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Message from our president

Linda Maldonado



Dear PVW Family -

What a year this has been! We started off with a relatively normal January, then the COVID-19 pandemic started picking up steam. Soon we were in a new world of isolation, masks, cancelled in-person events, jobs and income that disappeared, electronic meetings, fear of travel, ordering food online, and wondering how everything was going to turn out.

We've lost four of our PVW members this year - Sue Burton, Jeff Gorrell, Marie Shaughnessy, and Ellie Morley. To me one of the most tragic consequences of the COVID-19 situation is that people have had to die alone, separated from their loved ones, leaving survivors with piercing grief and pain. All of us have been affected and we carry a burden of sorrow and regret for those suffering the consequences. I pray that we will see sensible strategies prevail as we struggle through the months ahead.

We in the art community are fortunate to have access still to our creative outlets. This is a sanity saver and a great coping tool. Many teachers have found successful ways to translate their teaching to Zoom platforms and students have adapted to changes with some angst but also grace.

Having to cancel our in-person workshops, exhibitions, and meetings has been difficult and sad for the Board and, I'm sure, all of you. We too are adapting, as we've successfully launched two online exhibitions on PVW's website. The Board has held two Zoom meetings and we conducted an all-PVW demo via Zoom, plus business meeting, in November. We still have activities on the schedule for 2021, in hopes that circumstances will allow us to meet in person. If that doesn't come to pass, we'll continue figuring out how to do things in new ways. I am grateful to our intrepid Board members and Committee Chairs who persevere with good spirits and inventive ideas. I am grateful to all of you for your strength and good cheer. Keep hope alive and paint on.

Warmly, Linda Maldonado President

For Members

MEMORIAL AWARD. We are pleased to announce that a \$200 award in memory of PVW Member Elinor Morley for the next Green Spring show has been donated by members of a critique group, composed of the following generous artists: Brenda Barthell, Chica Brunsvold, Janice Burns, Ruth Ensley, Laura Lemley, Ginnie Luster, Lauren Marcott, Loy McGaughey, Marilyn Milici, Harris Miller, Grace Rooney, Ginger Sanaie, Florence Setzer, Jung Lea Smith. We thank you so much for keeping Ellie's memory bright.

VOLUNTEERS ARE KEY TO PVW'S SUCCESS – you may not realize how much we rely on the time and talents of PVW members who step up to fill vitally important jobs in support of PVW's activities. A significant benefit to volunteering is working with other PVW members (even in socially distanced times) to accomplish great things. We asked for a volunteer to manage our Patrons List which is our tool for sending invitations to exhibitions, and Marshall Carolus answered the call.

Because it's vital to keep PVW's digital presence fresh and lively, we asked for volunteers to post photos from our online shows. Rosa Vera has posted images of the Fall Online Show award winning paintings on Instagram and Facebook. Jane Gott is posting one image daily to Facebook and Instagram for half the remaining paintings, but <u>we need one person</u> who's willing to pick up for the last half. If you can do this, please contact Leigh Fulton.

Leigh Culver finishes her almost 4-year stint as Newsletter Editor with this edition. Many thanks to her and to Lorrie Herman, who contributed her graphic design expertise to the newsletter as Co-Editor with Leigh for over 3 years. Jeane Stetson has most capably stepped in this past year and has now accepted the reins as our new Newsletter Editor. Thank you, Jeane, and ongoing thanks to Cecilia Capestany who continues to gather Spotlight news about our members for each edition.

NEWS TO COME - soon we'll be hearing about the new members selected into PVW. We'd really like to have 3-4 more mentor volunteers to pair up with these new additions to our family. Feedback from last year tells us the mentors were valuable early contacts. Please email Leigh Fulton to be the warm face of PVW for our new members.

2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES Early Bird Discount till December 31 – Lauren Marcott has sent out an email with details on renewing your PVW membership. You can pay online or mail a check to her.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



Annual Members' Meeting

The annual meeting of the Potomac Valley Watercolorists took place via ZOOM on Saturday, November 14, 2020. Over 70 members participated remotely in the meeting and the artist demonstration that followed. Agenda items included:

- 2021 activities planned (we live in hope!) but subject to COVID-19 situation
 - Spring luncheon is scheduled for April 25 luncheon at Columbia Country Club.
 - -Green Springs Garden Exhibition is tentatively scheduled for May-June, 2021.
 - —Fall trip to Maine was postponed until 2021.
 - —Fall workshop is in development.
 - —St Andrew's fall exhibition—too soon to know yet per the church's schedule.
 - —Spring 2022 workshop is being scheduled.
- Membership Renewal -available now, Lauren Marcott will send a reminder email to members.
- New Member selection is happening this month.
- Congratulations to our winners of the 2021 monthly Featured Artists!

January -Linda Holz July -Linda Slattery Sherman February -Marshall Carolus Brenda Barthell August -March -**Amy Arons** September - Kathy Sullivan April -Elise Ritter October -Mary Eggers May -Virginia Fernbach November - Jann Haynes Gilmore

June - Virginia Fernbach November - Jann Haynes Gilmore

June - Toni Plazibat December - Judelle McArdle

We were also treated to a wonderful, fast-paced demonstration via ZOOM by well-known watercolorist, **Vladislav Yeliseyev**, who combines an artist's eye with an architect's obsession. His creative journey began in the former Soviet Union, where he received a formal art education in 1977, and went on to earn his Master's Degree at The Moscow Institute of Architecture, before moving to America. In this country, he's enjoyed a successful career as a prolific watercolor painter specializing in architectural illustration. He's also the founder of the *Renaissance School of Art* in Sarasota, Florida. Please check his website for online classes.



Vlad, hard at work in our ZOOM demo



Vladislav Yeliseyev

In Memoriam

Suzanne Burton

Suzanne Burton died June 16, 2020 of complications of cancer at Grand Oaks in Washington DC. Before retiring, she was Office Manager for Dr. Shawna Hawks dental practice in NW Washington, having previously worked at the National Geographic for 28 years.

Sue's passion was watercolor painting and she loved being a student in Peter Ulrich's Saturday class, and the many friends she made there. In addition to PVW, Sue was also a member of the Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, DC, and exhibited yearly at their show in Maryland.



Her favorite subject was landscapes and many reflected her love of Cape Cod where she spent summers with her parents and the Maine coast where she spent vacations with her sister, Pat, and her family. Sue's paintings reflected her personality. They focused on serene settings, characterized by delicate brushwork and subtle colors. She will be missed not only for her talent, but for her smiling personality and always positive outlook. (Submitted by Emilie McBride)



Jeff Gorrell

Jeff Gorrell was a humble, quiet-spoken man who excelled in large flowing watercolors on Yupo and had recently been experimenting with painting with smoke. He was generous with his time, thoughts and encouragement, and was a frequent award-winner in regional exhibitions. In 2018, my daughter interviewed him for a high school project on local artists. Here were some of his thoughts:

"I had been doodling, drawing, sketching—that kind of stuff—on and off, but an artist friend said, 'try watercolor.' So I took a watercolor night class, and it didn't take long for me to realize that I was going to keep on doing this forever.

I often like painting close-ups of an image; at that point, it's just texture and shape and color. For example, I've been watching this stump disintegrate over the last few months. It was a big old oak tree that had to be cut down because it was rotting from the inside out. I like watching that process of disintegration, and it gives me lots of excuses to play with texture.

I think there's a stereotype that painting is pure relaxation. And it's not. Sometimes it's intense; sometimes I work very hard to figure something out. So some people say, 'oh, you just started painting because it's a relaxing way to get away from your stressful job.' That's partly true. But it's more of the fact that it's compelling. When I'm deeply into working on something, I'm paying attention to a lot of different factors. I think now I pay more attention to the nature of the gestures that I make: the movement of the paint, my arm, my hand. There is a sense that you've actually made movement with the brush, not just filled in color. You add energy and feeling into the painting.

I cannot imagine stopping. I can imagine perhaps going a week without painting, but stopping? No. It's too integral a part of what I do." To see Jeff's art and read about his work and life, go to https://jeffgorrell.com (Submitted by Leigh Culver)

In Memoriam



Elinor Morley

Ellie was always there, from the very beginning of Skip Lawrence's 1979 classes at Lyon Village in Arlington. After Skip moved on, Ellie and a handful of his students stayed together, meeting twice a month for a morning of painting, lunch and critique. The group has contracted and expanded since then, but Ellie was a constant, happily greeting each of us as we arrived. Two even said she was like a second mother, no higher tribute could be made! Ellie was immaculate, both in appearance and in her work. There was nothing she couldn't paint and paint it better than anyone in our group. Skip said she had a "deft" touch. She could paint a perfect rose from memory and her portraits were fabulous. She bravely tried new methods and painted magnificent, imaginative yupo landscapes, the envy of us all.

Her eye was like a laser, which she used during critiques to identify problems. Her judgement was always spot on. If something wasn't quite right, she would notice it immediately and might say "It makes my teeth itch!" or "Give it a wash of rose madder genuine!" That always did the trick. If she said, "Sign it, it's a winner," you knew it was so! She was an avid Nationals baseball fan and full of fun, wise-cracking and eager to celebrate our birthdays. Of course, we always celebrated hers with a fabulous cake, her last was this year at 96. She said her sons treated her like a queen and we all knew she deserved it. She knew how to live life to the fullest. She will be dearly missed, a monarch to be sure. (Submitted by her critique group.)

"Ellie's little gem of a painting of her son and grandchild walking away in the woods (a PVW winner) was so appealing that it was stolen years ago from the exhibition at the George Mason Law in Arlington." (Submitted by Chica Brunvold)

Marie K. Shaughnessy

I am very sorry to hear of Marie's passing. Marie Kaneko Shaughnessy was generous with her time; she made a point of knowing everyone; and she was a superior artist. There was a time when I was teaching a watercolor class near her home in McLean, and she signed up for it. I should have been taking lessons from her, but she made it fun, and we went to lunch after each class and shared art and personal secrets. I greatly respected her knowledge of state and national art and artists throughout America, and she appreciated and collected the work of others. My favorite was the large portrait of Marie in kimono painted by the late Charles Reid. She also studied with Henry Wo, Ed Betts, Edgar Whitney and many other prominent painters. Marie was a past president of the Sumi-E Society of America and twice served as president (1993) or co-president (2004) of the Virginia Watercolor Society. She was a dedicated worker bee in many other art organizations, and she was just so perceptive and so cute. I am sorry that her voice and brushes are now stilled, but I will always remember her fondly. More About Marie can be found on the web site of the McLean Art Society where she is quoted as saying, "Some of my happiest times are when I am painting, teaching, or with my artists friends." http://mcleanartsociety.org/gallery/mariekaneko.html# (Submitted by Jean K. Gill)

In Memoriam

Marie K. Shaughnessy (cont)

I remember what a great job Marie did chairing our PVW workshops and how much work she put into them each time. She was always gracious, giving, cheerful and charming. I loved talking with her and meeting her at shows. She made sure every person felt welcomed and had what they needed. She took very good care of each guest artist, including having them stay in her home. (Submitted by Sally Olson)



Every inch a true lady— lovely, and classy, of course, but gracious, thoughtful, generous, kind AND also a wonderful master of sumi! During WWII, Marie, as a child, was confined along with her Japanese parents in a concentration camp in the NW US. But there was never a hint of any bitterness in her. She had a long happy marriage and cared for her husband through his illness. She lived in Alaska for years and was instrumental in forming the watercolor society there. She taught Sumi painting there and here at the Art League. She took many art workshops and had an extensive and enviable art collection of her instructors' works. (Submitted by Chica Brunsvold)

I can't recall exactly where and how I first met Marie, we belonged to several art organizations together...We became friends, lunching at the restaurant that Marie and her husband had enjoyed, or to nearby spots after meetings...We talked and talked of all things and played with her constant companions, the dachshunds. I had left mine in Philadelphia. She was the friend that attended all my solo shows and would invite us to join with her family for events. The best was when she asked me to stand for her at her Confirmation to become a Roman Catholic. Our Pastor suggested we take Latin Classes, so on a wild moment we signed up for Latin Classes together with a 'Classical' teacher. We did well. This was typical of Marie: alive and quick to embrace the new adventure. I loved her for that spirit. My last visit with Marie was pleasant, she still had that spirit of "I am here." Marie was one of the gifts in my lifetime. She is now in a better place with her husband John. (Submitted by Concetta C. Scott)

I studied sumi-e with Marie for a number of years and loved her classes. One of my proudest moments was when she bought one of my paintings of a praying mantis on an ancient vase right off the table. She was always very encouraging. (Submitted by Jane Jordan)



PVW Member in the news - Rob Henry





Rob's Driveway Gallery: Bethesda painter creates 'driveway gallery' to cheer neighbors during pandemic. "Back in May I started the Driveway Gallery. I put a painting on an easel at the end of my driveway to share with my many neighbors who were now walking by the house more than ever. I have to admit I stole the idea (with permission of course) from our own Carolyn Marshall Wright's Fencepost Gallery." Neighbors walk by his driveway to enjoy his artwork, many of whom he has met for the first time and Rob says he is happy if his artwork makes them smile.

Rob also set up my cards, calendars, miniatures and hand painted Christmas ornaments for sale. "I figured since none of the usual art shows or craft fairs or Christmas bazaars are going to happen maybe I could just do it myself! I'm happy to report it was a huge success. My neighbors loved seeing all of the other things I did besides paintings and many of them got some early Christmas shopping done. I'm not sure how much longer I'll keep doing the gallery as the days get shorter and it gets dark much earlier, but all of my neighbors are urging me to continue as long as I can."

His outdoor gallery was covered by NBC News – you can watch the video at this link: https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/painter-creates-driveway-gallery-to-cheer-neighbors-during-pandemic/2356258/

See more about Rob at: https://www.robhenrywatercolors.com/





June 2020 PVW Show

April M. Rimpo, Judge Exploring Color and Light to tell Stories of Life.

April M. Rimpo was the judge for the June 2020 PVW Show and her comments about the show reflect her enthusiasm.

"The quality of work in the exhibition was excellent making my job of selecting the award winners difficult. I could easily have given many more awards. With this many excellent paintings, I wanted to represent the variety of subject matter and styles of work included in the exhibition. My criteria included mastery of watercolor techniques but with the high quality of work in the show technical expertise was not enough.

The award winners are pieces that grabbed my attention and did not let me forget them. Often this is done by telling a story in your art and expressing the emotions that drove you to paint it. I also looked for artists who created a design that balances the elements of art, including color, line, value, and texture. The goal of this balancing act is to provide the viewer with an exciting focal point that your eye travels to. It was a true pleasure judging the awards for this show and hope you will find equal enjoyment in viewing the exhibition. The order of the honorable mention awards does not imply any hierarchy, all were marvelous."

Thank you for letting me enjoy your show. — April



First Place
WINTER BLUES 11" x 8" Jean Gill

This small painting made me say, "Wow!" The limited color palette of blue, violet, and black is powerful and uses rhythm and harmony to make my eye wander through this landscape and let me linger in its beauty. The dark black accents are the only truly hard edges in this otherwise flowing piece.

Fall 2020 PVW Show

Donna Zagotta - Judge

OUR AUTUMN ONLINE ART EXHIBITION is now up and operating through December 31st, featuring 177 paintings by 92 artists – one sale has already been made! Our deepest appreciation for the hours and days of hard work by Exhibitions Chair Leigh Fulton, Website Master Debby Conn, image master Pat Porter, invitation designer Lynda Pitman, and technical expert Carrera Chao who collaborated so smoothly to produce this lovely exhibition. Awards Judge Donna Zagotta handled the daunting task of selecting the awards.



Donna Zagotta's statement: "In my current work, the figure is my jumping off place. My process is a mix of deliberation, improvisation, and experimentation. I focus on color, light, composition, abstract forms, markmaking, pattern, and painterly brushwork with the intention of transforming my subject into an expressive visual statement that is alive with feeling." The judge's comments on awards are below.

First Place - Linda Sherman "Summer Clouds Rolling In"

Putting together totally abstract paintings like this require a mastery of design and color, and this artist has both. This painting immediately caught my eye because of its beautiful geometric composition that is centered around the large dominant triangular shape that touches three borders of the picture surface.





Memorial Award* - Terri Rea "Pandemic Blues"

This painting touched me deeply as I'm sure it touches everyone who sees it – a perfect representation of the feelings we all have at this time as we deal with the Coronavirus pandemic - it stirs our hearts and souls.

Baltimore Water Color Society Award - Karen Norman "Knapps Narrows Evening"

What first attracted me to this painting was its mood. The soft colors, serene calmness, and quiet beauty makes me want to pause, stay awhile, and just look. I guess I would say that it is a meditative painting.



Fall 2020 PVW Show

Virginia Watercolor Society Award - JoAnne Ramsey "Blue Silk"

This is a painting I couldn't stop looking at because with every glance I saw something new that delighted me. The artist's design, color, and technical skills are impeccable. The composition of massed colorful positive shapes of objects contrasted with the quiet areas of negative space that surrounds them create a unique and very interesting cruciform structure.





Second Place - Vita Sims "Moonshine on Blueberry Hill"

This artist has used a sophisticated strata composition in a unique and creative way that makes her painting fascinating to look at. There are four horizontal bars that structure the composition and each bar differs from the others.

Third Place - Kathleen Frampton "Sundown on Center Street"

I get a Vincent Van Gogh"Starry Night"-ish vibe when I look at this painting. The first thing that caught my eye was the painting's wonderful value pattern and the simplified structure that contains only three major shapes.



Honorable Mentions

Cecilia Capestany, - Duck and Weave
Deborah Cohan, Old Faithful
Leigh Culver, Baroque Nostalgia
Donna Finnegan, Season's End
Angela Lacy, Lunch at Lake Como
Elise Ritter, Convergence
Amy Sabrin, The Ancient Pines at Bonnieux
Ginger Sanaie, Mimosa Branch
Wendy Schobert, A Bridge to Cross
Tammy Wiedenhaefer, Chinatown, Melbourne

Paint Outs: The Art of Painting in Masks!

"Masking" took on a whole new meaning this past year for watercolorists. Fortunately, plein air painting fits perfectly with the definition of 'social distancing' and a number of our members came to the great outdoors for a Paint-Out.

In September 2020, Ginnie Luster and Florence Setzer organized and led a successful plein air event for ten PVW artists at **Great Falls Park**, enjoying beautiful weather. We had 10 artists gather in the park and the weather was gorgeous! The park needed some maintenance but there were plenty of pretty places to paint. Here are some photos of those of us who stayed 'til the end, Renee Alberts, Sue Moses, Jane Coonce and Carol Vorosmarti, and a few shots of others painting: Angela Lacy, Rosa Vera and Colleen Henderson.













Paint Outs: The Art of Painting in Masks!









On October 17, 2020 Ginnie and Florence organized another Paint-Out for PVW members and friends at **Riverbend Park**, a small park upriver from Great Falls, with some river and forest views. It turned out to be a gorgeous day and the light on the river kept changing as time passed by. The artists - equipped with mask, stool, easel, water bottle, hat and lunch - met around 10:00 a.m. and painted for several hours. In the group photo are: Sue Moses, Jann Gilmore, Renee Alberts, Maureen Rabinowitz and Ginnie Luster.













Coping with the pandemic

We asked, "What has helped you in living through the pandemic?" Our members responded:

Jean K. Gill put a plan in place and executed it in collaboration with her husband. "During the pandemic," she said, "I made time to finish, crop, mat, archive and label miscellaneous small works that had piled up over the years while I was focused on larger paintings. I am totally inept at mat cutting and never could have matted anything without help from my husband, Stewart. I decided from now on to paint in sizes matched to precut mats, which I have already purchased to help me stick to the COVID plan of painting many small, imagined landscapes."

Tara Hamilton's participation in the show "Colors of Quarantine: Creativity in the Time of Covid" was instrumental. "It gave me a couple of months of creative respite early in the pandemic and let me put to artistic use materials that I cut for a neighbor who sewed masks."

Margaret Huddy's routine saved the day for her. "I've kept my sanity during Covid by daily painting. Fortunately, the Frederick Plein Air Artists were able to continue meeting on site every Wednesday, wearing masks and keeping social distancing as well as signing in for contact tracing. It has been my salvation. When I'm not outside working, I'm continuing painting acrylic paintings of animals from my safari in Zambia last year." Margaret has also relied on reading with her 2 book clubs and exercising.

Janet Hansen Martinet enjoyed showing in the Artists' Inventory Sale at the Harris Pavilion in Manassas, visiting with area artists and the general public, masked and enjoying the air and sunshine. "I have also been participating in Sharie Boyle's on-line Watercolor Collaborative through the Prince William County's Library System-still learning new things!"

Carolyn Wright took a number of online classes, such as "Make Art That Sells" and "Write Your Self." She learned enough Photoshop to produce patterns from her art and then make fabric from the patterns. And she adds, "I also have been fortunate to have grown children close enough to enjoy 'Friday Feasts,' and have kept in regular, close touch via technology with my large family of origin, laughing, crying and praying together."



Spotlight on Members in the News

If we missed you this time, please make sure to email Cecilia Capestany at ccapestany@gmail.com for our next issue.

Beth Ayres, Marshall Carolus, and Emilie McBride were juried into the 2020 Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society (MPSGS) of Washington, D.C. 87th Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature. The exhibit will be at the Mansion at Strathmore in Rockville, Maryland from November 22, 2020 to January 9, 2021.

Valerie Bernat's painting "Once Upon A Time We Went To The Moon" was accepted into an international virtual exhibit at the Touchstone Gallery, Washington, D.C., in September.





Jane McElvany Coonce has been invited to participate in the "Small Jewels" show at Peninsula Gallery in Lewes, Delaware. She will have five small paintings in the exhibition. The show will hang from November 28, until December 31, 2020.

Leigh Culver was invited by the National Institute of Health to participate in a show focusing on quilts which hung for several months in its lobby hallways for medical staff and patients to view through mid-November.

Kathleen Frampton's artwork "Thermals" and "Bull Run Spring" was accepted into the *Paint!* Manassas Show in September. She also had a solo show at Winegar's Bakery in Manassas, during May and June.

Spotlight on Members in the News

Jean K. Gill, AWS, NWS, has works accepted in the 2020 Philadelphia Watercolor Society's 120th Anniversary International Exhibition of Works on Paper, and in the 2020 National Watercolor Society's First 100 Years Celebratory Exhibition in conjunction with the Hilbert Museum of California Art.

Jann Haynes Gilmore, board member of the American Women Artists organization, which has as its mission to place contemporary women artists' works in 25 museums over 25 years, invites PVW members to join. Entry fee for Associate Artist is \$60 and this past year a \$10,000 prize was awarded to a watercolor in the annual juried exhibition. The virtual show was held at the Booth Museum in Cartersville, GA, which also made purchases for its permanent collection. Contact information is at: https://linktr.ee/JannHaynesGilmore

Cecilia Capestany has been accepted as a Signature Artist in the Baltimore Watercolor Society.

Ray Goodrow received the Alexandria Art League's 'Best in Show' award for "Winter Light" in the annual landscape show, June 2020. The artist's interview by Haven Ashley, entitled "Light as Muse," appears in the online Art League's blog.





Tara Hamilton participated in a two-woman show at the shop "Frame of Mine" in Washington, D.C., displaying art created during the pandemic. Tara paired her watercolor paintings with re-imagined collage creations made by using cuttings from material used to sew face masks for neighbors. The artwork, on view in person through November 7, can be viewed online at: https://www.frameminetoo.com/shop At left is one of her works entitled "Garden Pottery".

Prizewinners in the 2020 Virginia Watercolor Society's 41st Annual Exhibition at the Virginia Museum of History and Culture in Richmond, VA: Second Place: Jean Gill; Outstanding Achievement Award: Jung Lea Smith; Awards of Excellence: Noreen Brunini, Tammy Wiedenhaefer, Liz Roberts, and Jacqueline Saunders; Awards of Distinction: Judy Antico, Brenda Barthell, Judy Antico, Elaine Nunnally and Lynda Pitman.

To see the full list of those juried, including many more PVW members, go to: http://www.virginiawatercolorsociety.org/2020Exhibit-info/2020-VWS-Exhibition-Accepted-Artists.pdf

Spotlight on Members in the News

Rob Henry was featured on the local NBC Nightly News in July for his "Driveway Gallery" of watercolor paintings created to cheer neighbors during the pandemic. He has inspired other artists to do the same.

Margaret Huddy had a show of 36 of her watercolor sketches "Have Brush Will Travel" at District Arts Gallery in Frederick, MD, for the month of October.

Angela Lacy's painting, "Milan Red Carpet Walk," received an Honorable Mention at the Baltimore Watercolor Society signature member show in Frederick, MD.

Janet Hansen Martinet's "Rhododendron Hotspur" and Ray Goodrow's "Girls are Dancing" were accepted in the Pittsburgh Watercolor Society's Aqueous Open 2020 and can be viewed at: www.pittsburghwatercolorsociety.com. Janet was also accepted in the *Paint!* Manassas competition, on view at the Grounds Central Coffee Shop.

Sue Moses has painted portraits of President Trump and the First Lady, which she has forwarded to the White House, as part of an effort to expedite research and a cure for cancer to honor her brother who is afflicted with the disease.

Hernán Murno was recently juried into the Torpedo Factory Artist Association.

Jill Poyerd just released a new YouTube video that offers a comprehensive comparison of ten different professional watercolor papers, including Arches, Fabriano, Winsor & Newton, Waterford, L'Aquarelle, Lanaquarelle, Hahnemuhle, Strathmore, Stonehenge, and Khadi. The video, "Professional Watercolor Papers: A Performance Comparison," can be accessed at: https://youtu.be/DZhswCAM32Q or by visiting Jill's YouTube channel, Jill Poyerd Fine Art.

Salon Eight (Connie Boland, Leigh Culver, Joan Kirk, Emilie McBride, Joan Kirk, Margitta Hanff Potts, JoAnne Ramsey, and Donna Sturm) will be exhibiting at River Farm in Alexandria, VA, from April to October of 2021.

Alex Tolstoy has been asked to present a show in July 2021 at the Gibson Island Gallery (near Annapolis, MD). Also, as "Artist in Residence" for the *Acoustics Today* magazine, she has artwork in their latest issue (Vol. 16, issue 3). Alex is one of the selected artists participating in the 2020 McLean Project for the Arts virtual artfest, and was also selected as one of the artists who appeared in the Maryland Federation of Art Corporate Collection, at National Harbor, in October. She also has two pieces, "Refreshing Lemons" and "The Glow," published in volume 39 of the *Art of Watercolor* magazine.

Rose Vera's works were included in the online exhibit, "Women in the Arts" from Oct. 12-Nov. 22, featuring 102 women artists working across multiple media from DC, Maryland, and Virginia.

Carolyn Marshall Wright had a solo show from June to September in Harrisonburg, VA. The show, "Beauty in the Midst," featured 14 abstract and abstracted representational works. Carolyn also improvised a Fencepost Art Gallery in front of her house at the start of the pandemic and has been hanging her artwork since to the joy of neighbors and passersby.

