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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 6** SWS Board Meeting, **IN PERSON**, 10:00 a.m., Thomas Hammer Café, Grand Blvd., Spokane—Regroup for the coming year with personal tutorials in Google Drive—**BRING YOUR LAPTOP**
- Mar. 8** *Daylight Savings Time begins!*
- Mar. 17** *Happy St. Patrick's Day!*
- Mar. 18** Men's Breakfast, Molly's Café, 224 S. Lincoln Street, Spokane, **WEDNESDAY**, 9:00 a.m.
- Mar. 21** SWS Gen. Meeting—**IN PERSON** at Spokane Art Supply, Saturday, 10-12, **Pigments Demo with Benny Fountain—see pg. 3**
- April 5** *Happy Easter!*
- April 7** Deliver accepted paintings to The MAC for National Show, Gilkey Room, 2316 W. 1st Ave., Spokane, Tuesday, 10-11:30 am
- April 9-11** SWS National Workshop with David R. Smith, at Spokane Art Supply, 1303 N. Monroe, Spokane—**9:30-4:30—REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**
- April 13** Deadline for submission of work by invited artists for the Leadership Exhibit in June at Liberty Gallery
- April 15** Men's Breakfast, Molly's Café, 224 S. Lincoln Street, Spokane, **WEDNESDAY**, 9:00 a.m.



Challenge
PAINTING

**MARCH
Perspective**

(or what's on your easel)
SUBJECT OF YOUR CHOICE



**SEE PG. 2
FOR TIPS ON
MARCH CHALLENGE!**

**REGISTER NOW--
only 4 spots left!**

Fresh and Exciting Watercolors

Join David on a Watercolor Journey, learning the most valuable watercolor concepts and techniques. This workshop will save you countless hours of trial & error by demonstrating approaches in an easily understood manner that will open new doors of discovery and creativity. Participants will be provided reference photos, drawing guides, and step-by-step instruction through all stages of the painting process. The workshop is packed with demos and guided practice. Regardless of your level of experience, you're almost guaranteed to leave with a handsome work of art, and the skills, concepts, and confidence to take your paintings to a higher level. David will demonstrate a wide variety of approaches and techniques including how to link shapes in a composition based on values, learning about edge quality of shapes, the importance of different consistencies of paint, and the different moisture qualities of paper, as well as how to work "wet-on-wet," and incorporate "spattering" and "spraying," – concepts and approaches that will keep your paintings fresh with exciting blends and textures and keep you inspired and eager to explore your new watercolor capabilities long into the future.



with *David R. Smith*
AWS, NWS, TWSA



April 9, 10, 11
9:30 to 4:30

in-person at
Spokane Art Supply

SWS members: \$395
non-members: \$495

Registration opens
January 1

For registration and
more information:

www.spokanewatercolor.org



See pg. 4 for the list of accepted artists/
paintings for the 2026 SWS National Show.

30 paintings were accepted from 75
entries/52 artists which included
entries from 12 states. You can also see the list
on the website under "Events".



It is also time to start thinking about **volunteering for DOCENT DUTIES** at The MAC for our National Show. Docents will be needed from May 8 to June 14 (excluding Mondays). Valerie Woelk agreed to be the docent manager, and sign-up will be available through SIGN-UP GENIUS and the SWS Website. *More details forthcoming.*

Brushstrokes

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March Challenge Tips

By Susan Schmidt

PERSPECTIVE is a way of creating the illusion of space, depth and scale in an artwork. It gives objects the appearance of receding into the distance, creating a realistic representation. Perspective can be achieved by manipulating the size and placement of objects within an image to create a sense of three-dimensional space. This enhances viewer engagement by drawing them into the painting, creating a more immersive experience.

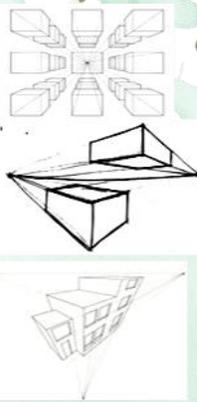
1. LINEAR PERSPECTIVE

Parallel lines converge as they recede into the distance toward one or more vanishing points on the horizon line. It has several forms:

One-Point Perspective: All lines converge toward a single vanishing point. Commonly used in scenes viewed straight-on, like hallways or roads.

Two-Point Perspective: Lines converge toward two vanishing points, typically on the horizon line. Used for corner views of buildings or streets.

Three-Point Perspective: Adds a third vanishing point above or below the horizon to depict tall structures or dramatic angles, creating a sense of height or depth.



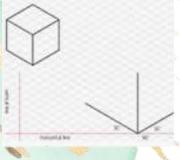
2. ATMOSPHERIC (AERIAL) PERSPECTIVE

Atmospheric perspective creates depth through changes in color, value, and clarity rather than lines. Objects farther away appear lighter, less detailed, and with a bluish or faded tone due to the scattering of light in the atmosphere. This technique is widely used in landscapes to convey distance.

Feature	Foreground	Middle Ground	Background
Color Saturation	Rich, vivid colors	Mod. Muted	Pale, desaturated, often bluish or gray
Value (lightness)	Darker and stronger contrast	Medium contrast	Light, lower contrast
Detail, texture	Sharp, defined	Less detailed	Soft, blurred, minimal detail
Edges	Crisp, well defined	Moderate	Fuzzy, blended, indirect
Scale and Size	Larger elements	Medium sized	Smaller, implying distance
Temperature (color hue)	Warmer tones	Balanced	Cooler tones (blues, greens)

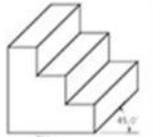
3. ISOMETRIC PERSPECTIVE

Isometric perspective is a form of parallel perspective where lines remain parallel instead of converging. Objects are drawn at equal angles, typically 30° from the horizontal, maintaining scale without distortion. This method is common in technical and architectural drawings, as well as video game design.



4. OBLIQUE PERSPECTIVE

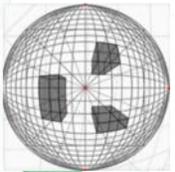
Oblique perspective shows objects at an angle to the picture plane, often combining a front view with a receding side view drawn at an angle, usually 45°. Unlike linear perspective, it doesn't converge at vanishing points. It is mostly used in cubist or stylized art.



5. OTHER ARTISTIC VARIATIONS

Curvilinear or Fish-eye Perspective: Uses curved lines to create a wide, panoramic, or exaggerated sense of space.

Reverse Perspective: The vanishing points are positioned in front of the viewer, making objects appear to expand instead of contract, often seen in medieval or Byzantine art.



EXAMPLE
Among the Sierra Nevada Mountains, CA
 by Albert Bierstadt
 showing his expertise in creating depth using light and atmospheric effects.

www.finearttutorials.com/guide/perspective-art

You can bring your paintings to the March 21 meeting, AND please upload them onto the website by Thursday March 19. This will ensure that clean images of your work will be presented on the website, and newsletter.

Please see pg. 3 for uploading instructions.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

SWS NEW WEBSITE

Thanks to the tireless efforts of the AD-HOC Committee, they found an individual to renovate and streamline our website to make it more functional in a user-friendly format. Please see page 3 for procedures to help us learn and navigate through the new format.



Did you know that SWS has a public Facebook and Instagram page now? Please follow us and share our posts with your friends.

INSTAGRAM [spokane_watercolor_society](https://www.instagram.com/spokane_watercolor_society)
FACEBOOK Spokane Watercolor Society

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 with your user name and password, under the heading "MY Account". If you DO NOT want your contact information on this roster, please contact: vpres@spokanewatercolor.org.

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March Demo Artist Exploring Pigments with Benny Fountain

Website Tips with Carrie

www.spokanewatercolor.org



at the
SWS General Meeting
Saturday, March 21
10 am. to 12pm
Spokane Art Supply
1303 N. Monroe,
Spokane

Benny was born in Moscow, ID in the middle of The Palouse, and is based in Spokane, WA where he teaches painting at Whitworth University. Benny's work has been featured in numerous national and international venues such as the Royal Scottish Academy of Art, where he was awarded the Meyer Oppenheim prize; The Drawing Center, The Bowery, and First Street Gallery in New York, as well as having eight solo shows with Froelick Gallery in Portland.

He is drawn to the Palouse where he feels each season brings chromatic displays that presses his attention to the full orchestration of color.

Benny's demo will be very interesting...
learn about his artistic journey, pigment colors and how he creates his own pigments.
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

By invitation only, we are having an **SWS Leadership Show at Liberty Gallery** this June!

Come and support your hardworking volunteers! Valerie W. is chairing this show—**more details coming soon.**



VIEWING CHALLENGE PDFS

HERE ARE THE STEPS INVOLVED:

- Log on to www.spokanewatercolor.org AND log in to your account
- Click on the **Meetings & Programs** button
- Click on **Monthly Challenge Archive**
- Choose **Current Challenge** to bring up the pdf of the challenge for next month's meeting OR directly below, the **submission form for uploading your current challenge paintings** will appear
- On the right side, **click on any month** to see the pdf of the challenge subject for that time period

VIEWING CHALLENGE PAINTINGS

- Log on to www.spokanewatercolor.org AND log in to your account
- Click on the **Meetings & Programs** button
- Click on **Monthly Challenge Slideshows**
- Click on **Month/Year** you want to view

You will be able to see a pdf of all the **Challenge Paintings** and subjects for that meeting date.

HOW TO UPLOAD CHALLENGES

Please bring your Challenge Paintings to in-person meetings, but also we request you **upload them** so that we have clean images to use on the website and newsletter. **Please upload by the Thursday before the general meeting.**

- Log in to your account at www.spokanewatercolor.org
- Hit the **My Account Button** on the right of Menu
- Click on **"Meetings and Programs"**
- Click on **"View and Submit Current Challenge"** (images should be clean and cropped to show the painting only), **FORMAT** should be in **JPEG or PNG**, **maximum size of 4 mb**
- Type in the requested information with the uploaded photos and click **"Submit"**

Congratulations to all the artists who were accepted into the 2026 SWS National Juried Show!

Jeanne Anderson
Peony Queens

Tom Bauer
*Thirty Feet and Three
 Hundred Knots*

Susan Burke
*Singing in the Rain
 The Apple of My Eye*

Erin Cassetto
*Western Painted Turtle
 Standing Guard*

Gloria Fox
China Town, San Francisco

Katie Frey
Tao Te Frog

Kim Gardell
Glorious Luby Bay

Joy Gruenewald
She Arose to a New Day

Patricia Hagney
*Dahlias and Zinnias from
 My Garden*

John James
Finding Meaning

Sumin Joo
Horseback Stable

Robert Kerr
Rocky and Gabe

Kelly Knouff-Burk
Just for Fun

Rebecca Latham
*Timeless Refuge—
 American Kestrels*

Tess Myers
Pomona

Bill Okazaki
Before the Storm

Lori Patrick
*Sitting Pretty!
 Quiet Bearing*

Sue Rohrback
Settled In

Jan Ross
*The End of the
 Bonnie Lass*

Trish Taylor
The Lichening

Deepa Thomas
Harmony

Beth Trott
*Autumn Construction
 Social Hour with Mimi*

Elena Von Derau
Eyass in the Eyrie

Betsy Ward
*Geese on Notice
 Dappled*

Valerie Woelk
Journey's End B0126

FEBRUARY DEMO NOTES



Shelly Haas, one of our members, helped us get in tune with our inner artist while painting a still life. Shelly worked as an illustrator, before offering art classes. She had several autistic students and so her journey began to understand

the best ways to unlock their inner potential using SENSORY PROCESSING INTEGRATION. Shel believes that painting from life gives a far more

complete experience than using photos. Because your senses are activated by a 3-D object and environment, you are able to know and feel your subject matter faster and more completely. With a flat photo, the brain function from

sight to motor skills revolves in a circular motion, while a 3-dimensional subject works the brain in a figure 8 pattern, permeating more deeply. Shel led us through a few pre-painting exercises including moving two fingers in a figure 8 pattern as you follow them with your eyes only, and a "double

doodle" where you use both hands to make a mirror image sketch. You can also enhance your sensory experience by taking a walk first, drinking water, using fragrant oils, or adding sound like a seashell or tuning fork. Starting with a water soluble pen to sketch

out your subject allows you more freedom, and observe your subject more than your paper. PAINT IT LIKE NO ONE ELSE WILL EVERY SEE IT. After going through these exercises, A HUSH FELL OVER THE ROOM as members were deeply in tune with their subjects and painting process. Thank you Shel—it was very enlightening!



February Meeting Highlights

February's meeting at Spokane Art Supply was a **FULL HOUSE**, as fellow members caught up before the meeting. **Terese** led the meeting with the latest news, **Carrie** reviewed the steps for uploading Challenge paintings on the website, **Lori** gave an overview of the volunteer positions needed (which include Chairs for the 2027 shows/workshop), and **Tom** gave us an update for the National Show. **Sue R.** informed us of the Centerplace Exhibit opportunities in Spokane Valley and **Valerie** gave a few details about the upcoming Leadership Exhibit at Liberty Gallery this June. **Susan S.** led the Challenge Painting discussions, which included a slideshow of uploaded challenges along with members who brought theirs to the meeting. After all the business was taken care of, **Shei Haas** gave us an enlightening demo to which almost all in attendance participated. Here is **Shei's list of books** that she suggested to learn more...



New member Andrew (right)

Jan / Feb Challenges

- The Fabric of Autism*
by Judith Bluestone
- The Brain That Changes Itself*
by Norman Doige & Jill Bolte Taylor
- Driven to Distraction: Recognizing and coping with Attention Deficit Disorder from Childhood through Adulthood*
Edward M. Hallowell, MD & John Ratey, MD.
- Too Loud Too Bright Too Fast Too Tight*
by Sharon Heller



To see ALL of the Challenge Paintings on the website, follow the instructions on page 3.

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SPRING CLASSES BY SUE ROHRBACK

at Spokane Art School, 503 E. 2nd Ave., Suite B, Spokane (509) 325-1500, spokaneartschool@gmail.com

March 11, 18 & 25, Wednesdays, 1-4 pm Sketching in Pen and Ink

Learn to describe volume, values and details in pen and ink (and brush).

April 15 & 22, Wednesdays, 1-4 pm Sketching in Sepia

Sepia is an excellent medium for many textures in nature, and works much like watercolor.

CONTACT SUE OR THE ART SCHOOL FOR MORE INFO

May 6, 13 & 20, Wednesdays, 1-4 pm Sketching on Toned Paper

Learn how to use the value of the paper to your advantage with pencils, graphite and white.

March 13, 20 & 27, April 17 & 24, May 8, 15 & 22 FRIDAYS, 1-4 pm

Open Art—Multimedia

Bring your art projects, problem paintings, and supplies and get personal coaching and art insights.

Palouse Watercolor Socius

Valley Arts Center



Exhibition

**3-28
 MARCH 2026**

**OPENING RECEPTION
 MARCH 6, 4-7PM
 FREE AND OPEN
 TO THE PUBLIC**

842 6TH STREET
 CLARKSTON, WA



Four of our SWS artists currently have their work on display at Centerplace, now through March 30!

Support our members **Gloria F., Linda S., Valerie W. and Noreen S.** and visit Centerplace to view their amazing paintings before the end of March.

CENTERPLACE EVENT CENTER

2426 N. Discovery Place, Spokane Valley, WA

Sue has procured this exciting exhibition opportunity—these are group shows (community shared exhibits) with no one person featured. **There will be an exclusive show for the Spokane Watercolor Society (see below) but you are invited to participate in any of the other time slots as well, as she does need to fill the space.**

The space is secure, and is located in a main entry for the center, and gets a lot of traffic. The space consists of glass shelves with locking glass fronts. There is room for about 67 works of art, depending on sizes—a limited number of larger pieces can be accommodated. **BOOK PARTICIPATION AND NUMBER OF ARTWORKS AVAILABLE to exhibit with Sue Rohrback.**

Artwork needs to be original, framed nicely and socially acceptable. The artist is responsible for all sales and artwork needs to have a card with the title, and your name and number. You will be responsible for the section allotted to you which means cleaning and dusting before setting up your area.

For more information and to claim your space, please contact:

Sue Rohrback, Exhibit Coordinator
 (509) 990-8441; suerohrback@hotmail.com

2026 SHOW DATES

March 30 (Monday setup 10-12)—**May 18th** (Monday takedown 1-3)

May 18 (Monday setup 1-3)—**July 13** (Monday takedown 1-3)

July 13 (Monday setup 1-3)—**Sept. 21** (Monday takedown 1-3)

EXCLUSIVE SPOKANE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY SHOW

Sept. 21 (Monday setup 1-3)—**Nov. 9** (Monday takedown 10-12)

Landscape Watercolor Workshop

By Becky Gromlich



Thurs March 12 through
 Fri March 13
 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
 At Spokane Art Supply

Becky teaches realistic watercolor through clear, step by step demonstrations and real-time problem solving—supporting students as each painting develops.



Spokane Art School is accepting spring class proposals through March 15. Spring class session is April 13-June 16. Contact them for more information at (509) 325-1500