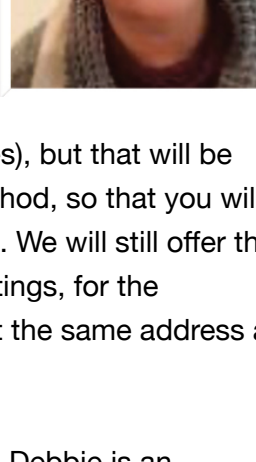




President's Message

Hello WOWS,

The newsletter is back after a short break, and we have a lot of useful information for you in here. I'll start off with one tidbit that I'm excited about: our new website!



A goal of mine since becoming president was to update and modernize our website, and I can say that it has finally been accomplished! I hope that you find navigation to be intuitive and that the information you need is easy to find. A couple of pages still need content added (like the Past Shows, and News pages), but that will be done in the next few days. Also, I plan to add an online payment method, so that you will have the option to pay your dues online with a credit card *if you wish*. We will still offer the option to pay by check or cash via snail mail or in person at the meetings, for the foreseeable future. If you'd like to see the new site, you can visit it at the same address as before: westernohiowatercolorssociety.org

I'm also excited about our September demo artist, Debbie Cosenza. Debbie is an encaustic artist, and her creative process has aspects that I think water media artists can relate to and appreciate. That demo will be presented at our Sept. 15 meeting, and you can read about Debbie on our [Upcoming Programs](#) web page.

I'll conclude by plugging our upcoming fall members' show. All the details are in the information below, but I'll emphasize what a great venue the Troy-Hayner is for displaying our work, and I encourage you to participate - especially to those members who might have been hesitant to show their work. Take the plunge - into *The Color of Water*! :-)

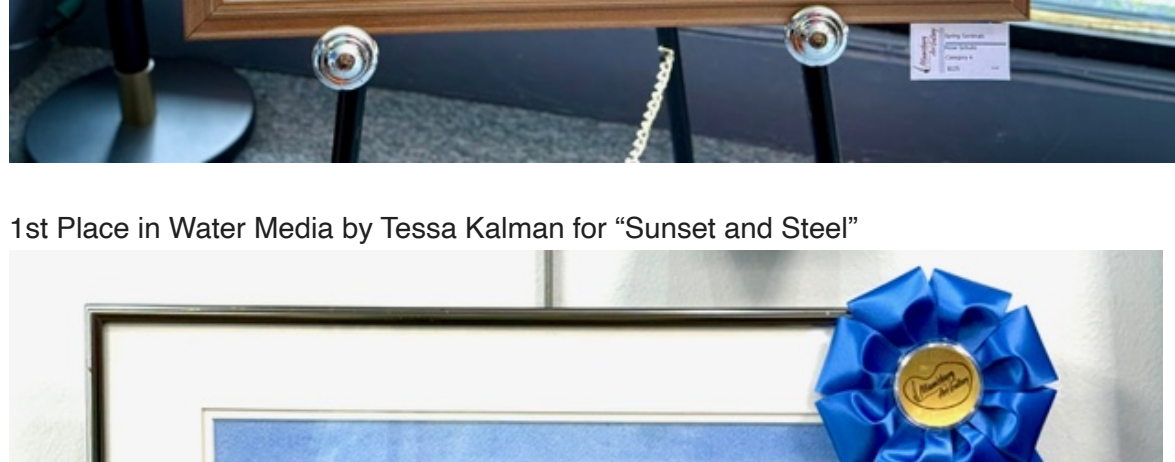
Cheers,
Tessa Kalman
President, WOWS

WOWS Members News

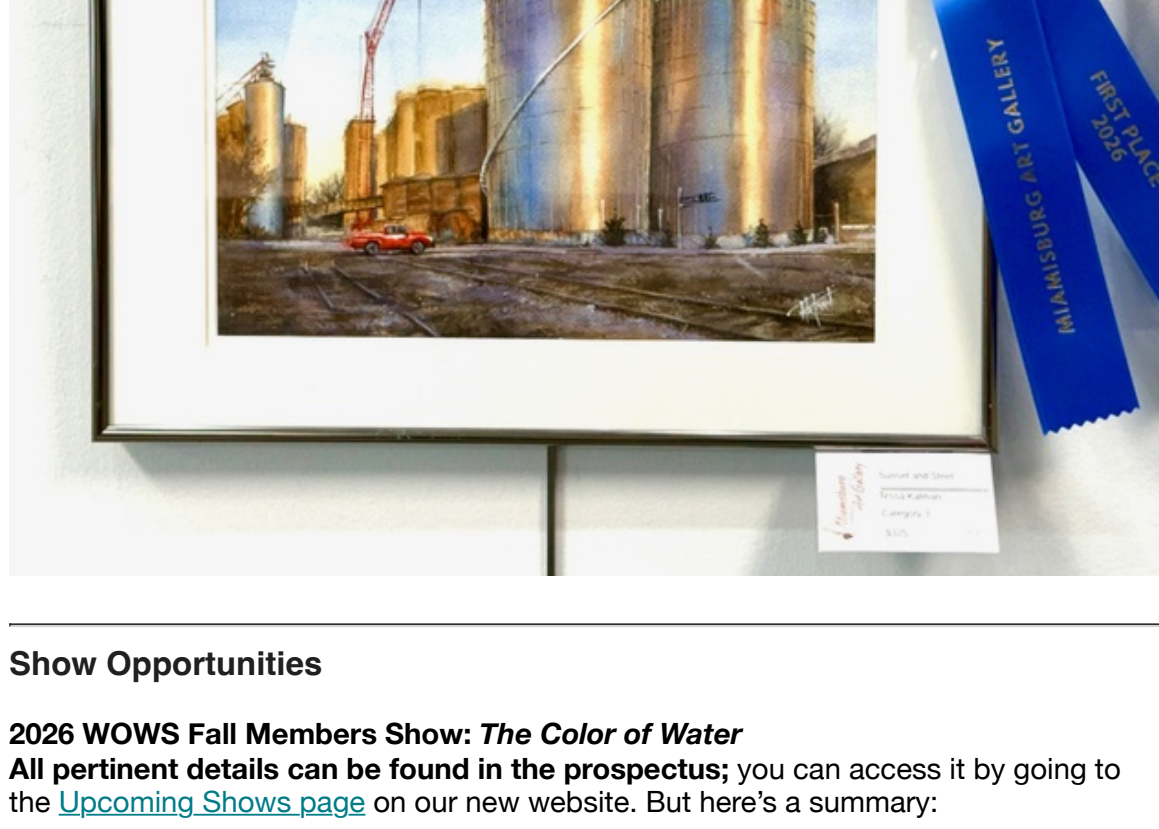
First we want to offer our Congratulations to 3 WOWS members who recently gained Signature Membership into the Ohio Watercolor Society: Billie Dickson, Rose Schultz, and Tessa Kalman. They will be traveling to Findlay, Ohio on Sept. 26 for the opening reception of OWS's Watercolor Ohio 2026 show where they will be recognized at the evening banquet.

And also hearty Congrats to WOWS members winning top awards at the Miamisburg Art Gallery's Annual Juried Art Show (Aug. 15 - Aug. 29).

1st Place in Mixed Media by Rose Schultz for "Spring Sentinals"



1st Place in Water Media by Tessa Kalman for "Sunset and Steel"



Show Opportunities

2026 WOWS Fall Members Show: *The Color of Water*

All pertinent details can be found in the prospectus; you can access it by going to the [Upcoming Shows page](#) on our new website. But here's a summary:

1. Firstly, there is no theme for the show - you don't have to paint the topic of water (but you can if you want!); that title is merely for advertising purposes
2. We will offer art delivery to Troy for those who can't make the trip for paper-work day. Bring your art to FAA on Oct. 1st from 9:30am - 12:30pm. Have your paperwork and entry fee ready to go, and have your art protected for transport in our vehicles.
3. For those who will drop off in person, please arrive at the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center on Oct. 3 from 10am - 2pm
4. The show runs Oct. 6 - Nov. 22
5. The reception is on **Sunday, Oct. 18, 2-4pm**, awards at 3pm. **(Please note that this corrects an error on an earlier announcement that said it was on Saturday.)**

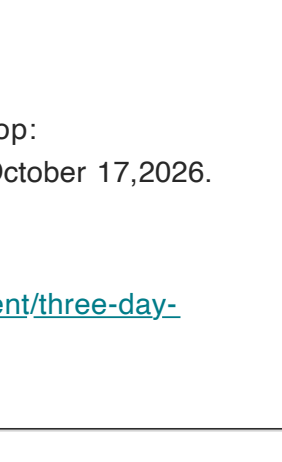
Learning Opportunities

(WOWS promotes watermedia workshops sponsored by the Fairborn Art Association)

Sharon Stolzenberger Workshop



The focus of this workshop will be a creative play approach to painting, playing with color, shapes, texture and surface enrichment. We'll begin by making marks without a preconceived idea of what the finished pieces will be, and progress through the combination of various techniques and materials. These will include building layers and visual textures with paint, gesso, crayons, oil pastels, collage, stencils, stamps and image transfers,. The workshop will be devoted to demos, experimenting with the materials and techniques, creating as many starts for potential paintings as time allows, as well as discussions concerning design, composition and content.



The registration form and supply list can be dowloaded from the WOWSworkshop webpage [here](#), or a hard copy can be picked up from the desk at FAA. For more information, contact Shirlee Bauer at bauershirlee@gmail.com.

Bradley Hendershot workshop

Greater Cincinnati Watercolor Society is sponsoring a fall workshop:

BRADLEY HENDERSHOT from Thursday, October 15 to Saturday, October 17, 2026.

Here is the link for more information and to sign up:

www.greatercincinnatiwatercolorssociety.org/calendar-of-events/event/three-day-watercolor-workshop/2026-10-17/

Shows to Visit

Piqua Art Center annual show (see their website for details). <https://piquaartscouncil.org/>

Troy, Ohio Porch Fest

While it's not actually a show, it's a sale; the Country Workshop Artists along with many other vendors, as well as musical artists will be at the Hayner Center in Troy on September 12, 2026.

Painting Opportunity

PLEIN AIR at the STREET FAIR

In Downtown Tipp City, Ohio | Main & Second Streets

October 3, 2026 | 10 am – 4 pm

- Adult Plein Air | Registration @ 9:00am
- Children's Plein Air @ 10am – 2 pm | in front of Topsy Turvy Toys
- Entertainment! | Artist Booths! | Food Trucks!
- Adult Plein Air Judging & Wet Paint Sale | 3:00–4:00pm (At the TCAAC booth in front of the Hotel Gallery)

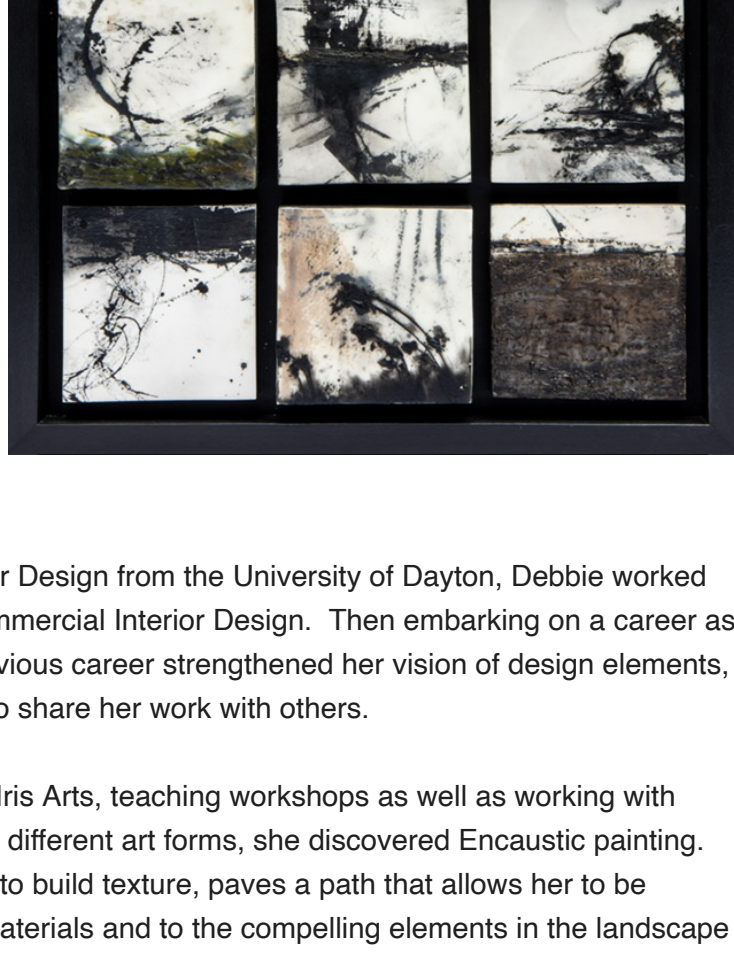
See the TCAAC website for details: <https://tippcityartscouncil.com/paint/>

Upcoming Demo Artists

Debbie Cosenza is our demo artist for our September 15th meeting.

Artist Biography

Debbie Cosenza's work is rooted in her time spent in the landscape, witnessing the tension between the turbulence and peacefulness that is created when things converge, like wind through the trees and water against the rocks. Painted while in its molten state, encaustic, a mix of beeswax and damar resin, invites intuitive and unexpected discoveries, driving the direction of the work.



Graduating with a degree in Interior Design from the University of Dayton, Debbie worked for several years in the field of Commercial Interior Design. Then embarking on a career as a fine artist, she found that the previous career strengthened her vision of design elements, quality of presentation and ability to share her work with others.

In 2016 Debbie co-founded White Iris Arts, teaching workshops as well as working with other artists. While exploring many different art forms, she discovered Encaustic painting. Its luminosity along with the ability to build texture, paves a path that allows her to be intuitively responsive to both the materials and to the compelling elements in the landscape that inform her art.

Debbie is a member of the Fairborn Art Association and has won awards at various shows throughout the area.

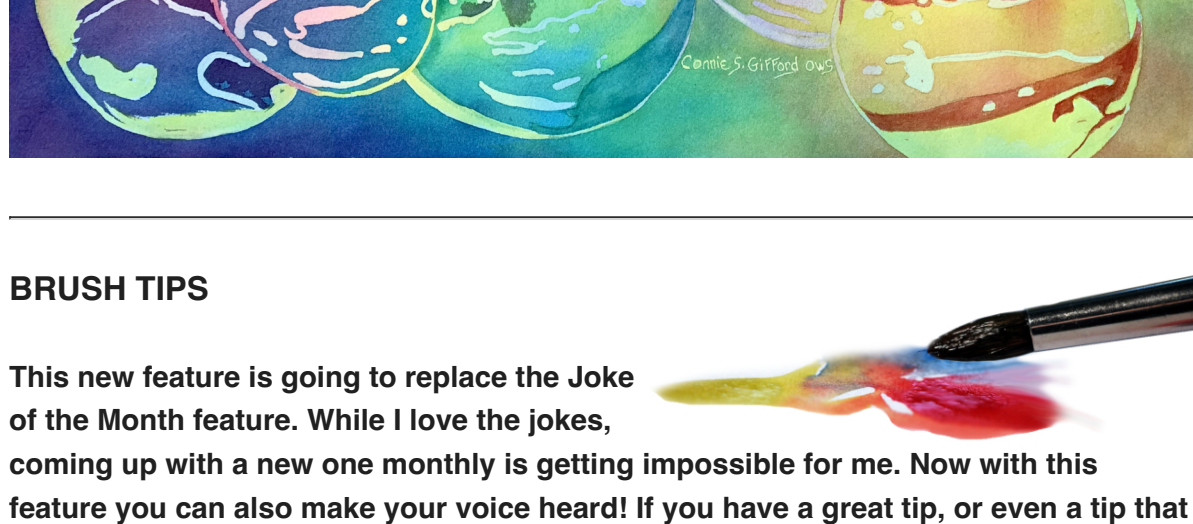
Connie S. Gifford is our demo artist for the October 20th meeting.

Artist Statement

As a child living in Dayton, Ohio, I was enchanted with color...the brighter, the better. My childhood passion for drawing, painting, and art in general launched me into a 30-year profession in graphic arts and a degree in visual communication. Bright colors motivated me then, and they still do. In 2011, I discovered the magic of watercolor, and my childhood passion returned.

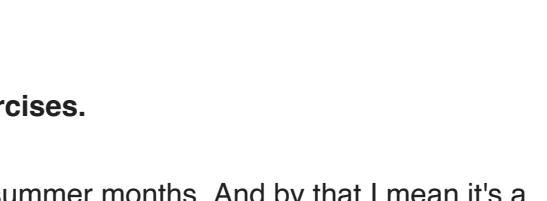
I'm inspired by all things in nature and strive to focus the bright, transparent freshness of watercolor to lure a viewer into my painting. I want people to feel the life pulsing in the blending of transparent colors together to create a glow that is only found in watercolor. My limited palette from three to eight transparent colors, is selected to intensify a mood, celebrate a moment, and make my work sing.

I attend workshops with nationally acclaimed watercolor artists. I study videos on watercolor and online courses, and I attend demos and lectures at local art groups and co-chair a Thursday watercolor group each week with local watercolor artists. I am a signature member of the Ohio Watercolor Society and past President of Western Ohio Watercolor Society, an associate member of Transparent Watercolor Society of America, a member of Fairborn Art Association and a member of Miamisburg Art Gallery. I live in Kettering, Ohio, with my husband and family.



BRUSH TIPS

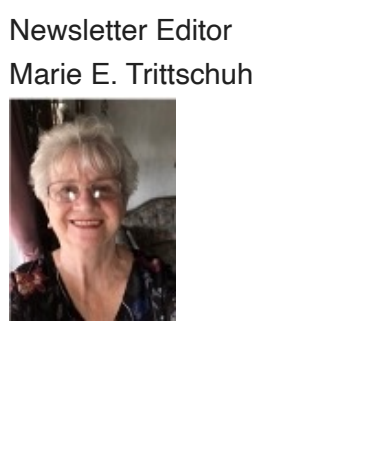
This new feature is going to replace the Joke of the Month feature. While I love the jokes, coming up with a new one monthly is getting impossible for me. Now with this feature you can also make your voice heard! If you have a great tip, or even a tip that you have just invented or discovered, please pass it along. My email is metpet@att.net! Can't wait to see what you come up with.



I will get it started with my tip this month. I spent a lot of time indoors as you all did as well with all of the rain and the heat. As a result I tried some new techniques! So I encourage you to:

Spark your artistry with more art tips and exercises.

I discovered loose brush painting during the hot summer months. And by that I mean it's a type of painting that you emphasize spontaneity and fluidity which allows for some expressive painting. I tried it with a couple of roosters and had so much fun. You use a larger brush when painting in watercolor, layer with washes and embrace your imperfections. You use bold strokes and actually mix the colors on the painting as opposed to the palette. I'm going to enter one or maybe two in the upcoming WOWS show so you will be able to see them in person then, but below is an example:



Newsletter Editor
Marie E. Trittschuh



Western Ohio Watercolor Society
221 North Central Ave.
Fairborn, Ohio

Our meeting address is:

FAA Gallery (Fairborn Art Association) ~ 221 North Central Avenue ~ Fairborn, OH 45324

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