



# Piedmont Pastel Society

Quarterly Newsletter - January, 2024  
Website - [www.piedmontpastelsociety.org](http://www.piedmontpastelsociety.org)

## President's Letter

**President - Bridget Comellas**

**Vice President - Marla Kurzec**

**Secretary - Katie Hallahan**

**Treasurer - Jay DeChesere**

**Workshops - Ginger Lambrecht**

**Zoom Coordinator - Kim Long**

**Signature Membership Program  
Ginny Stocker**

**Programs - Kim Long**

**Facebook Raffles - Patricia Wilt**

**Membership - Katie Hallahan**

**Newsletter - Joan Dreicer**

Happy New Year PPS members!!

I hope you had a joyful holiday celebration and you're rested and ready to take on the challenges that await! There are so many exciting opportunities available to us as pastel artists!! Our yearly member show, workshops (online and in-person) we have the BIGGEST PASTEL PARTY to look forward to in June -IAPS!! We offer outstanding demos with renowned master pastelists each month!! Also, on social media there are several opportunities to grow your skills through daily painting groups.

I am confident each of you have personal goals in mind for this new year; not just with your art but for your health, family, and work (if you have a full time job). Keep in mind that each of us has something special and unique to offer through our individual expression. Whether it's through your art or in the gifts of character- you are influencing others. Don't let comparison steal your joy ; I say that as a reminder to myself and to us all.

Here is a quote I'd like to share with you by Jason Lumpkin :

"Don't let the fact that you move differently from others cause you to feel like you are missing out. Your timeline is not the same as everyone else and that is ok."

Let's continue to encourage one another and allow the momentum all around us to inspire creativity!

Here are a few goals I like to keep in mind that apply to most areas of my life:



## President's Letter continued



**Figure 1.**

### PPS welcomes our newest members:

- Daphne Bodnar
- Jane Honeycutt
- Kathy Lauderdale
- Carol McIntyre
- True Whiting
- Robin Ricketts
- Chris Sell Enders
- Lorenzo Chavez
- Nancy Punderson Parr
- Renee Carter Erick Williams

Goal#1- Challenge myself to do at least 1% better than I did the day before.

Goal#2- Connect with others ; share triumphs and/or losses ; listen to others

Goal#3- Practice gratitude; be thankful and say so

Goal#4- Move (motion is lotion) HELLO?? Do we get stiff when we paint or WHAT??

PPS, I am thankful for each of you because together we make a society of artists who LOVE working with pastels! What are YOUR favorite pastels to work with ? What is YOUR favored surface to work on and why? We'd love to hear from you!

Just in case you haven't tried all the brands yet , and would like to know the difference between them all , here is a list: beginning with softest from the top. **See Figure 1.**

Last year we were delighted to learn of a few more brands of pastels from artist, Stephanie Clark! She shared a few of her favorites J.Luda Pastels (PINKS) pastels 21 G , 35 J (Blue). Stephanie also shared the brand Gordan Becin - organic soft pastels.

Whatever your preference, let it flow... paint , paint , paint more , keep painting! We want to see what YOU will create in this new year! If you're on Facebook and haven't joined our PPS facebook page ( link on last page) , please join us! This is a great place to post your latest piece and enter paintings for a monthly raffle to win a \$25 gift card!!

Our first demo of the year is Saturday, January 20th from 10:00am-12:00 est. with NANCIE KING MERTZ!!

I look forward to seeing you all on Zoom for this demonstration!! Until then, keep painting. It's gonna be a great year for growth !

~ Bridgette Comellas



## Piedmont Pastel Society National Judged Exhibit

Congratulations to members of our Society for entering our Annual Judged Members Exhibit and to the winners of awards.

Thanks also to our judge and juror, TerriLynn Dubreuil!

To see the entire exhibit use this link which takes you to our website: [PPS Annual Members Exhibit](#)



🏆 First Place  
**Jay DeChesere**  
Talkin'bout Boats and Things  
Pastel 15.5 x 19.5 \$950



🥈 Second Place  
**BF Reed**  
Chasm  
Soft Pastel 20 x 16 \$1,800



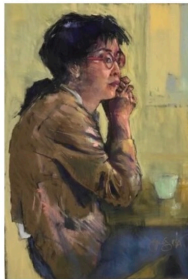
🥉 Third Place  
**Anthony O'Neal Hedrick**  
Smokin'  
Soft Pastel 20 x 16 NFS



🏆 Piedmont Award  
**Leslie A Hudson-Tolles**  
Paw Paw's Legacy  
Soft Pastel 9 x 12 \$750



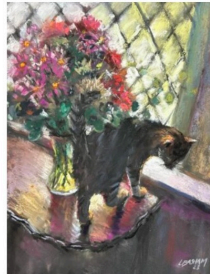
🏆 Best Still Life  
**Chris Burch**  
Cabinet Bowls  
Soft Pastel 15 x 11 NFS



🏆 Best Portrait/Figurative  
**Jeri Greenberg**  
Green Tea  
Pastel 14 x 10 \$850



🏆 Best Landscape  
**Kim M Long**  
Main St.  
Pastel 16.5 x 16.5 NFS



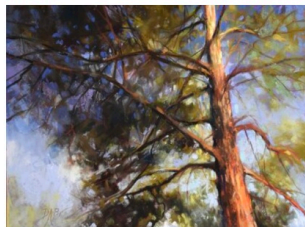
🏆 PSNC Award  
**Laurie Ann Basham**  
Flower Kitty  
Soft Pastel 12 x 9 \$600



🏆 Pastel Society of Cape Cod Award  
**Deborah Dickson Shea**  
First Flower  
Soft Pastel 34 x 40 NFS



🏆 Honorable Mention  
**Laura E Pollak**  
ANCIENT COLUMNS  
Pastel 9 x 12 NFS



🏆 Honorable Mention  
**Deborah Alexandra Brown**  
Tall Corinthian Pine  
Soft Pastel 9 x 12 NFS



🏆 Honorable Mention  
**David Kenneth Hoque**  
Josie's Wonder  
Soft Pastel 16.25 x 15.25 NFS



🏆 Honorable Mention  
**Marsha Tidy**  
Jean's Granddaughter  
Soft Pastel 12 x 9 \$600



### Member News

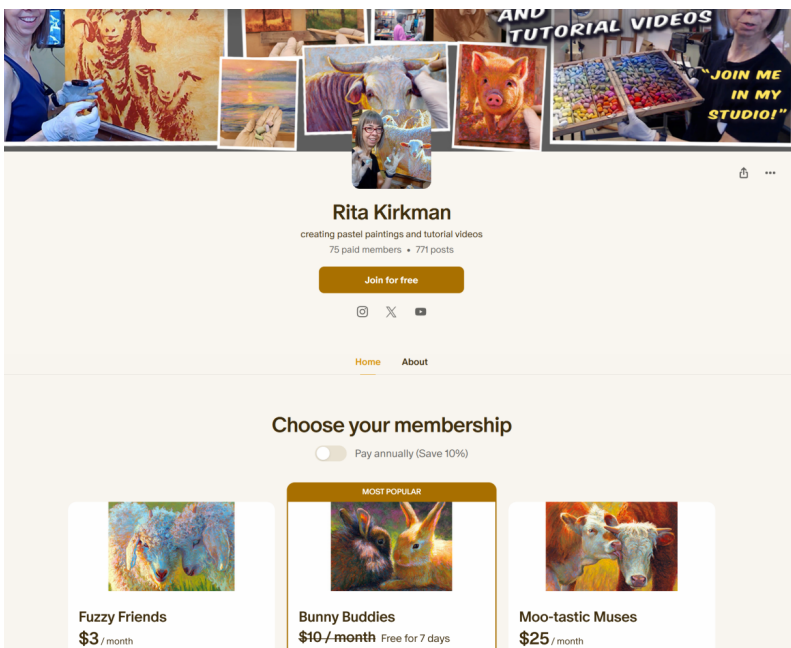
#### Our own, Rita Kirkman has moved her instruction to her new Patreon site!

Check out Rita Kirkman's Patreon Page, full of more than 150 inspiring and tutorial full-length pastel videos from the past three years.

Demos, art tips and engaging conversation from her ongoing Virtual Open Studio Days, Paint-Alongs, and more! (PS: The highest tier now includes quarterly critiques! :)

It also contains tons of free public posts with quick vids, art tips and progress pics.

If you're not yet ready to join as a Patron, you can join for free and follow the public posts!



In a Dream by Lorraine Roberts

#### Lorraine Roberts

I'm honored to have recently been accepted into some juried exhibitions: Pastel Society of Eastern Canada, PixelPastel 2023 International Exhibition, December 15, 2023 to March 15, 2023, with the painting Sandbanks.

Pastel Artists Canada's 11th Annual Members Online Exhibition (opening December 1st, 2023), with two paintings, In a Dream and Spring is Here.

I was recently juried into the Federation of Canadian Artists as an Active Member.

I also received Signature Status with the Pastel Artists.ca (PAC)

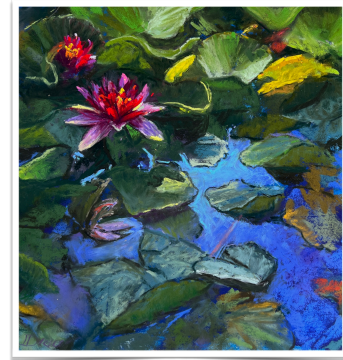


## Members News



Laurie Basham received the Richeson Award of Merit from Jacob Aguiar for her painting "Quietly Shining" in the MAPS 7th Annual Members Judged Exhibit, "Expressions in Pastel".

Joan Dreicer's painting, "Welcome to My Pad" received an honorable mention from Jacob Aguiar in the MAPS 7th Annual Members Judged Exhibit, "Expressions in Pastel".



Bridgette Comellas received news in June , 2023 , that her artwork 'Beautiful Monster' was selected for The PSA 51st Annual Exhibition. Most recently , she has been asked to have this same piece included in the exhibit at the Butler Institute of American Art, in Youngstown, Ohio.

This exhibition will open January 21 , 2024 and close on February 25, 2024.





**Members News**

**THE ARTS CENTER**

Bridgette will also be showing her work , along with two other pastel artists, Daphne Boder, and Jody Nash, at The Arts Center, 400 Roberson St. Carrboro, NC

'The Rhythm of Color' in soft pastel' will open January 10 , 2024 and close February 6 , 2024.

Artists Reception will be Friday , January 12 , 6:00pm to 8:30pm

As a member of the Chatham Artists Guild , Bridgette participated in **her** first annual Artists Tour for Chatham County.

Her studio and home were open to the public the first two weekends of December!

She sold two paintings!

'Shadow Play' and 'South Dakota Path'



South Dakota Path  
By Bridgette Comellas



Shadow Play by Bridgette Comellas

**Kathy Summer** received First Place in the Southwest Florida Pastel Society Pastel Show this past December.



She is also taking an on-line class with Linda Richichi "Landscape Alchemy", which has been very helpful - reiterating basics!

Linda Richichi - Landscape Alchemy

**Mastery**

Real pleasure comes from overcoming challenges, feeling confidence in your abilities, gaining fluency in skills and experiencing the power this brings.

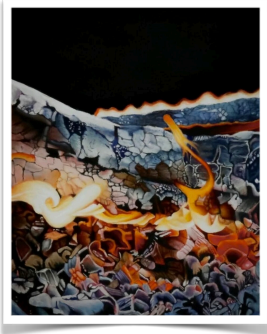
You develop patience. Boredom no longer signals the need for distraction, but rather the need for new challenges to conquer.

**...Robert Greene**



## Members News

David Hogue's pastel piece "Forge" was juried into the International Association of Pastel Society's 43rd Open Division



Forge by David Hogue

### From Cindy Berceli:

#### Animals on the Walls:

I am so grateful for this ongoing project with Bass Wolfson Pediatrics. A few years ago, we placed images of my artwork on the walls in their Squirrel Hill Office. This year we completed the project in their 2<sup>nd</sup> Office which recently moved into a beautiful large space in Cranberry. Twenty-two images are in place from the entrance of the office to the checkout window!

Starting the New Year with several commissions to complete, one received just prior to the holiday.

January 26<sup>th</sup> I will be doing a Mini Pastel Workshop for Greensburg Art Center.

Looking forward to more paintings this coming year.

## Workshops

Our next workshop "The Jam Session". will be held April 10, 11 and 12. Diana Sanford is the featured artist and this will be one of her last workshops.

For more information:

[Diana Sanford Workshop with PPS](#)

Diana Sanford's journey in creating "The Jam Session" can be found below.

### The Jam Session





## PPS Facebook Raffle

### PPS Monthly Raffle Winners

October - There were no entries

November - Ruth Whitaker

December - Patti Jeffries

### Raffle Themes

January - Reflections

February - Love is in the Air

March - Cabin Fever - Interiors

### PPS Facebook Monthly Challenge

Don't forget about our Facebook Raffle! Our PPS Facebook page is a great way to stay connected and see each other's work, as well as share news. Thank you to all of you who continue to post and comment on our page. With limited opportunity to meet in person, this is our best way to stay in touch.

Each month a different theme is identified. Join us and post your theme related work for a chance to win our monthly raffle for a \$25 gift certificate. We love hearing from you and admiring your talent! [PPS Facebook page](#)

**Thank you all who contributed to our  
January Quarterly Newsletter.**

**I invite you to send me news as it comes [jdreicer54@gmail.com](mailto:jdreicer54@gmail.com)**

**I will keep it for our next Newsletter in April!**

**Joan Dreicer - Newsletter Chair**