



# Brushstrokes

JANUARY 2025 • Page 1

SWS MEMBER NEWSLETTER

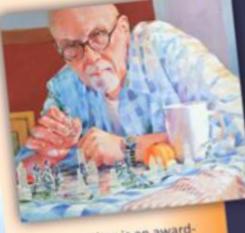
PO Box 10298, Spokane, WA 99209

[www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 3 SWS Board Meeting via Zoom, Monday, 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 9 **SWS National Spring Show Entry Submission CLOSES**
- Feb. 15 In-person SWS General Meeting, Spokane Art Supply, Saturday, 10 a.m. DEMO—Watercolor Framing Tips & Tricks with Margo Sety (see pg. 2)
- Feb. 21 National Show Acceptance Notification by e-mail
- Mar. 3 SWS Board Meeting via Zoom, Monday, 4:00 p.m.
- Mar. 15 In-Person SWS General Meeting, Spokane Art Supply, Saturday, 10 a.m. Digital Composition DEMO by **Andy Sewell** of Moscow
- Mar. 31 Hand Deliver accepted paintings to The MAC, 10:00 a.m. to noon
- Apr. 3—**SWS National Watercolor Show**, The MAC, Helen S Alexander Gallery Awards Reception, Sunday, April 13, 1:00-3:00 p.m. with Michael Holter
- May 4
- Apr. 10-12 Michael Holter Workshop, Spokane Art Supply, 9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

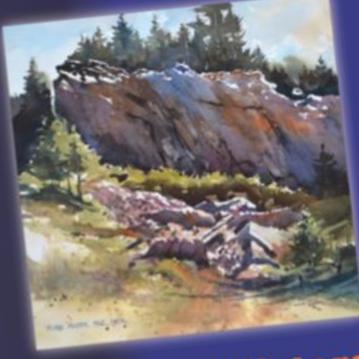
**Challenge PAINTING**  
**FEBRUARY 15**  
**GLAZING**  
**TECHNIQUE**  
(or what's on your easel)  
SUBJECT OF YOUR CHOICE



Michael Holter is an award-winning artist who works in watercolor and oil. His paintings can be found in private and corporate collections in the US and several foreign countries. Although Michael has been painting most of his life, his work experience spans a wide range of creative challenges. He has been an art teacher, creative director and businessman in both fine art and commercial art. Michael has owned and operated galleries and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Art Education and an MA in Visual Communication.

Michael is a member of the Salmagundi Club, a signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, the American Impressionist Society, the Watercolor Honor Society, the Transparent Watercolor Society of America, the Outdoor Painters Society, the Southwestern Watercolor Society, the Missouri Watercolor Society, the Society of Watercolor Artists and more.

**Spokane Watercolor Society presents:**  
**A workshop with**  
**Michael Holter**  
AWS, NWS, AIS, TWSA, SWS



**Landscape in Watercolor**  
**April 10 - 12**

Early SWS member registration:  
(through Jan. 19) \$400  
On Jan. 20, registration  
opens to all: \$500

9:30 to 4:30  
at Spokane Art Supply

For registration and  
more information:  
[www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org)

**SPOKANE Watercolor SOCIETY**

Open Registration is now on!  
There are **only a few spots left** in this fabulous 3-day workshop.  
**Register today** so you don't miss this exciting opportunity.

## WHAT IS "GLAZING"?

Glazing, or Layering is a technique in watercolor that involves **applying thin, transparent layers of paint over dry layers**. This lets the color underneath show through, creating depth, luminosity, color harmony and muting of bright colors.

## TIPS...

- Use a large soft brush and **keep brush strokes gentle and to a minimum**.
- **Start with pale glazes** as it is easier to darken rather than lighten.

**BRING YOUR CHALLENGE PAINTINGS TO THE SWS GENERAL MEETING!**

**REGISTER AT [www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org)**



# Your 2025 Board of Directors



Trish Taylor

Sue Rohrback

Kim Gardell, President

Dan Eacret,  
Vice President

Tom Bauer, Secretary

Judy Beamer,  
Treasurer

Kathi Eckerich

Margo Sety

Valerie Woelk

## february demo

Margo Sety

### Step by Step Framing

at the SWS General Meeting

Saturday, February 15, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Spokane Art Supply, 1303 N. Monroe Street, Spokane

Margo will take us from start to finish on framing a professional show-ready piece, including cutting and measuring a bevel mat and backing board, attaching the layers together with acid-free materials, and assembling the final framed piece. She will also tell you what materials you will need, and troubleshoot along the way through the whole process. This will be an invaluable demo that will help and guide you in getting your pieces ready for the upcoming shows. There will be a "hands-on" option to try cutting your own mat—details forthcoming!

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Are you having a show, class or workshop, would just like to share a new technique, or even run a classified for art supplies/equipment to sell or buy??

SWS members can share it in Brushstrokes! Log on to the SWS website at [www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org), and download the newsletter information sheet. Fill it out and email it as per the instructions and we will make every effort to include it in the newsletter.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Mary Jett, Moscow, ID  
James Sullivan, Spirit Lake, ID  
Jeff Painter, Spokane, WA  
Kendall Boren, Spokane, WA



## YOUR PRIVACY IS IMPORTANT to Spokane Watercolor Society!

Your contact information is included in our roster, so that members can contact each other. This is only accessible by logging on to [www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org) with your user name and password, under the heading "MY SWS". If you DO NOT want your contact information on this roster, please contact: [swspresident1@gmail.com](mailto:swspresident1@gmail.com).



JANUARY 2025 • page 3

# Challenge Paintings Salt & Splatter



AARON won the \$15 Gift Certificate to Spokane Art Supply! Congratulations!

The January meeting was split with members zooming from home, while others gathered at Spokane Art Supply and zoomed from there. This seems to be working out well, with just a few glitches that Margot promptly solved.

## January Meeting Highlights

Several guests to the meeting were introduced and we hope to welcome them as members soon! Valerie gave an update on the Michael Holter Workshop, sharing some of his wonderful and varied work. She also mentioned how easy and relaxed he was in conversation, so she expects this workshop to be fun, relaxed and also very informative.

A reminder that the deadline to enter the National Show is February 9 on ArtCAfe, and if you submit two pieces, they should be entered at the same time. Look for the members' discount code in your emails.

Craig from Spokane Art Supply had a few announcements including a big thank you for the gift SWS gave them in appreciation of all they do for us. Sue led the discussion for the Challenge Paintings. On to the demo!

If you missed DAVID R. SMITH'S DEMO during the January SWS meeting, you can watch it (or rewatch it) on the SWS website at [www.spokanewatercolor.org](http://www.spokanewatercolor.org)!



THE SWS WEBSITE IS BEING UPDATED SO PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR EMAILS AND NEWSLETTER FOR THE LATEST INFO!

## Jan. Demo Notes

### David R. Smith

Captured us with his engaging presence, friendly interaction, and of course, his Bob Ross hat. He worked on 140 lb. rough Fabriano Artistico. He made "half marks" on his drawing, found reference points, & established the vanishing point from which his one-point perspective radiated. He also sketched a smaller "value study", which is a very important part of his process. He works from his own photos, both a color and B&W. Paper is not taped down but both sides are moistened to prevent buckling and puddling. There are three basic values—lights, mids and darks. He started by laying in the lights, or "toning". He used Escoda Perla brushes that come to a sharp point—one in good condition, and one old he uses for blending and softening edges. He generally prefers using the white of the paper, with a few exceptions of final details. He moves his board between a 5-10 degree incline and wipes the back of the paper as he lets each layer dry (this prevents unwanted blooms). The paint consistency is also important for each layer, starting from a "tea" to "coffee" to "milk". When he is ready for the mid tones, he goes to his value study and paints with B/W, picking out shapes and values, using that as a rough draft before working on the large painting. He does this with the dark tones as well. David uses negative painting to define shapes (this is the area around the objects). IT IS IMPORTANT TO: use colors that are in the same value range you are painting, remember that high contrast & hard edges draw the eye, have a good variety of textures using dry brushing, splattering, sponges, and let the medium work its magic.

# Brushstrokes



"Life is like a 'watercolor'—you never know what you're gonna get"—he swears that is what Forrest actually said.



## Out & About & UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

**SPOKANE ART SCHOOL** 503 E. Second Ave, Suite B, Spokane

**THEN AND NOW:** Karen Kaiser—Friday February 7, 2025, First Friday Opening, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

**SPRING CLASS PROPOSALS—DEADLINE Feb. 10, 2025**

Spokane Art School is looking for local artists who would like to teach at the school in general, and specifically for their upcoming Spring Session coming up April 28—June 8, 2025.

For info, contact them at:

[www.spokaneartschool.net](http://www.spokaneartschool.net) (509) 325-1500

**ART ON THE GREEN POSTER CONTEST**

**DEADLINE MARCH 17, 2025**

For more information and details, see their website below...

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

**TRAILS END GALLERY**, 204 E. Main Ave., Chewelah, WA

**CHEWELAH WINTERFEST—Feb. 6—April 4, 2025**

A juried exhibition promoting arts & culture in Chewelah, (509) 936-9181 [trailsendgallery@yahoo.com](mailto:trailsendgallery@yahoo.com)

**JUNDT ART MUSEUM**, 200 E. Desmet Ave., Spokane, WA

**ART U.S.A.—now thru May 10, 10-4, Monday—Saturday**

A brand new exhibition that features 100 works by as many artists from that momentous period of American History between 1925 and 1950 encompassing the Great Depression and The New Deal programs including the WPA.

(509) 313-6843 [www.gonzaga.edu](http://www.gonzaga.edu)

**UMPQUA VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION**, Roseburg, Oregon

**2025 ARTWORKS NORTHWEST BIENNIAL**

**DEADLINE MARCH 28, 2025**

A juried invitational for artists who reside in the Pacific Northwest. Curator is Charlene Liu. Submissions on ArtCAfe. Exhibition dates are June 6—August 15, 2025.

For more information and details, see their website below...

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

**SPOKANE ARTS GRANT AWARDS (SAGA)**

**GRANTS FOR ARTISTS, BUSINESSES AND ORGS.**

**DEADLINES: February 1, June 1 and October 1, 2025**

Their goal is simple: to serve as a catalyst, fostering a robust, healthy arts community where individual artists, creative industries and nonprofit arts and culture organizations thrive.

For more information and application details, see their website: [www.spokanearts.org](http://www.spokanearts.org) (509) 321-9614

If you enjoyed David's demo, he is holding a workshop at <https://www.dsmithfineart.com/page/42572/january-zoom-workshop>. If anyone is interested in purchasing the demo (\$300), you can e-mail him at [david@dsmithfineart.com](mailto:david@dsmithfineart.com).

And, you can check out David's work and available demos at [www.dsmithfineart.com](http://www.dsmithfineart.com). THANK YOU DAVID!

