

National Watercolor Exhibition

AUGUST 1 - SEPTEMBER 27, 2025



Since our first watercolor exhibition in 1968, our community has embraced the watercolor medium, and local collectors, art enthusiasts, and talented artists across the country look forward to the exhibition each year. Watercolor is a challenging medium, and when done well, its magnificence is unsurpassed.



Over the last year, Mark Arts has offered extraordinary exhibitions including *A La Mode: The Language of Fashion in Art, un/wound/up* featuring Torin Andersen and Denise Irwin, and the popular School of Creativity Salon. It is thrilling to now showcase the talented works of watercolorists from across the country, as selected by juror Paul Jackson. The 2025 exhibition features 69 works from 43 artists across the country. We are grateful to our sponsors and patrons for their support of this important exhibition.

Thanks for helping inspire the artists in each of us!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katy Dorrah". The script is fluid and cursive.

Katy Dorrah

CEO

Board of Trustees

Executive Committee:

Dr. Sylvia Do, President
Nicole Easton, Vice President
Eric Ireland, Treasurer
Stephanie Scheck, Secretary
Beth Carlson, At Large Member
Cara Chennault-Reid, At Large Member
Sean Larson, At Large Member

Rachel Aja
Doug Brantner
Molly Breitenbach
Chris Brunner

Anne Buford
Tory DeMarce
Katharine Elder
Sara Garrison
Joe Giffin
Deb Lucia,
Designing Women
ex-officio member
Morgan Overman
Sarah Patterson
Matt Vermeeren
Johnathan Weigand

Honorary Trustees:

Kathy Galichia
Helen Galloway
Dara Geoffroy
Liz Koch
Priscilla O'Shaughnessy
Becky S. Turner

Award Winners

First Place - \$1,500

Timmy Savat by Mattilyn Stacy

Second place - \$700

Into the Blue by Lana Cease

Third place - \$500

Look What's Coming II

by Anne Hightower-Patterson

Honorable mentions - \$100

The Red Horse Trailer by Hugh Greer

Ice Flow by Beth Shadur

Main Street Jerome by Richard Sneary

Cover image: Mattilyn Stacy – *Timmy Savat*, detail – First Place



Mission

The mission of Mark Arts is to be a vibrant regional arts hub by providing opportunities to appreciate and create art in an atmosphere of lifelong learning.



Sponsors

THIS CATALOG IS UNDERWRITTEN BY



National Watercolor Exhibition is underwritten by the DeVore Foundation.

Additional exhibition support comes from the 6 Meridian, Cargill, Commerce Bank, Delta Dental of Kansas, Hunton Andrews Kurth, INTRUST Bank, Spirit Aerosystems, Standard Beverage, Stinson LLP, and Textron Aviation.

We also extend our thanks to Susan & Chris Addington, Tammy & Lionel Alford, Sharon & Clark Bastian, Denita Benyshek, Cara Chennault-Reid & John Reid, Jenifer Cook, Myra & Tom Devlin, Nicole & Todd Easton, Erin & Todd Farha, Connie & Randy Furstenberg, Deborah Gafvert & K Gary Gibbs, Lindsey & CR Hall, Lou & Terry Heldman, Eric Ireland & Shawn Smith, Elizabeth & Don King, Morgan & Logan Overman, Stev Overstreet, George Randall, Sheri & Brad Razook, Stephanie & Mark Scheck, Shoko Severt, and Kathleen & Sean Tarantino

Juror Paul Jackson

It has been an honor to serve as juror for the 2025 National Watercolor Exhibition at Mark Arts. This long-standing exhibition has consistently reflected the strength and evolution of watercolor in America, and I am grateful to have played a role in curating this year's selection. Thank you to the organizers and staff of Mark Arts, as well as the dedicated volunteers who make this exhibition not only possible, but extraordinary.



The entries this year were remarkable in both range and quality. It was a joy—and a challenge—to spend time with so many beautiful and thought-provoking works. The submissions reflected a broad range of approaches, from the confidently traditional to the wildly inventive. What struck me most was the sincerity in each artist's voice. Whether through layered nuance or bold expression, each piece revealed something personal, something worth pausing for.

My role as juror required time, focus, and a sincere desire to listen to what each painting was saying. I returned to many of the works repeatedly, asking not only what was being shown, but how and why. In judging, I look for cohesion between concept and execution, where composition, value, technique, and story all work together in harmony. But more than anything, I look for a sense of purpose—for paintings that make me feel something, or see something in a new way.

There is always a tension in choosing award winners. The technical brilliance in this exhibition was abundant, but I found myself drawn most to those pieces that risked something. Art is never just about skill—it's about heart, voice, and connection. And the selections I made reflect that belief.

To all the award winners, I offer my sincere admiration. You've created work that rises not only to the top of a highly competitive field, but also to the top of what watercolor can be—expressive, dynamic, and utterly unforgettable.

To every artist who submitted, thank you. Whether your work is hanging in this year's show or not, know that it was seen, considered carefully, and appreciated. The choices were not easy. Judging is a subjective process, and many fine works were left behind simply because the show can only hold so much. Keep painting. Keep experimenting. Keep showing us who you are.

The 2025 National Watercolor Exhibition is a vivid reflection of where watercolor is today: bold, diverse, and continually pushing boundaries. I leave this experience filled with admiration for the artists who continue to explore and elevate this luminous medium. I'm grateful to have been a part of this chapter and walk away feeling inspired, hopeful, and proud of the community we share.

Thank you again for the invitation, and for trusting me with this opportunity. It has been an honor and a pleasure.

With great respect,

Paul Jackson, AWS-DF, NWS

Paul Jackson spent his adventurous childhood in Starkville Mississippi and I discovered his passion for watercolor at Mississippi State University in 1985. He received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Missouri in 1992, and has since been relentless in pursuit of his creative dreams. Paul was honored by the American Watercolor Society with signature membership at the age of 30, and more recently the Dolphin Fellowship - the highest honor in watercolor. Paul is also a Signature member of the National Watercolor Society and an Honor Member of the Missouri Watercolor Society.

Paul was the Grand Prize winner in the Paint Your Way to Paris competition and has been featured as one of the Master Painters of the World in *International Artists Magazine*. Jackson's artwork has been on the cover of *The Artist's Magazine* four times. Other media featuring Jackson's work include *American Artist*, *Watercolor magazine*, *Watercolor Magic*, *Watercolor Artist*, *Forbes Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *the Washington Post*, *NPR*, *CBS News*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The St Louis Post*, *The Kansas City Star*, and *TWA's Ambassador Magazine*.

Much of Paul's portfolio of watercolors hangs in private collections, but some examples are on display in museums and public buildings. The Missouri State Capitol, Governor's Mansion and Supreme Court all prominently feature Jackson watercolors.

In 2008, Jackson was the featured speaker at the International Watercolor Masters Invitational in Lushan, China. Paul was also the only American artist invited to the International Art Meet in Kolkata, India in 2011.

A prolific artist and ambitious world traveler, Paul Jackson is one of today's most versatile and visible contemporary watercolorists. Whether his subject is landscape, cityscape, portrait, architecture, still life or abstract, Paul captivates his audience with genuine emotion, intensity and finesse that energize each of his creations.

Jackson is the author of *Painting Spectacular Light Effects in Watercolor*, from North Light Books and *The Wandering Watercolorist*, from Chameleon Press 2013. He is an eagle scout, an adventurous spirit and travels the earth with his muse, Marla, in search of visual inspiration

Exhibiting Artists



Susan Bartel North Newton, KS
Lustrous Abundance 12" x 41" \$900



Susan Bartel North Newton, KS
Lost Spring Reflections 31" x 19" \$2,200



Susan Bartel North Newton, KS
Jewels of the Zinnia Garden
41" x 12" \$900



Cindy Brabec-King Palisade, CO
Smoothies 30" x 22" \$3,500



Jane Bradfield Wichita, KS
Fly Me to the Moon 12" x 11" \$400



Marilynne Bradley Webster Groves, MO
Dining Al Fresco 15" x 22" \$2,200

Exhibiting Artists



Dana Brock Plano, TX
Birding Around 30" x 20" \$1,950



Bradd Brown Rio Verde, AZ
Toronto Sidewalk 12" x 9" \$900



Bradd Brown Rio Verde, AZ
149 Bond St, London, England 11" x 15" \$1,000



Norman Carr Wichita, KS
The Juggler Whistles a Curious Tune
24" x 18.5" \$1,600



Paul Cavanaugh Wichita, KS
Insurrection 16" x 22" \$2,000



SECOND PLACE

Lana Cease Port Charlotte, FL
Into the Blue 15" x 22" \$1,590

Exhibiting Artists



Lana Cease Port Charlotte, FL
Ball Breaker 20" x 30" \$2,390



Lana Cease Port Charlotte, FL
Ha! 12" x 12" \$790



Marc Chicoine Raleigh, NC
Sea Dog 17" x 12" \$2,000



Kathy Cunning Weatherford, TX
El Dorado 16" x 20" \$550



Kathy Cunning Weatherford, TX
Sarah's Indian 20" x 14" **\$1,550**



Kathy Cunning Weatherford, TX
Hook, Line and Sinker 15" x 22" **\$550**



Gayle Doll Manhattan, KS
Evening Concert 14" x 11" **\$750**



Carol Davis Wichita, KS
Tools Of The Trade 12" x 12" **\$350**

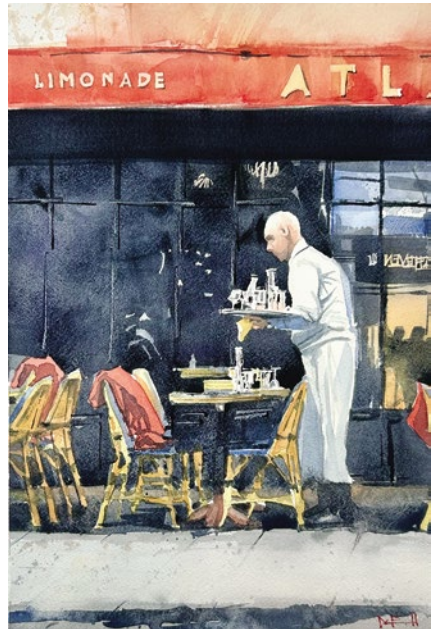
Exhibiting Artists



Kathleen Durdin Tampa, FL
Scarlet 21" x 15" \$750



Kathleen Durdin Tampa, FL
N5910 21" x 15" \$500



Dan Finnell Overland Park, KS
Le Serveur 12.25" x 8.25" \$1,000



Hugh Greer Kechi, KS
The Red Horse Trailer 25" x 32.5" \$3,100



Hugh Greer Kechi, KS
Forsythia and Red Bud
 19.25" x 23.75" \$2,100



Michael Henry Port Huron, MI
Change of Season 18" x 18" \$650

Exhibiting Artists

THIRD PLACE



Anne Hightower-Patterson Leesville, SC
Look What's Coming II 14" x 19" **\$1,800**



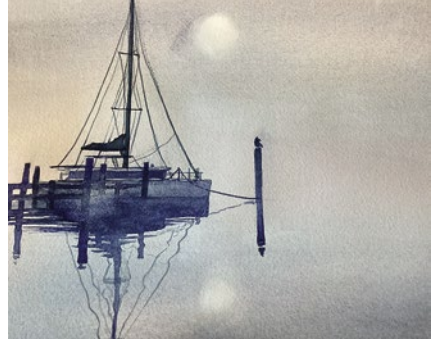
Anne Hightower-Patterson Leesville, SC
Faithful Servant 13.5" x 18.5" **\$1,600**



Anne Hightower-Patterson Leesville, SC
Faithful Companion 12" x 12" **\$1,200**



Catherine Hillis Locust Grove, VA
The Happy Place 18" x 23.5" \$1,500



Lari Howard Derby, KS
Chesapeake Morning 9" x 11" \$300



Rebecca Hoyer Wichita, KS
Dad Came up from Tulsa 7.75" x 10" \$800



Shelly Johnson Boise, ID
Happiness on a Tire Swing
14.5" x 20" \$1,500

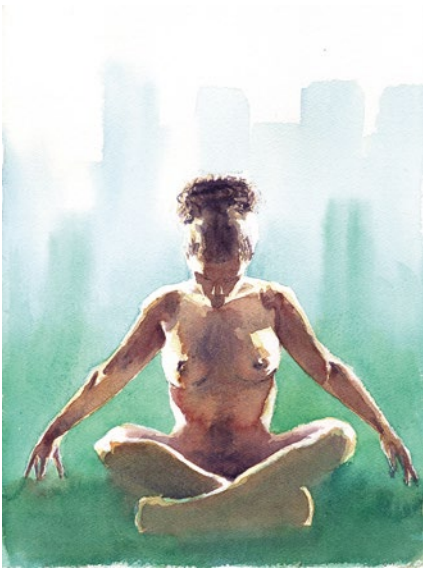
Exhibiting Artists



Jay Kell Olathe, KS
Cold Coffee 11" x 14" \$475



Mary Kirsch Mandeville, LA
Super Sunday 16" x 20" \$1,100



Jay Kell Olathe, KS
Earthing Woman 14" x 11" \$475



Mary Kirsch Mandeville, LA
Raku Mouse 15" x 22" \$1,100



Rebecca Krutsinger Xenia, IL
I Still See You Dad 12" x 18" \$800



Nancy Luttrell Bel Aire, KS
Blue Swallow Motel 25" x 32" \$800



Susan Marion Florissant, CO
Terra Cotta 22" x 28" \$900



Susan Marion Florissant, CO
Baskets & Blankets 22" x 28" \$925

Exhibiting Artists



Caryl Morgan Newkirk, OK
Glass Fruit on Faded Linoleum
18" x 22" \$1,500



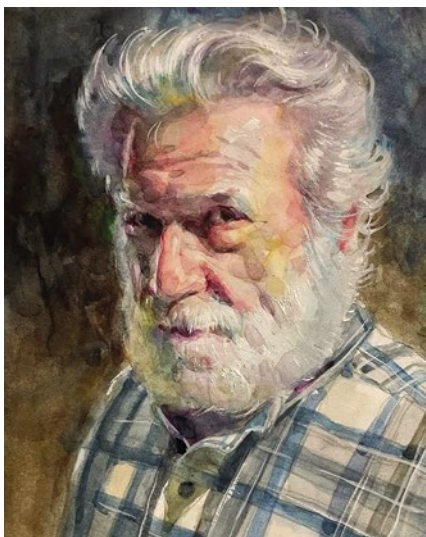
Dorle Pfeifer Doylestown, PA
It Was Worth It 30" x 22" \$500



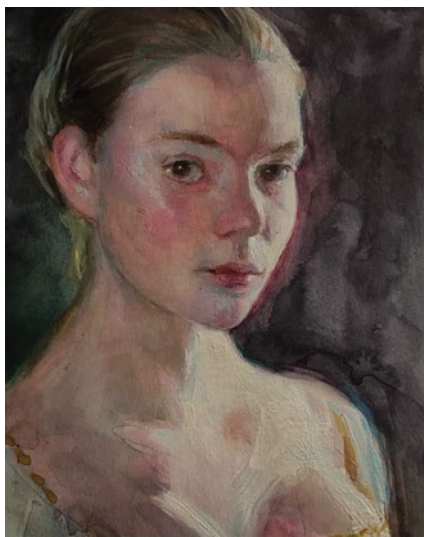
Jake Marshall Overland Park, KS
Matisse at His Studio Window
17.5" x 12.5" \$2,400



April Rimpo Dayton, MD
Blues 10" x 21" \$1,400



Josef Rubinstein Newhall, CA
Carl Lubow 11" x 9" \$5,000



Josef Rubinstein Newhall, CA
Emma 11" x 9" \$3,000

Exhibiting Artists



Mehrdad Sedghi Anaheim, CA
Reflection of Silence and Darkness II
13.5" x 10" \$950



Mehrdad Sedghi Anaheim, CA
Searching for Better Moods
13.5" x 10" \$950



Cheryl J. Sachse St. George, UT
Big and Chunky 22" x 24" \$1,750



Beth Shadur Highland Park, IL
Snow Puzzle (Grand Canyon National Park)
13" x 14" \$550



Beth Shadur Highland Park, IL
Intricate (Grand Canyon National Park)
12" x 14" \$650



HONORABLE MENTION

Beth Shadur Highland Park, IL
Ice Flow (Grand Canyon National Park)
11" x 11" \$550

Exhibiting Artists

HONORABLE MENTION



Richard Sneary Kansas City, MO
Main Street Jerome 11" x 14" \$1,400



Richard Sneary Kansas City, MO
Frances - Patricia 12" x 16" \$1,700



Richard Sneary Kansas City, MO
Yellow Tractor 12" x 9" \$1,000



Richard Sneary Kansas City, MO
Deer Mountain 10" x 14" \$1,275



Mattilyn Stacy Poplar Bluff, MO
Staring Contest 20" x 28" \$8,000



FIRST PLACE

Mattilyn Stacy Poplar Bluff, MO
Timmy Savat 18" x 24" \$14,000

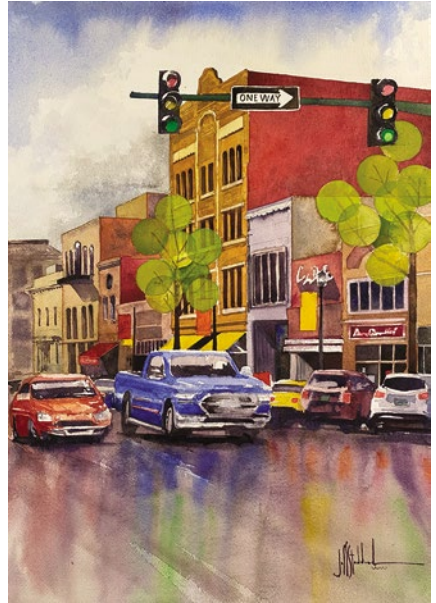
Exhibiting Artists



Jeff Stoddard Rye, CO
Leaf Fight 14" x 20" \$750



Dana Thompson Milledgeville, GA
Bazooka 16" x 20" \$500



Jeff Stoddard Rye, CO
Tejon in the Rain 20" x 16" \$1,200



Dana Thompson Milledgeville, GA
Whispers of Hope 16" x 20" \$1,600



Jyotsna Umesh Chantilly, VA
Morning Hunt 8" x 11" \$940



Jyotsna Umesh Chantilly, VA
Countryside 10" x 14" \$960



Paul Valdez Parker, CO
Solace for the Soul 28" x 22" \$3,200

Exhibiting Artists



Elena Von Derau Deer Park, WA
Suspense 12" x 9" \$900



Elena Von Derau Deer Park, WA
Reassess 14" x 11" \$1,100



Kathryn Wedge Neenah, WI
Going Down 15" x 22" \$1,200

Upcoming Events

Concerts at The Corner

August 21 | Rudy Love and The Encore

August 28 | Pretend Friend

Crave Culinary Festival

September 16-20

Holiday Tables

November 6-9

Upcoming Exhibitions

Randall Bennett: Broad Horizon, Encompassing Sky

School of Creativity Gallery

Through Aug. 23

Child Start

Youth Gallery

Aug. 5 – Sept. 6

Kansas Art Guild

School of Creativity Gallery

Sept. 5 – Oct. 25

CASA

Youth Gallery

Sept. 16 – Oct. 25

Wichita National All Craft Media

Gladys & Karl T. Wiedemann Gallery

Oct. 9 – Dec. 13

St. Thomas Aquinas Elementary School

Youth Gallery

Nov. 14 – Jan. 17, 2026

Study Collection Recent Acquisitions

School of Creativity Gallery

Nov. 22 – Jan. 19, 2026



1307 N. Rock Road | Wichita, KS 67206 | 316.634.2787

© 2025 Mark Arts - All Rights Reserved