



# OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

volume 30 issue 1

SPRING  
2020

## Brushstrokes

### A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA

Dear OPA Members,

These past few weeks have been extremely trying as we deal with the COVID-19 phenomenon. If I've learned anything from this, it is that this situation impacts us all differently. It is difficult to imagine how it might be affecting you and your family.

To those of us who make our living as fine artists, the temporary closure of galleries and the postponement of classes and workshops puts us in a precarious financial position. Galleries are especially vulnerable, as they attempt to meet payroll and pay high foot traffic rent when the foot traffic is no longer allowed. It's a scary time for most of us, but for many different reasons.

Recently, in response to COVID-19, the Federal Government passed the CARES Act, the largest financial support package in US History. This package includes financing options for small business owners and self-employed individuals. Be sure to check out the US Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loan Emergency Advance Program which provides up to \$10,000 of economic relief, as well as the Payroll Protection Program which provides 100 percent federally-backed loans for certain payroll expenses, with up to eight weeks of forgiveness for small businesses, certain nonprofits and self-employed individuals.

In addition, many local, state and national organizations have created their own relief funds for artists. OPA has compiled a list for you from several online resources which you can find on OPA's home page. I also encourage you to contact your local



Kirk Larsen OPA and friend Genevieve Jezick sewing face masks for their local community

governing body to see if other resources are available in your community. If you find an organization that should be added to our list, please be sure to email us at [mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com](mailto:mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com).

With all the heartbreak that comes with this pandemic, I also know that there are positives that have emerged, such as giving us time to reflect on what is important to us and the opportunity to make changes. Some of you are enjoying spending more quality time with your kids, family dinners, tackling home projects that never seemed to be a priority, and painting for long uninterrupted hours.

I have always considered artists to be more giving than most. I am proud to be a part of such an amazingly talented and compassionate group of people. There are many of you making a difference every day in your communities and I applaud you.

I want to give a shout out to Kirk Larsen OPA who as I recently saw on Facebook has turned in his paint brush to help sew face masks for healthcare workers in his area. I also salute paramedic Davis Perkins OPA, who is on the front lines of COVID-19 tending to patients who have contracted this virus.

These are just a few examples I happened to have come across. I know many more of you are doing the same, offering help and solace where you see the need.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who has helped us to rearrange schedules and create workarounds so that our many shows and events can still take place, if on a smaller scale. The planning and legwork necessary for putting on the OPA National Show and Convention is not easy in the best of times. When those efforts are all upended it is an even more daunting task. Our staff, board, and volunteers have risen to this occasion, shouldering this upheaval gracefully, and I am deeply grateful. So, thank you to them, and best wishes to you all as you navigate these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Kurt Anderson OPA  
President



Paramedic Davis Perkins OPA  
working on the front lines of  
COVID-19

## WESTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION FUN AND ENLIGHTENING

OPA's 2019 Western Regional Exhibition opened on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at the inviting Sorrel Sky Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. John Michael Carter OPAM opened the program with a portrait demonstration, using OPA Master Signature member Louis Escobedo as his model. As always, Michael included insightful comments on his technique with a smattering of information about his personal background.

After lunch at the picturesque La Plazuela at La Fonda, OPA President Kurt Anderson OPA presented "Artists at the Cutting Edge: The OPA and the Rebirth of Representational Painting". Kurt's talk focused on representational oil painting's significance in the contemporary art world. He pointed out how today's leading painters draw upon a variety of traditions, such as atelier trained classicism, plein air naturalism, and traditional illustration.

Friday evening was the highlight of the weekend, with the opening reception and awards ceremony, held at Sorrel Sky Gallery. Artists and guests packed the Gallery, enjoying light refreshments while viewing over 130 paintings by OPA's western regional and Master Signature members. Attendees waited in anticipation of Juror

of Awards Kathryn Stats announcement of the Gold Medal winners: Jeff Legg OPAM in the Master Signature Division and Joseph V. Iantorno OPA in the Associate and Signature Division.

Saturday morning opened with a painting demonstration given by Juror of Awards Kathryn Stats. Kathryn's painting depicted a landscape scene of vibrant colors and realistic portrayal of the Southwest, for which she is well-known. After a deli lunch at the Gallery, Louis Escobedo OPAM closed the program with his demonstration of a richly painted and colorful floral still life.

A complete list of winners follows.

### MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

**Gold Medal: Jeff Legg OPAM for *Catch of the Day*** - \$3,500 funded by OPA

**Silver Medal: John Michael Carter OPAM for *Andalusia*** - half page advertisement in *Fine Art Connoisseur* Magazine valued at \$2,150

**Bronze Medal: Calvin Liang OPAM for *Monument Valley*** - Artwork Archive Lifetime Account valued at \$1,250

**Master Signature Award of Excellence: Scott B. Royston OPAM for *A Touch of Fall*** - merchandise certificate funded by Michael Harding Handmade Artists Oil Colours valued at \$500

**Master Signature Award of Excellence: William A. Schneider OPAM for *Julie A.*** - merchandise certificate funded by Maimeri Puro valued at \$250

### ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION

**Gold Medal: Joseph V. Iantorno for *Delft Pitcher and Stone Fruit*** - \$4,000 funded by OPA

**Silver Medal: Barbara Jaenicke OPA for *Approach to Mt. Hood*** - featured in "Artist Focus" section of *American Art Collector* Magazine - valued at \$3,400

**Bronze Medal: John F. Budicin OPA for *Unincorporated in 72*** - full page advertisement in *Southwest Art* Magazine valued at \$3,380



Jeff Legg OPAM won the Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division for *Catch of the Day*

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The Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division was awarded to Joseph V. Iantorno for *Delft Pitcher and Stone Fruit*





Barbara Jaenicke OPA  
won the Silver Medal  
in the Associate & Signature Division  
for *Approach to Mt. Hood*

**Western show con't.**

**Realism Award of Excellence:** Eric Fei Guan for *Little Boy* - \$500 funded by OPA

**Impressionist Award of Excellence:** Louis Escobedo OPA for *Star Dust* - \$500 funded by OPA

**Most Original Award of Excellence:** R. Gregory Summers for *To Run with the Puma* - \$500 funded by OPA

**Animal Award of Excellence:** Joshua A. Martin for *Cotton the Kitten* - \$500 funded by OPA

**Figurative Award of Excellence:** Clement Kwan OPA for *Flutist* - merchandise certificate funded by Savior Faire valued at \$250 and \$250 funded by OPA



The Figurative Award of Excellence was  
awarded to Clement Kwan OPA  
for *Flutist*

**Landscape Award of Excellence:** Victor A. Schiro for *Matilija Canyon* - merchandise certificate funded by Blue Ridge Oil Colors valued at \$250 and \$250 funded by OPA

**Portraiture Award of Excellence:** McGarren Flack for *Self 2018* - merchandise certificate funded by Savior Faire valued at \$250 and \$250 funded by OPA

**Still Life Award of Excellence:** Jeremy Goodding OPA for *Ode to a Butterfly* - merchandise certificate funded by Blue Ridge Oil Colors valued at \$250 and \$250 funded by OPA

#### AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Susan Lindsay for *Innocence* - merchandise certificate funded by Gamblin Artists Oil Colors valued at \$250



The Silver Medal in the  
Master Signature Division  
was awarded to  
John Michael Carter OPAM  
for *Andalusia*



*To Run with the Puma* painted by  
R. Gregory Summers won the  
Most Original Award of Excellence

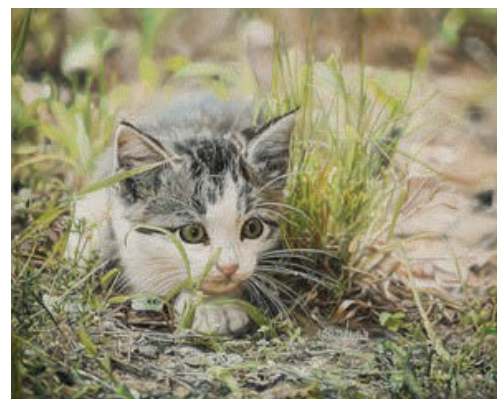
**Carol Jenkins for *Seagull*** - merchandise certificate funded by Liliedahl Video Productions valued at \$250

**John M. Pototschnik OPA for *Staying Home*** - merchandise certificate funded by Blick Art Materials valued at \$250

**Cheng Lian OPA for *Journey to Enlightenment*** - merchandise certificate funded by Jack Richeson & Company valued at \$150

**E. Melinda Morrison for *Swimming Buddies No. 2*** - merchandise certificate funded by Jack Richeson & Company valued at \$125

**Lucy Dickens for *The Beauty Within*** - merchandise certificate funded by Jack Richeson & Company valued at \$100



Joshua A. Martin's *Cotton the Kitten*  
won the Animal Award of Excellence



Victor A. Schiro won the Landscape Award of Excellence for *Matilija Canyon*



*Monument Valley* painted by Calvin Liang  
OPAM won the Bronze Medal in the Master Signature Division



The Realism Award of Excellence was awarded to Eric Fei Guan for *Little Boy*

## JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT KATHRYN STATS



I was honored to be asked to judge the Western Regional OPA Exhibition at the Sorrel Sky Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. While I have judged many shows in the past, I was not prepared for the entire show to be filled with the consistent high quality represented here. It was pure joy to be able to spend an entire day, studying these very fine paintings.

One of my main goals was to choose work that represented a wide variety of styles and approaches. Usually, when judging, I would take note of my favorites as I moved through the process, adding work as I went. Very often my favorite works held their position throughout the process. With this show, however, I had so many favorites, I had to eliminate a lot of compelling pieces. To say that it was heartbreaking would be an overstatement, but not by far.

### OPA'S CRITIQUE SERVICE

If you feel that your painting has reached a plateau and that you could benefit from some personal advice, OPA is pleased to offer our Critique Service to all oil painters. This one-on-one critique is offered via email or telephone at the nominal cost of \$30 for OPA members and \$50 for non-OPA artists. We try to match the critiquer's style with that of the artist requesting an evaluation.



All this may be done without leaving your home. You need only go online to:  
<https://blog.oilpaintersofamerica.com/artwork-critique-services/>

Complete the application, submit up to 10 images of your work, and remit payment for the opportunity to hear from an OPA Signature or Master Signature member with input on your paintings. This might be the opportunity to receive just one insight that takes you to your next level. Why not do it now, while you may have some extra time on your hands?



## MEET THE MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER JEFF LEGG OPAM

“Truth is the essential ingredient in making art. Painting with honest intent is tantamount to beauty.” - Jeff Legg OPAM

Jeffrey C. Legg was born in 1959 in Joplin, Missouri. By the age of 12 he was an apprentice to a well-known regional artist and college art professor. This relationship laid the foundation for his painting and drawing skills. He went on to study at Atelier Lack and the Minneapolis College of Art and Design.



His still life oils are often described as “luminous” and “like the Old Masters”. His works are highly sought after in America and abroad. Among his notable collectors are astronaut Neil Armstrong and Hall of Fame baseball player George Brett.

Mr. Legg is recognized as a Master Signature member by the prestigious Oil Painters of America. His work has established national recognition and garnered numerous awards including the coveted Gold Medal at the OPA National Exhibition. He has also earned major awards with the American Impressionist Society, Salon International and the Art Renewal Center.

His paintings have been featured on the cover of *Southwest Art* magazine and *Art of the West* magazine with full feature articles, as well as being in many other publications and books.

Mr. Legg’s works can be seen in distinguished galleries across the U.S. He now resides in the Northwest Arkansas Ozarks, where he paints in his studio daily.

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## MEET THE ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER JOSEPH V. IANTORNO OPA



Joseph Iantorno is a bright young artist and teacher living in Anaheim, California. Originally pursuing a career in music with painting as a hobby, he soon found his artistic ability with paint exceeded his musical talents.

Influenced by such artists as Rembrandt, Hovsep Pushman, David A. Leffel OPAM and Photographer George Hurrell, Joseph prefers to paint in the style of "Chiaroscuro" which literally translates into "Light and Shadow". It was the style preferred by Rembrandt and the style he is known for. In the proper light, the subject seems to separate itself from the canvas and stand out in front of the darker background colors.

Joseph is inspired by the mood captured by Baroque painters. This and his preferred style of painting lead perfectly to his favorite subjects: Portrait and Still Life. True to the Chiaroscuro style, his subjects seem to live within their world of canvas and paint. In his own words, "Art should move you. It should enhance your life. A work of art is a unique and beautiful creation that MUST be done with love. I seek to fill my work with emotion, mood and compassion..."

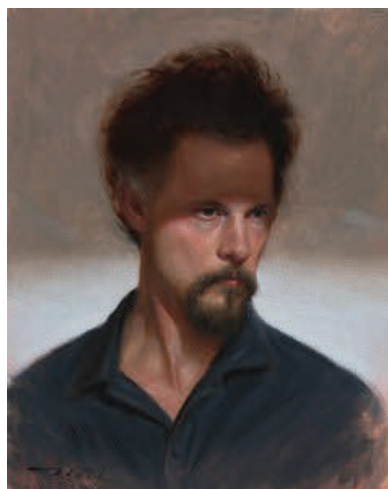
Armed with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Chapman University (Orange, California), Joseph set out across the country attending workshops to help him refine his trade.

He tries to spend each day enjoying God's creations and using the talents he was given to capture them in oils.

Joseph Iantorno is represented by McBride Gallery in Annapolis, MD and Scene Gallery in Newport Beach, CA.



The Still Life Award of Excellence was awarded to Jeremy Goodding OPA for *Ode to a Butterfly*



McGarren Flack won the Portraiture Award of Excellence for *Self 2018*



Louis Escobedo OPA's *Star Dust* won the Impressionist Award of Excellence



*Unincorporated in 72* painted by John F. Budicin OPA won the Bronze Medal in the Associate & Signature Division



## ART AMBASSADOR, A NOTEWORTHY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

By Andrea Nicholson

A language that knows no boundaries. A language that engages kids in their education, ignites their creative spark and unites communities around the world. That language is art.

Kevin Macpherson OPAM, a 30-plus year OPA member, knows this language well—he's proficient in this language. In 2014, Macpherson started Art Ambassador for a Colorful World, a global organization of artist ambassadors who believe art has the power to change the world. Currently working in the U.S., Mexico, China and Guatemala with plans to expand to other areas in Central and South America and Southeast Asia, he and his art ambassadors provide high quality, individualized art instruction and lectures.



Wanda and Ken Macpherson OPAM with some of the children of Art Ambassadors for a Colorful World

Macpherson has shared what he calls "the art spirit" in various ways by writing books, teaching and conducting lectures and painting on location all over the world. He's always engaged people that want to watch him in his painting process and to him it seems kids are always the most curious.

In the "Reflections on a Pond Series:

Travel Art Country" Macpherson added an exhibition in which he took a group of kids out to paint one of the local ponds and there he learned a lot from watching kids paint. "The freedom that they have - and when their young, especially before they are scolded or praised by adults - they're the most creative in their lives. Naturally, I always engaged children and adults, teaching them and sharing the art spirit."

Art Ambassador's programs promote a love of learning, ignite the spark of creativity and build community among the children and their villages. They present a lecture series and work with national governments, museums and institutions of higher learning to build the local capacity for art instruction and appreciation as a community organizing force.

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In 2011, Macpherson saw a Chinese program in which a man was helping migrant children who come to Shanghai from rural areas. The man was giving them an opportunity to learn music and Macpherson was inspired by what he did. "I gave him a call and said 'I don't know anything about music, but I can maybe add art to your program.'"

The man accepted and Macpherson jumped at the chance to be part of this Chinese non-profit organization. "I landed in Shanghai and about 8 hours later they threw me in a van with 12 kids. I barely spoke a word of Chinese and they gave me the responsibility of taking these kids into the city to paint with them" Macpherson said.

From there, Art Ambassador was born. Macpherson knew he could do this on a grander scale--travel to under-privileged areas in Mexico and Guatemala too. If he could start a non-profit, maybe he'd have something bigger than himself in the future.

The organization has grown slowly. Trips are typically 12 days and Macpherson brings anywhere from 18 to 25 people, including artists and interpreters. Mostly everything had been self-funded by

Art Ambassador con't.

Macpherson, until 2014 when Art Ambassador gained non-profit status. A key point that helped his organization was meeting a woman named Leslie Bare while doing a Catalina Plein Air event. She started an organization in Guatemala called Xela-Aid 29 years ago and works in a small community to help make the community self-sustainable.

"A friend of mine said you've got to meet this lady. She does these things down in Guatemala. We hit it off great. I headed down to Guatemala with her and I added art to their program" Macpherson said. "She's been helping me develop Art Ambassador and we do a lot of things with them every year. Now we're building an actual art center in their new building. We'll have studio space, have workshops and encourage other artists to use this as a turnkey kind of thing to experience Guatemala."

Lori Putnam OPA, Art Ambassador Vice President, accompanied Macpherson on a recent Guatemala trip in October, 2019. This was her second trip to Guatemala and she had the



Board Director Joel Heger working with children in San Martin Chiquito

chance to visit with Julia, the little girl she and her husband sponsor. This little girl, her sister Martina and her family live on a dirt floor. Putnam can't imagine not going on these trips because "these people have become like family. Julia is like family to us. Even though I can see her only once a year I can email her. And try to encourage her to learn to read. She just turned 11 and doesn't know how to read. From here all I can do is just stay in touch and encourage her."

Putnam went on to described how Art Ambassador combats the language barrier. Some of the children speak a dialect of Mayan and a handful of interpreters can only go so far when working with 80 children.

"You'd be amazed at how far just the visual language of painting goes. You can't get to some of the heart matters you'd like to discuss but you can at least get them to smile" Putnam said. "Last year, for instance, Martina would only paint with black paint and that communicated a lot to us, even though she wasn't saying it aloud. It was so joyful this year, even though her situation is still horrific, she painted with pink. Things are still so horrible for her but there's still a little light somewhere, to be painting with pink."

Early on, Macpherson participated with a Chinese organization and met some government volunteers and became great friends with them. He described "this one gal in China is kind of like my lead art ambassador over there. We've gone to many different rural places and she's a great organizer. She's such a great force to get things accomplished and planned over there. I've kind of ruined her life" Macpherson joked. "She quit her government job and now has become a very good artist.



Art Ambassador VP Lori Putnam OPA with her sponsored child, Julia

She's never painted before and it totally destroyed her life, turning her into an artist."

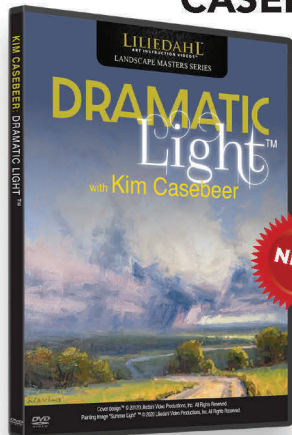
On ambassador-led painting trips, the team goes to under-privileged areas and works with children in small schools. Sometimes the children will come from mountain areas and Macpherson's mission is to "engage the children and give them the opportunity to do creative things. Some of the places we go, you don't have a crayon, you don't have paper and work with what we have. On one of my projects I went to the banana fields and I got a giant stalk of bananas and we drew on a giant stalk of bananas."

Macpherson hopes to attract more artists to use his format and create their own workshops. He'd love to inspire artists to organize events in their own community. If artists find a project or a place Art Ambassador can help support them with funding or contribute ideas for activities to put on. Macpherson suggests "going to your public school or going to a place in your area that you know doesn't have an opportunity for art and volunteering a

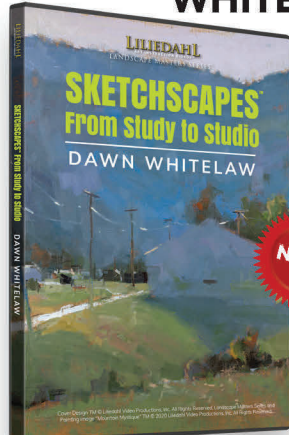


# FRESH IDEAS ON PAINTING

Kim  
**CASEBEER**



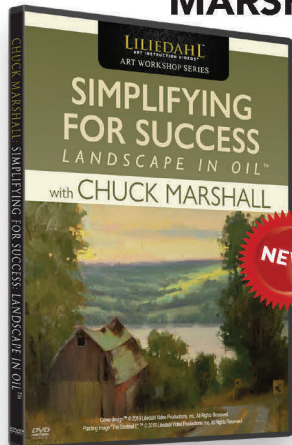
Dawn  
**WHITELAW**



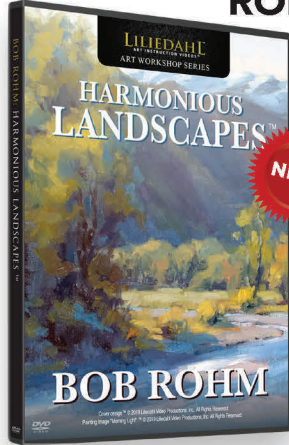
Nancy  
**BOREN**



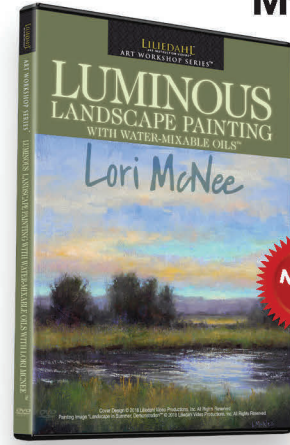
Chuck  
**MARSHALL**



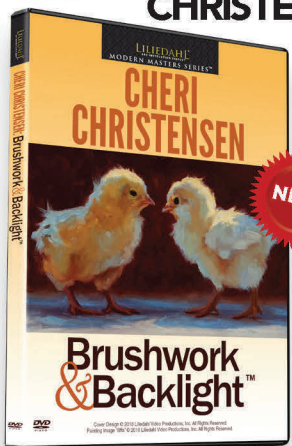
Bob  
**ROHM**



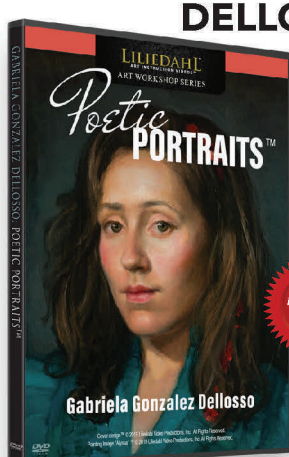
Lori  
**McNEE**



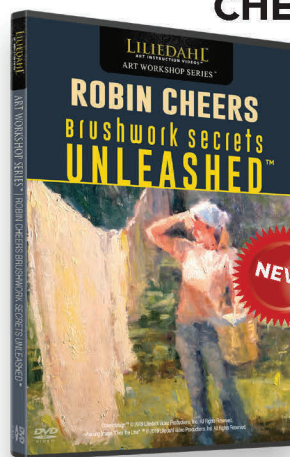
Cheri  
**CHRISTENSEN**



Gabriela Gonzalez  
**DELLOSOS**



Robin  
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Art Ambassador can't.

little bit would be a good way to build Art Ambassador in a simple and easy way."

Expanding is next for Art Ambassador. Macpherson has created a template that can be applied to communities in other countries. The organization has roots in Singapore and Malaysia and has plans to broaden their horizons by partnering with local organizations like Xela-Aid--one that has already laid the groundwork and already jumped through governmental hoops.

We're making the world a more colorful place. When the artists and staff on these trips finally get to "meet these kids, it truly is life-changing for some of these people" Macpherson said. "It changes their attitude and also, in a way, it gives them a lot of extra purposes for the art they have in their lives."

"Anywhere that you travel you immediately grow because of the different light and different colors and the culture and the people. They add to your rolodex of things that you know and have now experienced. Painting itself has become more meaningful. There was a time right before getting involved in Art



Macpherson completing a portrait as Chinese children watch

Ambassadors where everything seemed so bad every time you turned on the news. And how selfish is it just to be painting in my studio all day? It just seemed like there was no reason to be doing this. This is not helping the world. Some people would argue with that but I'm really hard on myself. Knowing that there's something that painting is helping - I can see it helping - has really changed the way I feel about painting in general."

Macpherson believes everything an artist does adds to an evolution as a painter. Last year he started using watercolors, which he hadn't done in years. He describes it as a fun and challenging direction in his work. He lives in New Mexico in the woods and during most of his career he focused on landscape painting. When he started traveling to different areas, he started

portrait painting. Many times he'd paint the students and the teachers when working at these primitive schools.

"I'm trying different mediums and different subjects. Sometimes when an artist just focuses on painting, I admire that, but teaching became a very rewarding part of my career. In some ways it takes time away from your painting career but it adds to your life in a different way. Traveling and meeting all these different kinds of people and changing someone's life where you truly do make a difference in someone's life - it adds to inspiration."

It doesn't take much for Macpherson; seeing the smiles on the child and adult faces is the most rewarding aspect for him. "No matter what language they speak--Mayan, or Spanish, or Chinese, art is a universal language" Macpherson said. "And I find it so great that for some of these kids we're the first foreign person they meet and that a good warm face and fun activity may change their life in a good way forever."

If you are interested in volunteering or donating, please visit [artambassador.org](http://artambassador.org) or email [Wanda@artambassador.org](mailto:Wanda@artambassador.org).

## PHOTOS FROM THE 2019 WESTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION



Opening reception at Sorrel Sky Gallery



Demos by: Kathryn Stats, Louis Escobedo OPAM, and John Michael Carter OPAM



## ANNOUNCING THE FALL 2019 ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNERS

Many thanks go out to Steve Atkinson OPA for giving his time and expertise in judging the Fall 2019 Online Showcase. Selecting a First, Second and Third Place award in each Division (Associate and Signature) as well as 15 Honorable Mentions had to be a daunting experience with over 1,100 entries to be considered. As in the past, we also thank Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, for their ongoing financial support of the Online Showcase competition.

### Signature Winners

**First Place:** Dave Santillanes OPA for *Winter Creek*

**Second Place:** Patrick Saunders OPA for *War Dancer*

**Third Place:** Greg LaRock OPA for *Juxtaposition*

### Honorable Mentions

Charles Young Walls OPA for *A Sonnet in Blue and Gold*, Linda Besse OPA for *Ice Bear*, and Michelle Usibelli OPA for *Mellow Morning*.

### Associate Winners

**First Place:** John Buxton for *Rock Shelter*

**Second Place:** Robert Goldman for *Into Coal Mine Canyon*

**Third Place:** Jason Sacran for *The Old Hay Barn*

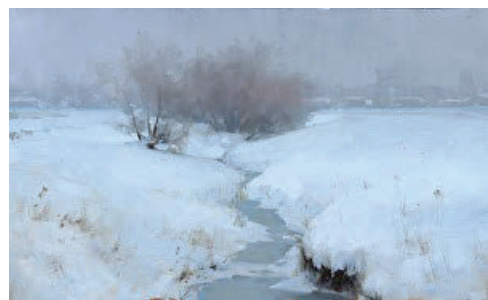
**Honorable Mentions:** Stephen Stauffer for *Dead Horse Point Junipers*, Brian Astle for *Arrangement in Yellow and Blue*, Jim Wodark for *Welcome Glow*, Blair Atherholt for *Evensong*, Matthew Cutter for *Entering Yellowstone*, Alan Wylie for *Manhattan Mosaic*, E. Melinda Morrison for *Cherub Rocker*, Brian McClear for *Forgiven*, Marc Anderson for *The Woodpile*, Kim VanDerHoek for *Key Bridge Arches*, Patricia Rice for *Acceleration*, *Greater Shearwater*, and Allie Zeyer for *View from the Apple Orchards*.

The Spring 2020 Online Showcase is accepting entries through May 15. The fee is \$15 per entry, with no limit to the number of entries you may submit. This competition is open to Associate members only, with prizes of: First Place \$3,000, Second Place \$1,500 and Third Place \$500.

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### MEET THE SIGNATURE ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER DAVE SANTILLANES OPA

A self taught artist, Dave Santillanes OPA began painting shortly after graduating from Colorado State University with a degree in Graphic Design. But he points to his first plein air excursions as the true beginning of his development as a painter where direct observation allowed for a more precise rendering of color, light and atmosphere. And although studying the physical aspects of nature is important, it isn't the only reason Dave paints outdoors. He says, "the sensory experience of being there is equally important. There's no better way to get to really know a place than to sit for a couple of hours and contemplate it while painting. This intense observation brings a spiritual intimacy with the scene that can't be achieved in mere passing and allows me to "speak" with complete sincerity in each painting.



*Winter Creek* by Dave Santillanes OPA

Dave's passion for painting has led to a number of recent awards including First Place in the Signature Division of the 2019 OPA Fall Showcase, Third Place Overall at the 8th Annual Plein Air Salon Finals, First Place in the Landscape Category at the 12th Annual International ARC Salon, and the Landscape Award of Excellence at the 25th National Oil Painters of America Show. He's also won numerous awards for his plein air work and has been featured in both *Plein Air* and *Southwest Art* magazines.



## MEET THE ASSOCIATE ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER JOHN BUXTON

John Buxton is one of the ARC Living Masters and is considered to be a Museum Quality Painter... with a 56-year career of experience.

His original paintings reside in the permanent collections of: the Raymond James Museum, Eiteljorg Museum, National Civil War Museum, Heritage Center Museum of Springfield, OH, The Cincinnati History Museum, and the Mary Draper Ingles Museum of Virginia. John's paintings have been exhibited in numerous prestigious national and international museums. Many museums and historical sites display examples of his carefully researched 18th century genre pieces. Documentary films, books and magazines as well as classrooms use his images to better explain the written historical text.

John enjoyed a 31-year illustration career, after graduating from the Art Center of Design. It was his association with the National Geographic Society (NGS) that influenced his decision to forsake commercial art for fine art. NGS always stressed correctness in its artwork. It was always checked & rechecked through whatever expert the subject required, before reproduction. This appealed to his senses to create more meaningful work... paintings that would outlive his existence. Painting actual scenes from historical events can be difficult in that they *have* to be researched. They cannot often be *designed* as one would like, because facts are more important. Generic history ... things that certainly happened but are only everyday happenings ... are much easier to create; with much more design control.

I'm not listing all awards or best of shows or purchase awards or past shows or magazine & newspaper articles, etc. Because as often said: .... You're only as good as your last painting anyway. Do another.



John Buxton's Rock Shelter

### NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### NEW OFFICERS

Effective in June new board members are taking over the reins of OPA. Thank you to those board members who are stepping down from their positions for their time and hard work.

The new officers are as follows:

President: Suzie Baker OPA  
Vice President: Susan Abma  
Treasurer: Stuart Fullerton OPA  
Secretary: Stuart Fullerton OPA

#### GENERAL MEETING

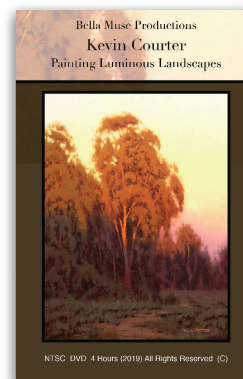
All current OPA members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting. This year's meeting is being held on Saturday, October 17, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the National Convention in Fredericksburg, TX.

#### PLAN AHEAD

We will be accepting entries for the Salon Show as well as the Western Regional Show in May. Do not enter the same painting in both exhibitions. If your painting is juried into the Salon Show that will make it unavailable for the Western Regional Show, particularly if it sells at the Salon Show.



Inspiring Artists One Video At A Time



*Painting Luminous  
Landscapes with  
Kevin Courter*



*Composing a Painting  
Through Studies  
with David Dibble*



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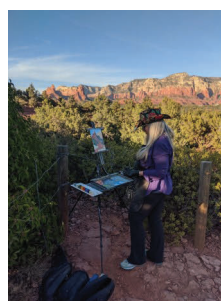


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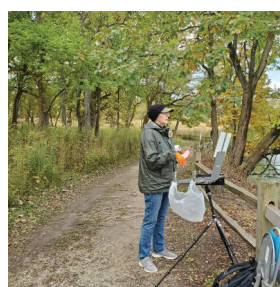
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## 2019 PAINT-OUT PHOTOS



**Arizona's** 2019 Great Paint-Out was held in beautiful Sedona. The Sedona Arts Center partnered with OPA host Casey Chevront to provide a venue for artists to gather, and a gallery space to show and sell the works at an evening reception. Prizes were awarded to 8 artists by talented painter Cyndi Thau, Sedona Art Center's Gallery Director. Nearly 40 artists participated, over 30 were in the show.



It was a beautiful, but cold, day during last year's **Illinois Paint Out** which took place in October at Crabtree Nature Center in Palatine, IL. After a full morning of painting, attendees headed to OPA Executive Director Kathryn Beligratis' home to warm up and have lunch from Portillo's. It was a great afternoon with a lot of thoughtful discussions relating to art. So much so, the group decided to do it again in 2020.

## PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

**Victoria Castillo's** painting *My Father in the Garden* was selected as a finalist in *International Artist* magazine's Portrait and Figure Competition and given a full page article in the January, 2020 issue.

**Mary Frankel** was identified as 1 of "10 (Talented) Artists Who Hail From the Lone Star State" in the current *Southwest Art* magazine.

**Kalie Graves'** usage of ordinary domestic items from around her house was called attention to in the "Artists to Watch - Editors' Choice for Up-and-Coming Talent" article in the current *Southwest Art* magazine.

**Brian Keeler's** exhibit "Italy and Exotic Lands" is being presented at North Star Art Gallery in Ithaca, New York in March, 2020.

**Jong Lee** is cited as 1 or 3 gifted artists to watch in the April edition of *Fine Art Connoisseur*.

**Kevin McCain** was featured in the "Artists of Note" section of the March/April issue of *Southwest Art* magazine.

**Neil Patterson OPAM** was elevated to Emeritus membership status in the prestigious Salmagundi Club.

**Nancy and Lisa Quatrocchi**, mother and daughter OPA members were pleased to have 5 paintings accepted into the 28th Tewksbury Juried Art Exhibit.

**William A. Schneider OPAM** was named a finalist in the Portrait Society of America 2019 Members Only Competition for his painting "Hopeful". Bill also has an article in the March issue of *Fine Art Connoisseur*, "Painting and Music: The Mystical Connection". In it, he discusses the connection many artists, including himself, have to music.

**Bridget Wolk** was recognized in a *Southwest Art* magazine article introducing 10 artists from Texas whose talent is worth noting.





# 29th National Exhibition, Convention & Wet Paint Competition

Wet Paint Competition: Oct. 14 & 15 ★ Program Events: Oct. 16 & 17 ★ Exhibition: Oct. 16 - Nov. 28



## Wednesday, October 14



8am-4pm  
8am-4pm

Registration Open

"Best Little Paint Out in Texas"

Wet Paint Competition Begins!

Maximum canvas size is 320 sq. inches, \$15,000 in cash and merchandise awards

4:30pm-6pm

Welcome Reception hosted by SW Art Magazine

southwest  
**art**

## Thursday, October 15



8am-4pm

8am-3pm

4pm-6pm

7:30pm-9:00pm

Registration Open

Southwest Art Magazine's Pampered Paint Out

Drop Off Deadline for the Wet Paint Competition

Up Close and Personal" with OPA's Distinguished Artist Zhiwei Tu OPAM

southwest  
**art**

## Friday, October 16



Rose Frantzen

8am-4pm

8am-9am

9am-11:30am

1pm-2:30pm

3pm-4:30pm

5:30pm-8:30pm

8:30pm-9:45pm

Registration Open

Annual Business Meeting

Demonstration with Juror of Awards Rose Frantzen

"Breaking Through the Artist's Wall; How to Create and Sell More Art While Spending Less Time Marketing" with Dave Gaeda, CMO of BoldBrush and FASO

"Intellectual Property Protection for Artists" presentation by John DiGiacomo, Esq., Partner, Revision Legal

OPA's 29th Annual National Exhibition Opening Reception & Visit OPA's Wet Paint Competition

OPA's Awards & Recognition Ceremony

## Saturday, October 17



David Dibble OPA

8am-4pm

8:30am-10:00am

10:15am-11:15am

11:30am-12:30pm

2:30pm-5pm

Registration Open

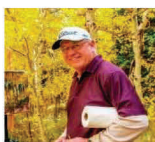
"Change Your Studies, Change Your Art" with David Dibble OPA

OPA and the Rebirth of Representational with OPA President Kurt Anderson OPA

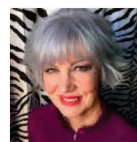
Location: St. Barnabas Parish Hall

Group Critique Session

Group Demonstrations



Rusty Jones



Susan Hotard OPA



Kelli Folsom OPA



John Cook

7pm-10:30pm

American Art Collector Magazine's Closing Celebratory Party

AMERICAN  
**art**  
COLLECTOR

**Hotels:** Please be sure to secure a hotel room as soon as possible as October is a busy month in Fredericksburg and availability is limited. OPA's original room blocks are no longer valid. A limited number of hotel rooms have been secured as follows. Be sure to let them know you are with OPA.

Sunday House Inn 1-800-274-3762 (\$115+tax)

Inn on Baron's Creek (Thurs-Sun only) 830-990-9202 (prices vary)

Fredericksburg Inn & Suites

OPA does not have a room block but there is availability if you book online at [Fredericksburg-inn.com](http://Fredericksburg-inn.com)

Also, there are plenty of house rentals available through VRBO and airbnb. Just be sure to check the cancellation policy prior to booking.



## IN MEMORIAM

With deep sympathy to family and friends, we note the recent passing of Signature Member April Raber of Laguna Beach, California, an OPA member since 2005 and a Signature member since 2010.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

**September - November** - 16th Annual Great Paint Out held throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. For more information, visit: [www.oilpaintersofamerica.com](http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com) and go to "Paints Outs" under the "Education & Events" menu

**September 1** – Deadline for submission for 2020 Master Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Signature status.

**October 15** - Deadline for submission for Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Associate status. Two options are available for application. Visit the OPA website and look under the "Member Services" menu for "Information/Join/Renew/Rejoin" for complete details.

**December 1** – Deadline for submission for 2020 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarships.

**THE EXHIBITION DATES LISTED BELOW ARE CURRENT AT THE TIME OF PRINTING – PLEASE CHECK OPA WEBSITE FOR POSSIBLE DATE CHANGES**

### NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Twenty-ninth Annual National Juried Exhibition, Convention & Wet Paint Competition

RS Hanna Gallery, Fredericksburg, Texas

Convention: Oct. 14 - 16, Wet Paint Competition Oct. 14 + 15, Exhibition: Oct. 16 - Nov. 28, 2020

Exhibition Juror of Awards: Rose Frantzen

Wet Paint Competition Juror of Awards: John Pototschnik OPA

Thirtieth Annual National Juried Exhibition, Convention & Wet Paint Competition

California Center for the Arts, Escondido CA

Exhibition: April 9 - May 16, 2021

More details to be announced as they become available

### REGIONAL & SALON EXHIBITIONS

**August 13 - October 3** - Salon Show - Quinlan Visual Arts Center in Gainesville, GA

Canvas Size: not to exceed 864 square inches

Juror of Awards: Charles Young Wall OPA

Entries accepted: May 1 - May 29

**September 4 – October 2** - Western Regional Exhibition - Montgomery Lee Fine Art in Park City, UT

Canvas Size: not to exceed 1,200 square inches

Juror of Awards: David Dibble OPA

Entries accepted: May 4 - June 19

**November 20 - December 19** - Eastern Regional Exhibition - Reinert Fine Art Gallery in Charleston, SC

Canvas Size: not to exceed 720 square inches

Exhibition Juror of Awards: Kathie Odom OPA

Entries accepted: July 20 - August 28

### ONLINE SHOWCASES

March 1 - May 15 - open to Associate members only

June 1 - August 15 - open to Associate members only

October 1 - December 15 - open to Associate and Signature members, with separate awards for each division

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