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## President's Message



Hello August!

I hope you are keeping cool out there. It's swimming weather at my home, with lots of grandkids and sunscreen to go around. I love it!

Previously, I had mused about different types of watermedia and wondered if it had a place in our society. Recently, I was lucky enough to visit an artist's studio who traditionally paints in oils, but had transitioned to painting with gouache for the past year. I was totally prepared to "dislike" her new work. I had been led to believe that the medium was "inferior" and was not transparent and thus ... a no-no. Thus, I never used it. But as I looked at her paintings ... they were stunning! I saw the absolute beauty and versatility of the medium. Maybe I needed to rethink my position, as I instantly wanted to learn how to use it. I then discovered that many well-known artists used gouache in their paintings. Really? Don't believe me... well... check out paintings by Sargent, Turner, Picasso, Klee, Miro ... just to name a few. My point? Would SCVWS accept a painting totally executed in gouache into a show? It is watermedia, so I think so. Do you use it in your art? I'd love to hear about it.

Our August workshop with David Smith is online and he will be teaching students how to paint his unbelievable Dahlia painting. We specifically requested this image to paint and I am enrolled in the workshop. David is a fun instructor who has a wealth of knowledge and takes students step by step through the painting completion. Watch his online demo with us on August 6th, and hopefully you will want to join the workshop.

While we have three remaining workshops this year that still need more signups, we are listing our upcoming lineup for 2024. Registration opens on September 1st.

In closing, I hope you will enter a painting into the "California Color" Fall exhibit at the Saratoga Library and keep those Instagram paintings coming. You are a talented group of painters and we want to see your work!

Air conditioning is my friend.  
Cool wishes,

Susan Jochheim

## calendar



THU	AUGUST 3	Paintsite: Triton Museum Grounds & Gallery, Santa Clara
SUN	AUGUST 6	<b>ONLINE DEMO:</b> David Smith
THU	AUGUST 10	Paintsite: San Francisquito Creek Trail, Palo Alto Baylands
WED	AUGUST 16	<b>DEADLINE</b> for Member Show submission
THU	AUGUST 17	Paintsite: De Anza College, Cupertino
M-W	AUGUST 21-23	<b>WORKSHOP:</b> David Smith
THU	AUGUST 24	Paintsite: Succulent Garden, Castroville
THU	AUGUST 31	NO PAINTSITE

MEMBERSHIP  
INQUIRIES
[membership@scvws.org](mailto:membership@scvws.org)

ANNUAL DUES ARE \$30

BECOME  
A MEMBER

PLEASE CHECK THE SCVWS CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND THE PAINTSITES WEB PAGE FOR LAST MINUTE UPDATES.

## spotlight



*"To me each painting is like a conversation on a chosen subject - a conversation with my friends - paint, paper & brush."*

## Sagnik Biswas

Biswas has always been painting, be it on the walls of his room in childhood, or the perspectives during his architecture degree or even the concept sketches he makes for product design, but none have been art for art's sake. It was only after a visit to the Uffizi Gallery in 2012 that Sagnik was truly fascinated by the possibilities of art and began a more sustained effort in watercolor. If travel has been his inspiration, then the internet was the great enabler. He is almost entirely self-taught from the numerous gems scattered on the internet – Joseph Zbukvic, Viktoria Pricshedko, Myoe Win Aung, Vijay Achrekar, and Andy Evansen are a few whose works he has been following closely. John Singer Sargent, Vincent Van Gogh, and Johannes Vermeer remain his major inspirations. His style can be best described as representational – sometimes bordering on impressionism and sometimes borrowing from realistic abstraction. Sagnik's paintings are like visual travelogues telling stories of people, architecture, and places he has been to and been inspired to paint. To him, a painting is as much a personal memoir as it is a visual communiqué to his audience. Currently, Sagnik lives in Mumbai, India, with his wife and son. [website](#)

## scvws team

President	Susan Jochheim	<a href="mailto:president@scvws.org">president@scvws.org</a>
Finance	Jane Paulson	<a href="mailto:finance@scvws.org">finance@scvws.org</a>
Membership	Karen Smith	<a href="mailto:membership@scvws.org">membership@scvws.org</a>
Exhibits Chair	Susan Butler-Graham	<a href="mailto:exhibits@scvws.org">exhibits@scvws.org</a>
Recording Secretary	Kathy Dolan	<a href="mailto:secretary@scvws.org">secretary@scvws.org</a>
Workshops Chair	Vicki Wilson	<a href="mailto:workshopchairs@scvws.org">workshopchairs@scvws.org</a>
Hospitality	Karen Fitt	<a href="mailto:hospitality@scvws.org">hospitality@scvws.org</a>
Scholarship/Outreach	Karen Druker	<a href="mailto:scholarship@scvws.org">scholarship@scvws.org</a>
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Newsletter Design	Tanvi Buch	<a href="mailto:newsletter@scvws.org">newsletter@scvws.org</a>

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for each month's newsletter is the **15th** of the previous month (i.e. **the deadline for September submissions is August 15**). Content received **after the 15th** will be placed in the following month's newsletter.

**Send items by email to the editor** at [newsletter@scvws.org](mailto:newsletter@scvws.org). Please send **concisely-written** entries as text in an email or in a Word .doc exactly as you want them to appear. Images of artwork or supporting illustrations are required. Do **NOT** send PDF documents or other flyers of pre-formatted information. We may edit for space if necessary.



SUSAN BUTLER-GRAHAM

JUST 2 MORE WEEKS TO SUBMIT YOUR ART!

DEADLINE IS MIDNIGHT ON AUGUST 16

\$30 FOR UP TO 2 ENTRIES

YOUR WORK WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR 2 MONTHS

exhibits

## SUBMISSIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE SCVWS FALL MEMBERS' SHOW

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 16, 2023

INFO/REGISTRATION    PROSPECTUS


California  
Color

SEPTEMBER 1 - OCTOBER 31, 2023

PUBLIC RECEPTION:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023, FROM 2-3.30 P.M.

AT THE SARATOGA LIBRARY

POPPIES IMAGE CREDIT: WES &amp; DOTTY WEBER

1ST PLACE: "CUTE DOG"

CANDY YU



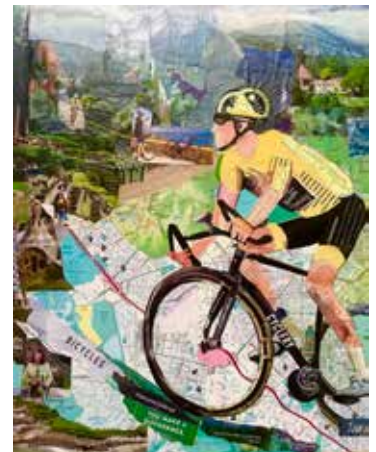
Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society presents  
Members Exhibit at the Los Altos Library

WATERMEDIA  
UNBOUND  
Popular  
Choice  
Awards



2ND PLACE: "RIDE ON"

NANCY TROUP







**SCVWS Members**  
**August Instagram Muse Challenge**

**"Flying High"**  
Optional Challenge Booster - try pattern and repetition in your composition.

**What:**  
Email a painting to [exhibits@scvws.org](mailto:exhibits@scvws.org) for the current month's theme, to be posted and displayed in the SCVWS Instagram gallery. See [www.scvws.org](http://www.scvws.org) Instagram Challenge page for info.

**WIN A PRIZE:**  
A monthly raffle will be held and a \$25 gift certificate will be awarded to one of the participants for that month.

View entries on SCVWS Instagram @scvalleywatercolorssociety, #scvwsaugust2023instagrammusechallenge

**CLICK ON IMAGE FOR DETAILS**

## RULES

- Submission dates: **August 1-31, 2023** (until noon on last day)
- Must be a member to participate
- Create a painting inspired by the current month's theme

## HOW TO SUBMIT

- .jpg file type only - at least 600 x 600 pixels (medium size)
- Ensure the image is clear & cropped - no mats in photo
- Email your image to [exhibits@scvws.org](mailto:exhibits@scvws.org)
- Email subject line: "SCVWS August Instagram Challenge"
- Email body: Type your name, title of piece, size & price
- Your Instagram handle: Include this if you have one.



## to our new members!

**Katia Randleman - Los Altos, CA**  
**Lee A. Crager - Menlo Park, CA**  
**Barbara Kieker - San Jose, CA**  
**Sida Li - San Jose, CA**  
**Dawn Bai - San Jose, CA**  
**Maria Meneses - Camano Island, WA**



## 2023 WORKSHOPS

**Registration and online enrollment are on-going.**

2023 Workshops Details, Supply List & Artist Bio is listed under the Current Workshops tab.  
Enroll [HERE](#). For questions, email: [workshops@scvws.org](mailto:workshops@scvws.org)

Remember to log in first to receive member pricing (as shown) for the workshop.  
It's a fabulous savings and benefit to our members. All enrollment is conducted online.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE FINAL 3 WORKSHOPS OF THE YEAR, PLEASE SIGN UP RIGHT AWAY SO WE DON'T RISK HAVING TO CANCEL THEM.**

### **Instructor/Artist: DAVID SMITH**

"Radiant Dahlia"

Workshop Dates: August 21-23 (3 days)

ONLINE Demo Date: August 6 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*ONLINE\* MEMBER PRICE: \$275**

Instructor website: [www.dsmithfineart.com/about](http://www.dsmithfineart.com/about)

### **Instructor/Artist: CARRIE WALLER**

"Dramatic Watercolor"

Workshop Dates: October 16-18 (3 days)



**UPDATED** ONLINE Demo Date:  
September 24 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*\*IN PERSON\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$429**

Instructor website: [www.carriewallerfineart.com](http://www.carriewallerfineart.com)

### **Instructor/Artist: CAROLYN LORD**

"Plein Air Rose Painting"

Workshop Dates: September 18-20 (3 days)

ONLINE Demo Date: Saturday, September 9  
(1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*\*IN PERSON\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$399**

Instructor website: [www.carolynlord.com](http://www.carolynlord.com)

*Note: This workshop is a working plein-air workshop and the local locations will be announced at the time of the workshop.*

## alla prima

*Alla prima is an Italian phrase that means 'at first attempt.' It refers to a wet-on-wet approach whereby wet paint is applied to previous layers of still-wet paint, often in a single sitting.*

TEXT CREDIT: [WWW.ARTISTSANDILLUSTRATORS.CO.UK](http://WWW.ARTISTSANDILLUSTRATORS.CO.UK)



"KITCHEN IN SUNSHINE" BY CHARLES REID



# 2024 WORKSHOPS

**We are happy to announce our 2024 workshop lineup!**  
**Registration and online enrollment begin on September 1, 2023.**

This year we are mixing up our offerings to include both online and in-person workshops.

Free online Artist demos (without a subsequent workshop) will be offered in June and August to current SCVWS members.

In addition, we have a special "Members Only" 2-day online live workshop with David Lobenberg for a fee of \$20. How great is that?

**For more information about each workshop, see the Current Workshops tab on our website. [ENROLL HERE](#)**

## **Instructor/Artist: LYNN FERRIS**

"Capturing the Light"

Workshop Dates: January 22-24 (3 days)

Demo Date: January 21 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*\*IN-PERSON\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$395**

Instructor website: [www.lynnferris.com](http://www.lynnferris.com)

## **Instructor/Artist: NANCY GRIGSBY**

"Expressing Your Artistic Inner Voice:

A Meaningful & Creative Journey in Mixed Media"

Workshop Dates: April 22-24 (3 days)

Demo Date: Sunday, April 21 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*\*IN PERSON\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$350**

Instructor website: [www.nmgrigsbystudios.com](http://www.nmgrigsbystudios.com)

## **Instructor/Artist: DAVID LOBENBERG**

Workshop Dates: February 10-11 (2 days)

Special "Members Only" Weekend Online Workshop

**\*\*ONLINE LIVE-STREAM\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$20**

Instructor website: [www.lobenbergart.com](http://www.lobenbergart.com)

## **Instructor/Artist: LAURIE GOLDSTEIN-WARREN**

"Easy Dynamic Pouring"

Workshop Dates: September 23-25 (3 days)

Demo Date: Sunday, September 15 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*\*ONLINE\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$275**

Instructor website: [www.warrenwatercolors.com](http://www.warrenwatercolors.com)

## **Instructor/Artist: LORRAINE WATRY**

"Lillies and Glass Globes"

Workshop Dates: March 18-20 (3 days)

ONLINE Demo Date: Sunday, March 17 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*\*IN PERSON\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$395**

Instructor website: [www.lorrainewatrstudio.com](http://www.lorrainewatrstudio.com)

## **Instructor/Artist: ALEXIS LAVINE**

"Design for Success"

Workshop Dates: October 21-23 (3 days)

Demo Date: Sunday, October 20 (1:30 - 4:00 pm)

**\*\*ONLINE\*\* MEMBER PRICE: \$275**

Instructor website: [www.alexislavineartist.com](http://www.alexislavineartist.com)

**QUESTIONS? Email [workshops@scvws.org](mailto:workshops@scvws.org)**



## Did you know?

Vincent van Gogh, the world's most valued painter, sold only one painting in his entire life – to his brother who owned an art gallery. The painting was titled "Red Vineyard at Arles."

So, remember - it's not just sales that count!





## david smith

Radiant Dahlia

**9.30 am - 3.00 pm PDT**  
**August 21-23, 2023 (3 days)**

Advanced Beginner & up  
ONLINE Member Price: \$275  
Non-members: \$325

**ONLINE DEMO:**  
**AUGUST 6 @ 1.30 - 4 P.M.**



**NOTE EARLY DEMO DATE**

By popular request, David R. Smith will be sharing the process for painting the Radiant Dahlia. We'll also have fun painting some smaller, less complicated paintings (like the moon painting). Hope you can join us!

David will also share:

- how to link shapes in a composition based on value
- information about edge quality of shapes
- the importance of different consistencies of paint
- the different moisture qualities of paper
- 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.

[WEBSITE](#)



**Email [workshops](#) for more information.**

**NOTE: THIS WORKSHOP IS ONLINE.**



## carolyn lord

IN-PERSON  
Workshop

Plein Air Rose Painting

9.30 am - 3.00 pm PDT  
September 18-20, 2023 (3 days)

Advanced Beginner & up

Member Price: \$399

Non-members: \$449

**ONLINE DEMO:**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 @ 1.30 P.M.**

WEBSITE

Gallery Talk on  
 YouTube

The portability and vibrancy of watercolor makes it ideal for plein air painting! This 3-day workshop will be held outdoors at the Municipal Rose Garden of San Jose to paint roses.

- Presentations on how to organize the watercolor palette
- Pigment selection; color perspective; drawing and composition silhouettes, light and shadow; and painting strategies
- Painting demonstrations each day and throughout the day; individual attention will be given to each student.
- Students should have a familiarity with drawing, composition, and plein air painting in any media.

Email [workshops](#) for more information.

**NOTE: THIS WORKSHOP IS OVER MULTIPLE OUTDOOR PLEIN AIR SESSIONS.**





## *"Santa Cruz"*

PAINTED EN PLEIN AIR BY  
CINDY LING

# mini exhibit

ALL SCVWS MEMBERS  
ARE INVITED TO  
**SUBMIT** A RECENT  
PLEIN-AIR PAINTING TO  
BE FEATURED IN THE  
MINI EXHIBIT OF THE  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.  
[NEWSLETTER@SCVWS.ORG](mailto:NEWSLETTER@SCVWS.ORG)

## *"Palo Alto Baylands"*

PAINTED EN PLEIN AIR BY  
SHIRLEY LIM





"GOT MILK" BY DOUGLAS GREER

**Douglas Greer's** painting "Got Milk?" has been selected for the 50th Annual Rocky Mountain National Watermedia exhibition at the Center for the Arts in Evergreen, Colorado. The exhibition runs from September 21 - October 28, 2023.

## member news



"MESMERIZED BY MY LAUNDRY" BY DALE RUTZ

**Dale Rutz's** painting "Mesmerized by my Laundry" will be exhibited in the California Watercolor Association's show 'So Serene' at the John Muir Health Auxiliary Gallery at the Aspen Center, and online from July 15 - August 18, 2023



**Susan Jochheim's** painting "Oh no, there's a Bug in my Garden" was awarded "Honorable Mention" in the 73rd Annual Show for the Society of West-Coast Artists (SWA). Exhibition is open from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday, until August 20th. Visit their website for more information. [www.societyofwesternartists.com](http://www.societyofwesternartists.com)

*Colour In Your Life* is an Australian-owned and produced TV art show. They film artists to tell their story and to share step-by-step tutorials on how to paint, how to draw, and how to learn different artistic skills.

Click on the image to go to a lineup of demos on YouTube. There are many watercolor artists!



In celebration of  
**National Parks and Recreation Month**,  
the Campbell Community Center is hosting a  
**Plein Air Painting Get Together**

Sunday, July 30, 2023  
10:00 am-12:00 pm  
Campbell Community Center  
1 W. Campbell Ave.

**Meet in front of the Heritage Theatre**

The event will be facilitated by Pat Jimenez,  
Campbell Adult Center 50+ Art Instructor.  
Please bring your own materials and media.  
The event is free and open to the public.

For more information,  
contact Tina Wong-Erling at  
[tinaw@campbellca.gov](mailto:tinaw@campbellca.gov) 408-866-2147.







## august

**Glorious Gardens (Mendocino, CA)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 1, 2023 (for in-person intake of art to be juried into the show)

**September Group Art Show (Kansas City, MO)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 1, 2023

**Small Works (Santa Fe, NM)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 1, 2023

**Shape+Form (La Canada Flintridge, CA)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 1, 2023

**48th International Art Show (Brownsville, TX)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 6, 2023

**The Grand Exhibition: An open art competition: Embodying Masonic Values (Philadelphia, PA)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 11, 2023

**Call for Art: Juried Show (St. Anthony, MN)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 12, 2023

**Loft Artists Association 10th Annual Juried Show (Stamford, CT)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 15, 2023

**Trinity Art Show 7th Annual National Juried Exhibition (Sacramento, CA)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 22, 2023

**Small Works 2023 (Clifton Springs, NY)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 26, 2023

**Dimension L (Corpus Christi, TX)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 31, 2023

**A Show of Heads (Hudson, NY)**[info](#)

Deadline: August 31, 2023

## juried art shows

## september

**CWA 54th National Exhibition (Pleasanton, CA)**[info](#)

Deadline: September 1, 2023

**Sebastopol Center for the Arts (Sebastopol, CA)****PEOPLE: An International Juried Exhibition**[info](#)

Deadline: September 1, 2023

**Pittsburgh Watercolor Society Aqueous Open 2023 International (Pittsburgh, PA)**[info](#)

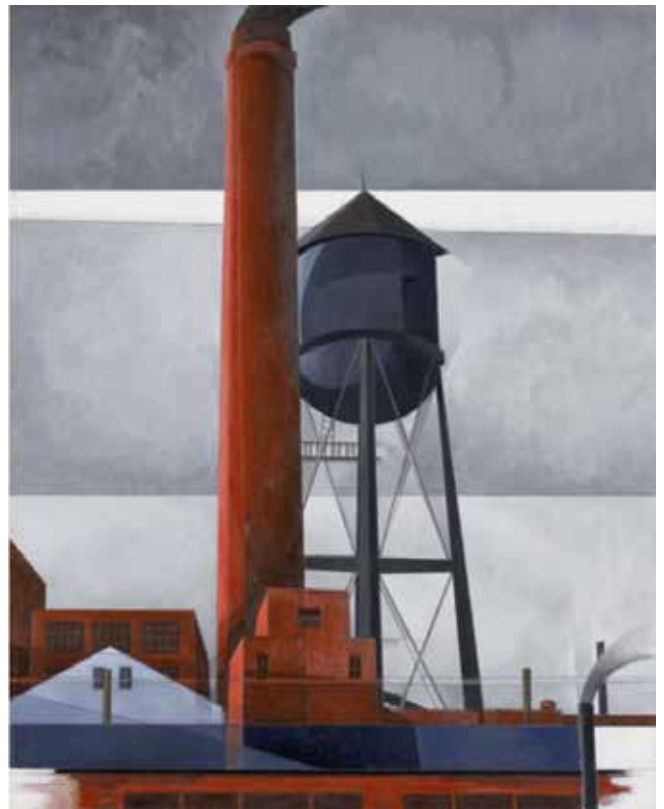
Deadline: September 8, 2023

**44th Annual National Juried Art Show (Goldsboro, NC)**[info](#)

Deadline: September 18, 2023

who  
was the artist?

ANSWER ON [LAST PAGE](#)







HEADEN-INMAN HOUSE AT THE TRITON MUSEUM GROUNDS BY BRAD SANTOS

# thursday paintsites

## PAINTSITES BLOG UPDATE

The Paintsite blog was discontinued in May 2022 and has transitioned to a private **Facebook** group.

To join, you must be a SCVWS member and have attended a Thursday Paintsite event. For details on joining the Paintsites FB Private Group and upcoming Paintsites locations, go [here](#).

The earlier blog posts are still accessible and provide a good synopsis of previous Paintsites events. They can be accessed [here](#).

THU  
3

**Triton Museum Grounds and Gallery Visit**  
1505 Warburton Ave, Santa Clara  
[map](#)

The Triton Museum Grounds has statues and two historic houses to paint: the Jamison-Brown House, built in 1866, and the Inman house. After lunch and painting critique, we hope to visit the exhibits: *The Big Red Chair Project*, *Recuerdos*, and *Looking Beyond Ourselves* at the [Triton Galleries](#).

Restrooms are in the Triton Museum which opens at 11 AM on Thursdays.

**Directions:** From El Camino Real in Santa Clara, turn north on Lincoln which ends at Warburton in front of the museum. Turn right into the parking lot.

*I am always doing what I cannot do yet  
in order to learn how to do it.*

Vincent Van Gogh

## General Information:

The usual start time for Paintsites is flexible. Unless a different start time is announced, the organizers will be there from around 10 am. Since a couple of the sites are remote where mobile service may be absent, the coordinators may be unreachable, or GPS inaccurate, **please check instructions before heading out**. Often people stay until early afternoon, taking a packed lunch to eat at the site.

**Please note:** Should inclement weather or unforeseen events cause cancellation of an event, it will be announced on the "Thursday Paintsites" section of [scvws.org](#) by 8 AM on the day of the event. Cancellation will also be announced by email, but the timing of SCVWS Paintsite emails cannot be guaranteed.

This information is also available from the **Paintsites** details page on the **SCVWS website**, so you can easily retrieve it there.

**Jane Saltman**  
[paintsites@scvws.org](mailto:paintsites@scvws.org)

**Alison Turner**  
[paintsites@scvws.org](mailto:paintsites@scvws.org)

**Lora Cattell**  
650-208-6662



IMAGES FROM SGPLANTS.ORG

THU  
10

**San Francisquito Creek Trail**  
**Palo Alto Baylands**  
**1900 Geng Rd, Palo Alto** [map](#)

Paintsites is exploring a quieter part of the Palo Alto Baylands with views of Palo Alto airport, golf course and our aviary friends along the San Francisquito Creek Trail.

**Directions:** Exit Hwy 101 Embarcadero Road East turn left on Geng Road (2nd signal). Follow Geng Road to the end. Park at the Palo Alto Athletic Center. Restrooms available.

THU  
17

**California History Center**  
**on De Anza Campus**  
**21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino** [map](#)

The De Anza campus is an interesting mix of contemporary and historic buildings. La Petit Trianon was built in the 1890's as a neoclassic style mansion for Charles Baldwin, today it is home to the [California History Center](#). The sunken garden was part of the original estate design and showcases a 1991 concrete water sculpture by Salvatore Pecoraro.

**Directions:** From Hwy 85, take the Stevens Creek Exit and go east. Take the first right and enter the Flint Center Parking Garage. Park for free in spaces designated for students. For more information, see the parking information page on the [De Anza website](#).

THU  
24

**Succulent Gardens**  
**2133 Elkhorn Road**  
**Castroville** [map](#)

[Succulent Gardens](#) is a boutique nursery dedicated to the growing of over 400 varieties of quality succulent plants, both popular and rare. It is a wholesale nursery for garden centers, landscapers, florists, corporate clients and creative entrepreneurs. They also are open to the public for retail sales.

The nursery covers over three acres and their drought-tolerant plants are displayed both in greenhouses and outside. Examples of the plants growing in containers and in the landscape may be viewed throughout the nursery.

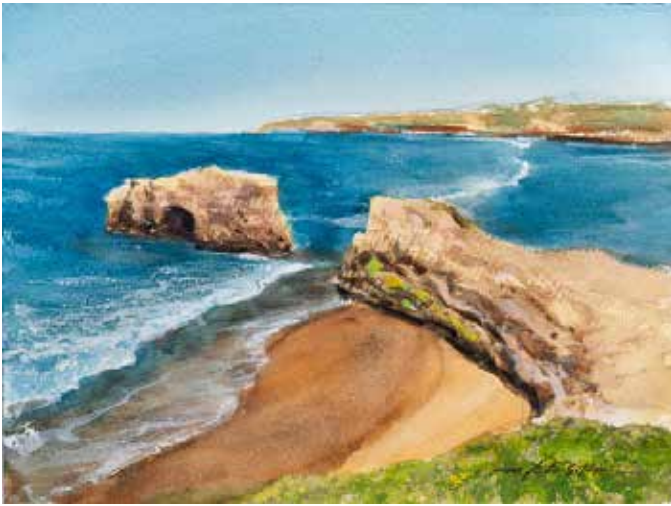
**Directions:** From Hwy 101 or Hwy 1, follow Dolan/ Castroville Road. Turn on Elkhorn Road and immediately past Amal Road, look for the nursery. Carpooling encouraged. Enter from Elkhorn Road, just past the corner of Elkhorn and Amaral Road. Please park on the street on the shoulder of Elkhorn Road. Please do not park on Amaral Road.

*Great art is the outward expression of an inner life of the artist,  
and this inner life will result in his personal vision of the world.*

Edward Hopper



# education



Rafael DeSoto, Jr.

**FREE DEMO:**

**Painting the California Coast**

Saturday, August 19, from 1 - 3 pm

**Society of West Coast Artists**

527 San Mateo Avenue, San Bruno

[LINK](#) to register

Rafael will paint a watercolor of the local California coastline in about an hour. Tips for studio and outdoor painting, what paper and paints are ideal, along with best watercolor practices will be included. Zoom link will be forthcoming.



Rafael DeSoto, Jr.

**Watercolor Techniques for Textures**

Saturday, August 12, from 1 - 4 pm

**Pacific Art League**

668 Ramona Street, Palo Alto

[LINK](#) to register

Learn how to bring distressed surfaces to life by understanding how to apply texture, light, and shadows. Step-by-step methods followed by practice lessons on creating effective illusions for enhancing realism.



Rafael DeSoto, Jr.

**Rocks, Rivers & Reflections**

Saturday, August 26, from 11 am - 4 pm

**University Art**

2550 El Camino Real, Redwood City

[LINK](#) to register

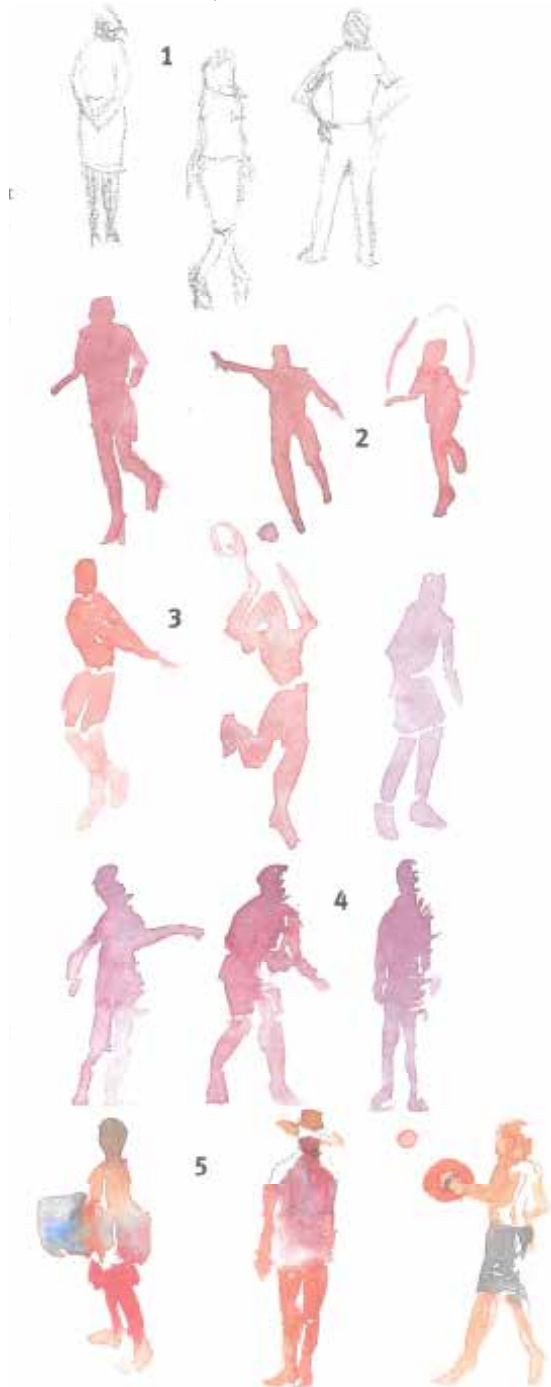
This in-person class will focus on techniques for painting rocks, sand and riverbeds, along with various characteristics of moving and still water, including reflections. Discover how to paint boldly by learning to see more simply.



## 5 STEPS TO PAINTING FIGURES ON LOCATION

EXCERPTED FROM **"PUTTING PEOPLE IN YOUR PAINTINGS" BY LAUREL HART**

A beach or park at a time of day when there is good light and a lot of people is the best place for painting on location. Most often, I just park my car and capture in my sketchbook people who have no idea they're being scrutinized. Before you begin using a full palette to paint figures from life, practice the following steps. When you've spent some time practicing these, move on to your full palette.



### 1. Practice gesture drawings

Use a 6B drawing pencil to scribble a series of loose, directional strokes to get down the essence of the action and to capture the gesture and motion of the person.

### 2. Paint silhouettes in one wash

Without any previous drawing and without lifting your brush, use one color and a small round to get the whole figure in one shot. Figures outside are generally moving, so work fast. Take a good look at a pose, and freeze it in your mind. Painting from life forces you to rely on the visual image imprinted in your mind. Eventually you will store up a mental "bank account" of poses.

### 3. Divide the body into segments

Separate the body into segments where it hinges naturally: divisions between joints at the upper and lower body, the knee, the elbows and the ankles. The walking or running figure is in a continual state of losing its balance, so limbs are extended as counterbalances to keep it upright. When the arm is forward in the striding figure, the leg on that same side of the body will be back.

### 4. Add a light pattern for dimension

Once you are comfortable with capturing quick silhouettes, add a light pattern. Pick out one "victim" and stick with that person long enough to create several sketches of him as he moves in and out of various poses.

### 5. Add more color

Charles Demuth was an American painter who specialized in watercolors and turned to oils late in his career, developing a style of painting known as Precisionism.

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*"Chimney and Water Tower" (1931)*

**Charles Demuth (1883-1935)**