management necessities, her first priority was to find the watercolor society.

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Carla comes from New Jersey, where she and her husband of 50 years had a wholesale food business for health foods; she ultimately sold the business to Whole Foods and became a research and development officer for them for vegetarian and vegan foods. She is a certified cheese professional and still works with cheeses and wine pairings.

>

Art took a back seat for a while, but she was very involved in the Princeton Art Guild and other art organizations with an impressive history. She bounces from oil painting to watercolor, using each as a palette cleanser for the other. She has taught art classes in the past and hopes to be teaching soon here in the valley. Since moving here, she is focusing on her art and looks forward to making new friends and enjoying our valley. She lives in Shadow Hills and, after the last box is unpacked, will be looking for new pets to settle in.

Welcome, Carla!

Workshops

David Lobenberg will be here November 12 - 15, 2024 ... DON'T MISS IT!

This 4-day workshop will feature his California Vibe style with 2 days of portraiture work and 2 days of line and wash instruction. There are still a few seats left. Don't let this one pass you by. David is a seasoned instructor and his past workshop for the Coachella Valley Watercolor Society was sold out. Give yourself a break before the holidays with this 4-day workshop.... Better yet, sign up with a friend!

November 12-15, 2024

David Lobenberg joins us here in the desert for 4 days of exciting learning!

The first two days will be "California Vibe Watercolor Portraiture"

...and the final two days we will get the brushes wet with "On the Go Ink and Splash".

This 4-day workshop will be held in Palm Desert, California at the Best Western Hotel.

\$550.00 for members
\$600.00 for non-members

Please proceed to CVWS.org to register.

David Lobenberg Watercolor Portraiture

In this new California Vibe Watercolor Portraiture™ workshop style, David teaches the art of integrating energetic, gestural line work with energized hues of color (including the use of colored chalk markers). And like in past workshops, absolutely no drawing experience is necessary. Both beginner and more advanced artists can attend the workshop.



[See his art on Pinterest, Instagram, & Facebook](#)

CALIFORNIA VIBE
WATERCOLOR PORTRAITURE AND
LANDSCAPE™

*Meandering
Line and Wash*

No drawing skills needed. Learn my photo/tracing technique to create eye catching portraits and landscapes. We will integrate meandering black line work with bright expressive chalk marker and watercolor washes. Follow me step-by-step as you learn this stunning style with two different subjects!



Workshops, continued

Stella Canfield is booked for February 2025. Stella is another artist returning to the desert. I personally was able to take her workshop then and it was fantastic. Her energy is very contagious. Her workshops are fast paced and loaded with humorous stories of her amazing experiences here and abroad. This Watercolor Magic workshop is all about you and developing your process. Again, her previous workshop here was very well attended. (I have purposely left the dates for this workshop out. I would very much like you to visit our website for this information and view the bios, artwork and videos that have been provided.) www.CVWS.org

Thanks and see you all soon, Susan Ober - Workshop Volunteer watertonsue@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 2025!

We are very excited to welcome back Stella Canfield to the desert for a 3-day workshop. Stella will present her signature style with this "Watercolor Magic" workshop.

Fast paced morning demos lead into "getting into your zone" of hard work and fun.

Join us for Stella's great humor and amazing experiences in February.

Stella Canfield



*"Dedicated to YOU
& YOUR process"*

www.facebook.com/stella.canfield

[@instagram.com/stellacanfield](https://www.instagram.com/stellacanfield)

A watercolor workshop with Stella is all about YOU! Stella will help you to develop your own creative process and guide you to finish a painting every day (if not two). From sketching to design, color, light and techniques until applying emotion, brush strokes, and final touches, Stella will be there for you through out the entire day, making sure you feel comfortable and confident with your process....

Let It Flow

Stella is a working artist, mother of four and a friend, active member of society and a volunteer, keeping up with life on two continents, America and Europe. Her energy is contagious and her passion for life and art is admirable.

There are no limits to creation!

Stella teaches watercolor, juries and participates in exhibits initiated by art organizations in the USA, Europe and Asia. She has received many international awards for her work. Her paintings are in several private, corporate and museum collections in America, Europe and Asia. She is an Official Brand Ambassador of Daniel Smith, USA president of IWS California and a Representative of the USA for UrbinoInAcquerello, Italy.

Contact us at: www.CVWS.org

News



CVWS DONATIONS

Submitted by Cindy Mason

Did you know that CVWS gladly accepts monetary donations, and they are tax deductible? It's true and always most welcome! Our society has multiple streams of income, from Membership Dues, Annual Show Entries and Sales, Raffles, Guest Fees and Workshops. Unfortunately, our expenses are also very high, so our margin of profit is quite low. The CVWS Board of Directors is in the process of expanding the website to include a donation link on the homepage. This link will be available to the public as well as the members. The Donor can choose to be anonymous, or not, and will be able to choose the category they wish to support, i.e., Annual Show, General Fund, Grants to children's art programs, and in memorial. When you donate, you will receive a personal Thank You note in the U.S. Mail. In January you will receive a formal letter with our Non-Profit Tax ID information for your tax preparation records. We will keep you informed when we can accept donations on the website, but in the meantime, donations can only be accepted by check. SEND TO: CVWS, P.O. Box 565, Palm Desert, CA 92261

Since the beginning of our season (July 1, 2024) we have already received three donations for a total of \$250. We're definitely starting off on the right foot!

CVWS Annual Show 2025

Submitted by Ian Cooke

Although the Annual Show is not until March 2025, we are working in the background to ensure the show runs smoothly. The show runs on the generous help of volunteers, and your participation is valued. We will shortly be sending round sign-up sheets at a General Meeting, but if you want to offer help or ask a question about helping contact MaryAnne 760 331 3576 or mabrower43@gmail.com. *In particular, we need people to assist with advertising by distributing 2500 colorful cards after Christmas - taking a pack to local hotels, restaurants and clubhouses. Anywhere you can leave them for pick up!*

We have met with webmaster Lance Brechbill to see his newly designed system for entering the show. It is much simpler than in the past (it will ask for less information), and he has linked the show entries to our membership database. The basic Prospectus with dates and information is on the home page of the website and the rules will follow shortly. The entry form will be added after Christmas. If you are not a member you cannot enter – so join!

As you paint and think about entries for the show we remind you about the new emphasis for bin paintings. Don't consider it as a place to dump all your work that hasn't sold. Think of it as somewhere you can show and sell good paintings, just without a frame. The price can reflect this. Bin items must be priced at \$95 or more. Mini Masterpieces must also be \$95 or more and framed artwork \$150 or more. If you try and price below this, the system will reject it. Many of us like to paint BIG but think of the bins as places to put ¼ sheet paintings conceived and painted specially for that! Wouldn't it be great if the bins were sold out by Sunday afternoon!

Any queries or offers of help to iancooke49@gmail.com or mabrower43@gmail.com

Kudos



Mona Kadah was selected to be in the juried 45th annual "Art, For Heaven's Sake" show in Redlands, Friday October 18 till Sunday October 20.

<https://artforheavenssake.org/mona-kadaha/>

Two of Veronique Branger's paintings have been accepted at the Anza Borrego Art Institute for "The Art of Flora & Fauna" group Art Exhibit. The show runs from October 5 to November 3, 2024, so she invites you to stop by!

Email: v_branger@yahoo.com
veroniquebrangerfineart.com



Allyne Yaskin received a jurors award at the Artist Council "Colors" show.

She is an award-winning contemporary artist originally from Portland OR who now resides in Palm Desert CA. She primarily works in mixed media using acrylic, collage, pastels and mark making tools along with watercolors.

"I believe that art has the ability to influence our state of being. Each painting will tell its own story and I strive to bring the viewer an experience that will evoke their own impressions and interpretations. Lately my work is focused on hope as I try to convey those emotions that can't be found with words"

The act of creation is a place where we can both lose ourselves and find ourselves...often at the same time. For me it feels like an inner home...a place I retreat to, find comfort in...and trust with all my being. There is nowhere else like it and no better friend.

-- Trayci Tompkins, UK Artist

Odds & Ends

Follow CVWS on social media!



Instagram
@Coachella Valley Watercolor



Facebook
Coachella Valley Watercolor Society



*If you hear of someone who needs a bit of cheer or support, please contact
Cindy Green, Sunshine Chair at (425) 765-9509 or cindynwrs@seanet.com*



Editor's Note

If you have a topic or feature that you'd like to see included in the CVWS newsletter, please send an email to:

cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com

Many CVWS members offer excellent painting instruction and classes. Call for information:

Ian Cooke	760 408 3313
Ellen Jean Diederich	701-799-9505
Bob Hannah	206-409-9786
Karin Harris	808-268-0847
Dave Howell	425-319-5858
Moirra Johannessen	760-322-2523
Diane Morgan	760-902-8855
Kathleen Scoggin	503-515-9633
Alicia Siegler	650-207-0585
Kristen Olson Stone	808 469-2092
Connie Zane	775-846-9719



As a service to our CVWS members who enjoy sketching, Terry Simmons has shared this information:

Urban Sketchers Palm Springs (a sanctioned group of the International USK)

Facebook: Urban Sketchers Palm Springs Instagram: @Urbansketcherspalsprings Email: Urbansketcherspalsprings@gmail.com

Send an email to be placed on the email sketch meetup list.

Sketch Palm Springs is on Instagram @Sketchpalsprings The sketch meetups are published on an app called Meetup.

(Neither group has a website. There are no dues or formal groups with officers. All are welcome to attend the meetups to sketch.)

Desert Plein Air Association's November 2024 Paint-out Schedule

Monday, November 11th: Must arrive promptly at 8am for access: This is a private ranch...bring your own water, etc.
Lost Creek Canyon Ranch, 12000 Rushmore, Whitewater, CA 92282 www.lostcreekcanyonranch.com

Friday, November 22nd: Meet at 8am in the parking lot for early access, or at will.
Shields Date Garden, 80225 Hwy 111, Indio, CA 92201

Please contact Diane Moore to be added to the Distribution List, to can notify host of your attendance, and to let you know of changes. No membership necessary to paint. Email: desertpleinair@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES Submissions to the newsletter are due on or before the 15th of the month. We are always interested in hearing about any good news you have about your creative life (awards, show acceptances, etc.). cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com