

Newsletter

President's Message

November 2025

Fall Greetings, fellow pastel enthusiasts!

The timing of our fall newsletter comes as an invitation — we have several opportunities this month to gather and celebrate our shared passion for pastel!

Coming up this weekend: We're thrilled to open "*It's Pastel!*" — our 17th Annual National Juried Exhibition — at the Thornhill Art Gallery in Portsmouth, NH. This marks a change of venue from our long tenure at the Portsmouth Historical Society's Discover Center, and we're eager to experience this year's selections in a more intimate gallery setting while supporting one of our own members, gallery owner Robin Thornhill.

A heartfelt thank-you to the National Show Chair Shuk Susan Lee and her Co-Chair Paula (and Art) Fraser for their dedication to the annual monumental undertaking. This year we also want to recognize the contributions of our additional help from Charleen Knight, Mia Houman, and Keith Demanche. I'll admit to sneaking a peek during the drop-off last weekend — and I can hardly wait! The show officially opens for Portsmouth's Art Round Town on Friday night, but the big event is the Opening & Awards Reception on Saturday, November 8th, from 5:00–7:30 pm!

Next up, we have our Signature Member Show: "Palette to Prestige" at the Jaffrey Civic Center in Jaffrey, NH. The soft opening is Friday, November 7th, with the Artist Reception the following weekend on Saturday, November 15th, from 6–8 pm. Many thanks to Maryann Mullett and Lisa Regopoulos for reviving this wonderful biennial show.

I'm also delighted to announce several new additions to our board, thanks to the active recruiting efforts of Member Show Chair Peggy VanValkenburgh:

- Membership Chair: Debra Codd
- Hospitality Chair: Mia Houman
- Activities Chair: Lori Arel
- National Show Co-Chair: Charleen Knight

Please join me in welcoming them! I also want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to Maggie Smith for her many years of service as Membership Chair. Maggie has been our longest-serving board member, and her dedication has helped shape who we are today.

Presidents Message continued from Page 1.

We do still have one important position open: Treasurer. As a nonprofit, we're required to maintain a full executive committee, and this is a vital role to fill. If you or someone you know is skilled in numbers, bookkeeping, QuickBooks, or accounting — and would be willing to serve — please reach out! We're open to creative solutions, including hiring for this service, in order to remain in compliance with our by-laws.

In closing, I hope to see many of you at one (or both!) of our upcoming receptions. When I was first starting out, attending my first member show and talking with seasoned pastelists truly set me on my path as an artist. Over the years, I've found this community to be endlessly generous — sharing tips, techniques, and encouragement with open hearts.

Art begets art — and here's to more of it!

Warmly,
Susanne Larkham
President

Time to Renew your Membership for 2026!

SEE FORM ON PAGE 20

SEND, WITH CHECK, TO MAGGIE SMITH (ADDRESS ON FORM), OR GO TO WWW.PASTELSOCIETYNH.COM AND PAY VIA PAYPAL

WANTED by the web administrator

- 1) Would love to have people submit 1-2 new works of art for our member gallery.
- 2) Would love to see more Signature Circle Members activate their pages.
- 3) Submit to be one of our featured artists on our website and social media... 3 categorize, New Members (3 years or less), Members, and Signature Members.

You can send pictures and/or requests to:
selarkham@msn.com

Plein Air Groups & Events

Plein Air Painters of Maine (PAPME) Welcomes all artists. Contact cmcintyrepaintings@gmail.com

NH Plein Air

In NH Plein Air Artists we have members that work at all levels and in all mediums, including pastels. Membership in the group is absolutely FREE. Find us at Yahoo!Groups listed as "NH Plein Air".



PSNH is on Instagram!

Follow us and post your paintings to:
[#pastelsocietynh](#)

**PSNH
Board Members**

Susanne Larkham - *President*
selarkham@msn.com

Susanne Larkham - *Web Administer*
selarkham@msn.com

Annie Halvorsen – *Vice President*
anniehalvorsen@gmail.com

Carol Corliss – *Secretary*
bagel@tpdi.biz

Jan Rodgers – *Treasurer*
jannrpalmer@gmail.com

Debra Codd – *Membership*
debcodd@gmail.com

Terri Brooks - *Retreat Chair*
Terri.g.brooks@gmail.com

Terri Brooks – *Publicity and Social Media*
Terri.g.brooks@gmail.com

Thomas W. Bradley - *Member at Large*

Shuk Susan Lee - *National Show*
Sue1404@gmail.com

Charleen Knight – *National Show Co-Chair*
Charleent760@icloud.com

Peggy Van Valkenburgh - *Members' Exhibition*
Peggyvan101@gmail.com

Paula Fraser – *Members' Exhibition Co-Chair*
Afraser3@yahoo.com

Robin Hebert - *Newsletter*
ArtRaindrop@gmail.com

Mia Houman – *Hospitality*
mialovesart@gmail.com

Maryann Mullett – *Workshops*
Maryann.mullett97@gmail.com

Lori Arel – *Member Activities*
Lov2teachart@gmail.com

We have a new set of PSNH Unison 30 Half Piece Set Pastel:

"Summer Summits Views"

Special pricing for PSNH members!

For more information regarding ordering and shipping please

visit the PSNH website: <https://www.pastelsocietynh.com/product-page/unison-set-of-30-half-sticks-summer-summit-views>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bernadette Quirk
at: BLQuirk.art@gmail.com

LAST CHANCE! - There are there are 2 sets of Autumn left!



Donna Rossetti-Bailey



Donna Rossetti-Bailey 's pastel **"That Golden Moment"** is on exhibit as part of **North River Arts Society Member Show** Marshfield Hills, through October 30, 2025.

"Beach Roses" (above) and **"After the Storm"** have been juried into the **2025 CCAC Fall National at Cape Cod Art Center**, October 20- November 14, 2025.

"Almost High Tide" (below) has been accepted in the **Pastel Society of New Hampshire 2025 It's Pastel** exhibit. November 5-30th at the Thornhill Art Gallery Portsmouth, NH.



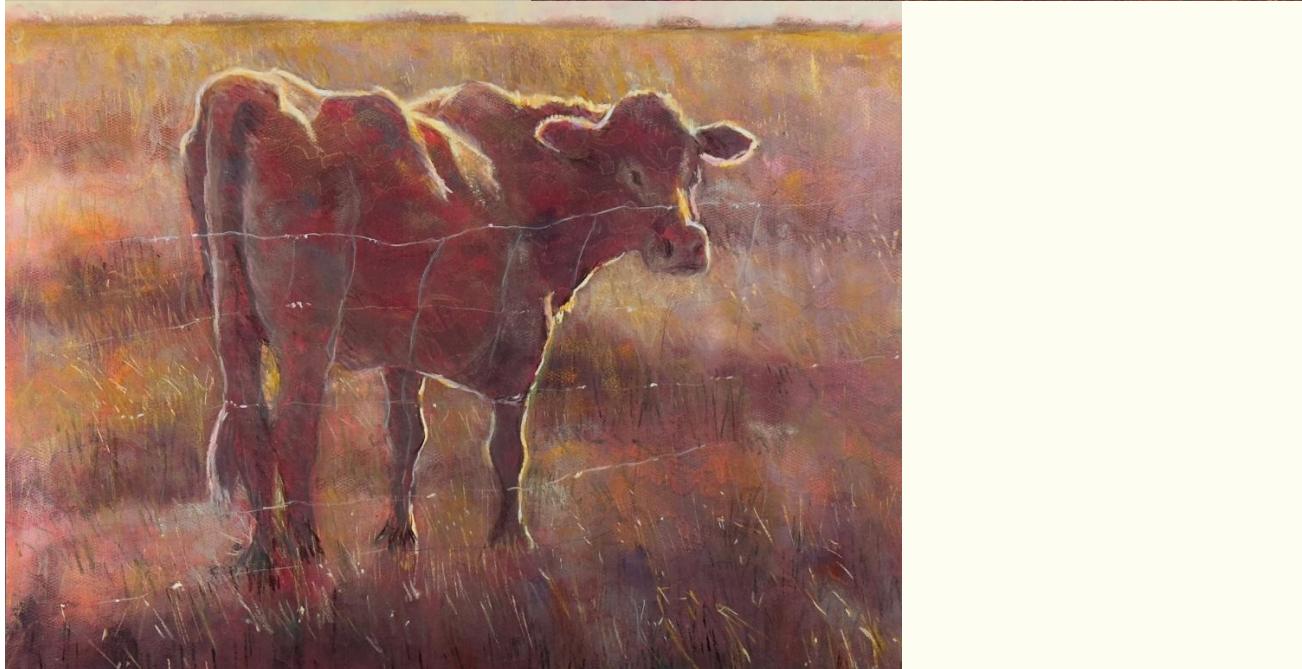
Debra Accardi



My piece "**In Her Shoes**" (above) was juried into the PSNH National show and will be at Thornhill Gallery in Portsmouth.

I just completed the September Strada Easel Challenge. This piece "**Hanging Around**" (left) was one of the pieces I finished as part of that challenge.

Terri Brooks



Mena Levit



My pastel "**Golden Serenade**" (top) was accepted into Rockport Art Association National Juried Show - (Opens November 15 - December 31, 2025 at Rockport Art Museum, MA)

"White profusion" was accepted into 75th Annual National exhibition of Traditional Realism - (Now open till November 2, 2025 at Art Center East, Vernon, CT)

"Melting Moments" won the 3rd Place Award in Pastel at Art Center Cape Cod National Juried exhibition "Autumn 2025" (Now open till November 14, 2025).

"As Time Flies By" was accepted into the Pastel Society of NH National Juried Exhibition "It's Pastel!" (Opens November 5 - 29, 2025)

"Where Silence Blooms" (bottom) was accepted into Taiwan International Online Juried Exhibition
- showsubmit.com/galleries

"Snack Time" was accepted into Southeastern Pastel Society International Online Exhibition "Luminosity" (Opens on November 1, 2025 at showsubmit.com)



Sasha Wolfe



Painting Floral Collages

By Sasha Wolfe

Every once in a while, I do floral paintings, but for the most part, I stick to landscapes. I use photos, not to replicate the picture, but to use as a reference allowing that, like in nature, aspects change. In my renditions, I might move a tree or bush or add more foliage or rocks, et al.

However, this summer, I decided to play around with floral collages. I'd done a couple in the past, but this year, I was fully into it, and I decided to do bigger paintings. I'd go out in the yard and take dozens of pictures of various blossoms. A couple of times, neighbors and others would give me permission to take photos of their flowers in their gardens, too. I'd print the best ones, often up to 20 of each kind of flower.

I don't use all the photos. For instance, I only used 10 different ones to create "A Collage of Clematis." And I decided to do a vertical painting instead of the usual landscape orientation using on a piece of 20 1/4 x 14 1/4-inches black BFK Rives paper. This is one of the biggest paintings I've ever attempted.

It's fun working the photos like a jigsaw puzzle to arrange the different blossoms on the page. Sometimes, I'd use a blossom in one area, then use another blossom from the same photo in another position. The clematis in my yard are close in color. I looked on the web and saw other colors of clematis, so decided to put in some reds and darker pinks.

The latest one just finished is "Butterflies and Echinacea," 11 1/2 x 16 1/2, again on black BFK Rives. I'd taken 18 photos of various blossoms, some with butterflies, and used 14 to jigsaw puzzle the composition. Again, the colors in my yard are similar and I know echinacea are also in other colors. So, I added other colors, too.

One challenge after the initial layout is matching which photo goes to which blossom I'd outlined on the paper. I need to reference the photo for shadows and better defining shapes and such. I used pastel pencils to get sharper petal lines. Many times, I struggle to "see" where the edge of the soft pastel will touch the paper. I often have to redo lines to make them sharper and not blurry.

As always, there are other challenges, too. I have a kitty who wants to be held when I'm at the sit-down easel and her tail might sweep the corner messing up the color or knocking the pastel sticks to the floor.

My magnolia bloomed three times this summer. I've already done two paintings of the different blossoms and a third is in process on one of the easels. I've completed four of the nine floral collages started. Also, in the works are another rose of Sharon, hibiscus, and day lilies.

Currently, I have paintings at Tatewell Gallery in New London, MainStreet BookEnds in Warner, and in Newbury for their Christmas at The Fells event.

Cristine Kossow

“Tartes aux Fruites Mixte” (below) 8 x 8 was juried into the Connecticut Pastel Society 32nd Annual Renaissance in Pastel Exhibition.

“Backward Glance”, “Barn 2B”, and “Half Full, Half Empty?” have gone home with new collectors from the Southern Vermont Arts Center Member Show in Manchester, VT



Lisa Regopoulos

I will be teaching Floral Dreams in PanPastel workshop at the Prescott Community Center in Groton, MA, on Saturday, January 24, 2026 from 11-5 pm. The cost is \$100.00.

This workshop is for anyone interested in utilizing PanPastel for underpainting or as a finished pastel. The workshop will cover color mixing, application methods, layering and ways to create depth and atmosphere in your artwork.

You need not own any PanPastel or applicators, Lisa will have them available for you to use for a materials fee of \$8.00. Everyone will leave with a finished pastel or two. Registration and information available soon at <https://www.prescottsc.org>

Photo is PanPastel combined with soft pastel

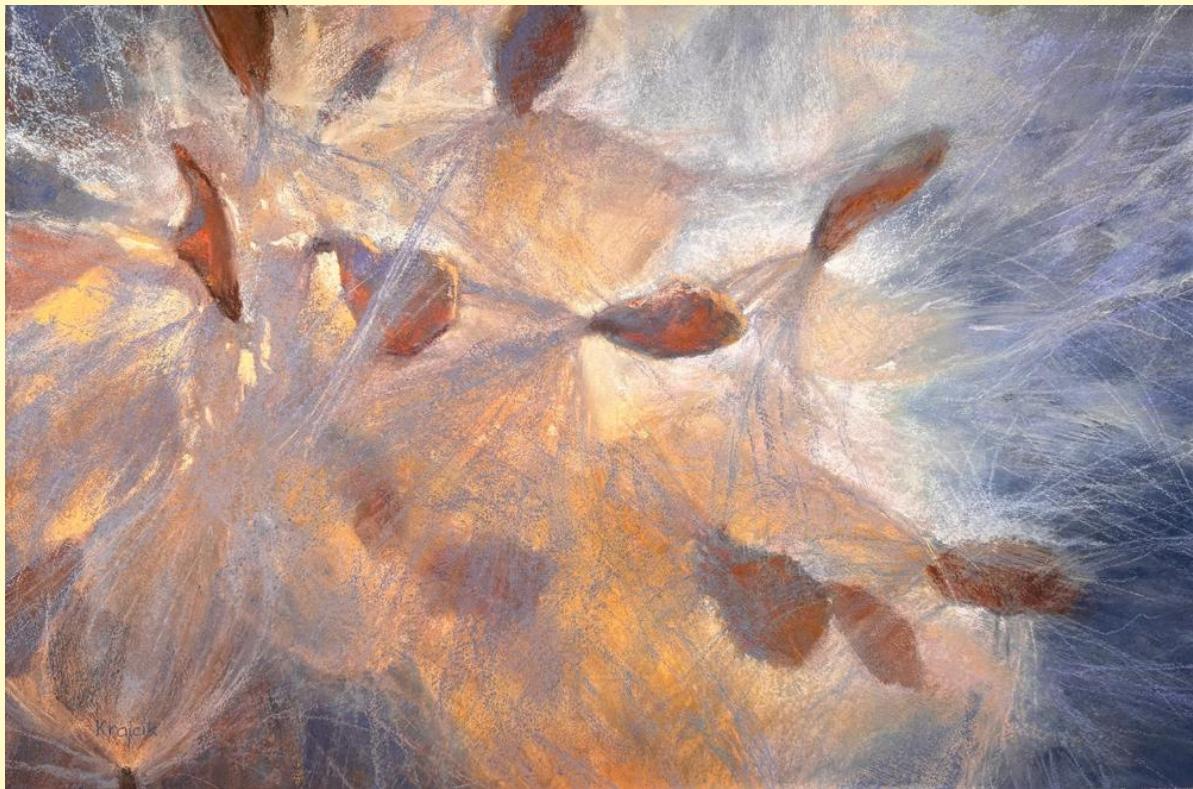


Allison Kraicik



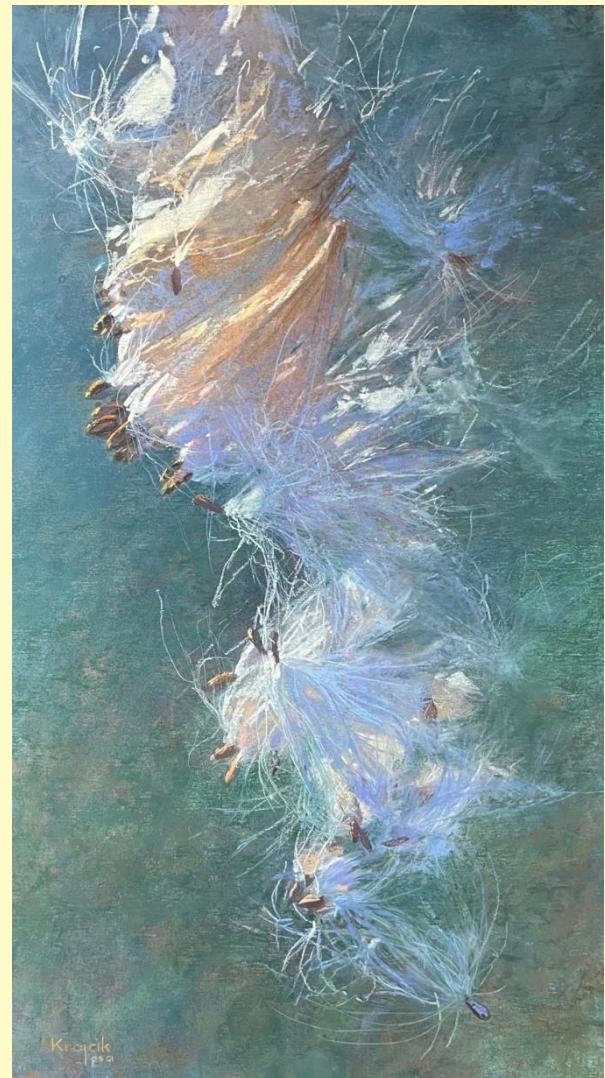
“Powder Puffs” (above) was awarded the Philadelphia Pastel Society Award in the Central Mass Pastel Society National Exhibition *Marks of Distinction*

“Wishing on the Wind” (below) was awarded the Best Pastel by Liz Hayward Sullivan in the Copley Society of Art’s Members Show *Gather*



“Silk Streamer” (right) was accepted into the IAPS 15th Master Circle Division Online Show

“Majic in the Air” (below) was given an Honorable Mention in the Artist’s Magazine competition *Pastel 100*





“Echinacea Flowers” (left) and “On the Rocks III”, are currently featured in the Vermont Art Association Juried Show.

The exhibition is on display now through November 22nd at Vermont Artisans, located at 106 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT.

Join us for the reception on November 7th from 5-7 PM!

Chris Reid

“Summer Begins”

(right) will be showcased at the 17th Annual National Juried Pastel Society of NH Show at the Thornhill Art Gallery in Portsmouth, NH, from November 5th to 29th.

The reception for this event will be held on November 8th from 5-7 PM.



Joelle Feldman

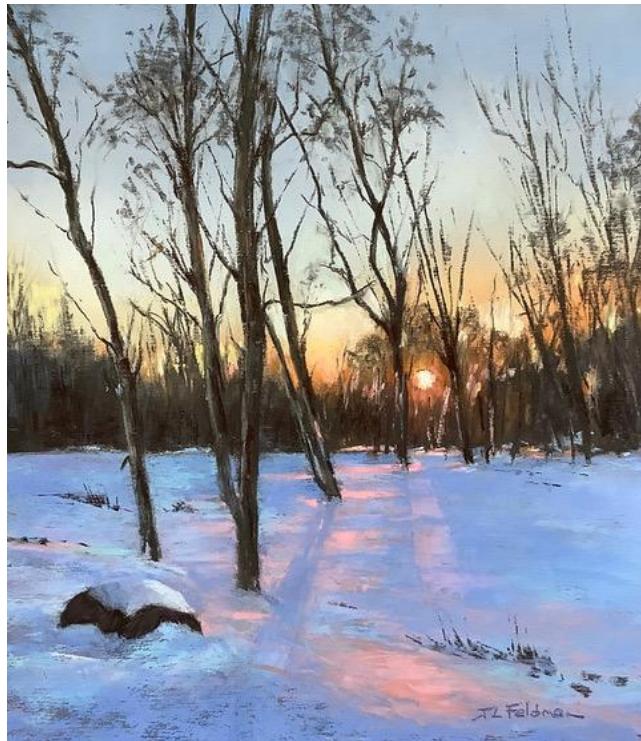
Winter Marsh at Dawn was accepted in the [Central Mass Pastel Society 2025 Marks of Distinction National Juried Exhibition](#). You can view this great show online: <https://onlinejuriedshows.com/ClosedShowThumbs.aspx?OJSID=58841>.

The next stop for this painting is the [PSME Fall Member Show](#) at the Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME. Reception and Painting Demonstration by [Wade Zahares](#) on 11/15, 12:30-5:00.



Winter Marsh at Dawn – 12" x 18"

Winter Pink was juried into the 17th Annual *It's Pastel!* 2025 exhibition. Looking forward to the reception and awards ceremony on November 8th at the new venue [Thornhill Art Gallery](#) in Portsmouth, NE.



Winter Pink - Pastel 9.5" x 10"

Excited to participate in the PSNH Signature Member Exhibition: *Palette of Prestige* at the Jaffrey Civic Center. My entries are two still lifes: *Hanging Out* and *Yellow Daisies in Provençal Pot*.



Hanging Out - 10" x 10"



Yellow Daisies in Provençal Pot - 14' x 14"

Always an honor to have a painting chosen for one of the PSA online showcases. *Connected* was selected for the last *Still Life* showcase.



Connected – 10" x 10"

Art Activities

Getting ready for my second 2025 student show at [Newbury Court](#), 100 Newbury Court, Concord, MA. Over 20 students are represented in this exhibit which opens on December 3rd through February 20th. Reception: Saturday 6 December, 3-5PM.

Teaching

Classes are on-going throughout 2025 and 2026. Information is available on my website:
<https://www.joellefeldman.com/>

SUSANNE LARKHAM



In addition to exhibiting locally, this summer Susanne saw a call for art titled Figures of Speech at the Anderson Museum of Art in Anderson, IN. Loving a good turn of phrase for her titles, she entered and was thrilled to received notice that not one, but all three of her entries were selected! The location was within driving distance of her parent's farmstead in IL, so she combined a visit with family and she & her mom did a road trip to the artist reception. Happy to share that her still life, 'Two Breads Are Better Than One' took 2nd Place! Her other 2 works in the Show were 'Good Things Come to Those Who Bait' and 'Straight as an Aero.'

Susanne 's work was also selected for the National Juried Shows of Connecticut, Central Mass, & Maine

CPS: Bloominosity



12 x 12

CMPS: Orchid Quintet



12x16

PSMe: With a Rain of Salt



8x10

Susanne has also had her work exhibited in all three of NHAA's New England OPEN Juried Exhibitions

*Currently On View: The Gallery at Jimmy's on Congress & NHAA/Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery both in Portsmouth.



The Lassonde: Combination Locke Falls

12 x 24



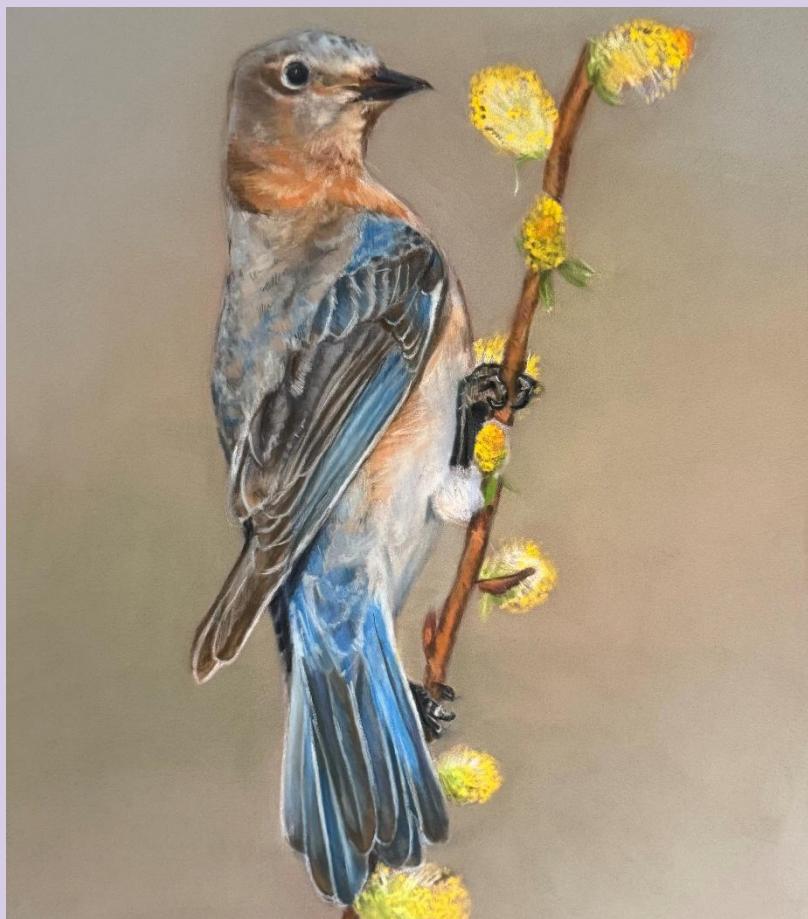
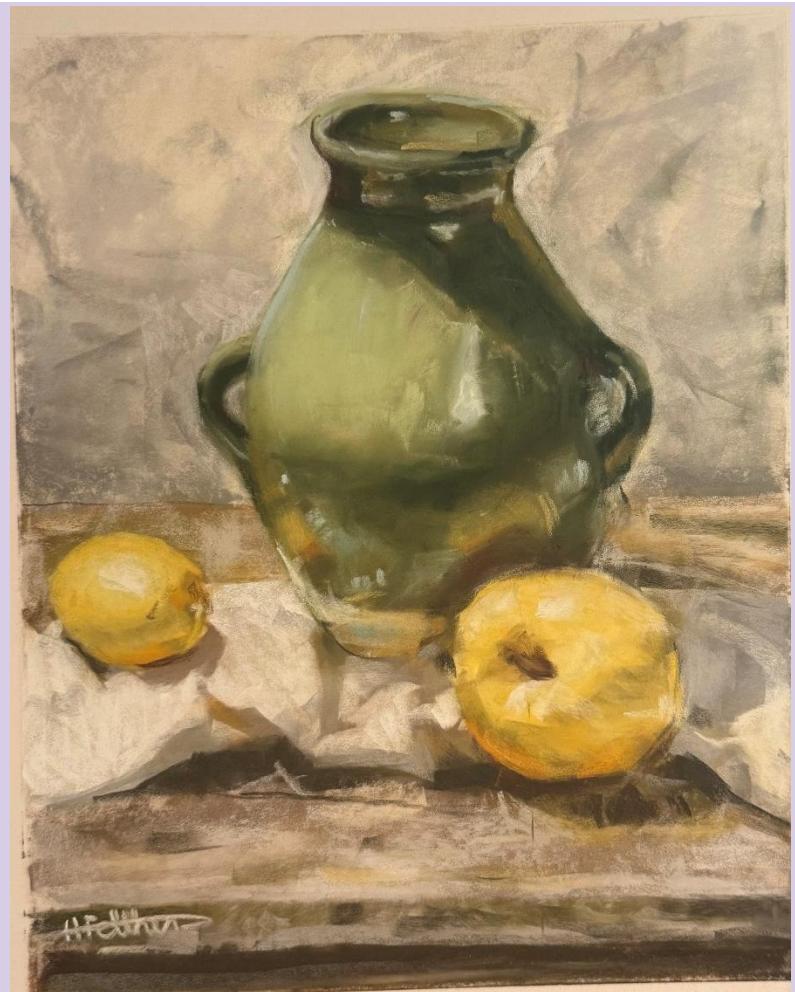
*Biennial 2: At First Blush

24x36



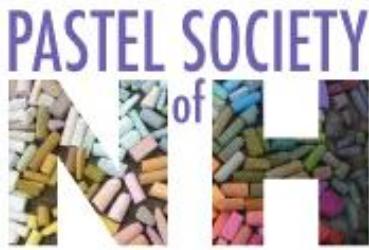
*The Dunfey: Ketch 92

18x24



**“Olive Vase”
&
“Eastern Bluebird”**

– Hayley Falthun



Membership Application 2026

Memberships are for one year and run from January 1 – December 31. Memberships received after November 1 will include the following calendar year.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 40
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$ 100
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$ 500
<input type="checkbox"/> Saint (Benefits for Saints include all the above and an award in their name presented at our annual Juried Exhibition.)	\$1,000

The Pastel Society of New Hampshire is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Date _____ Renewal _____ New Member _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State + Zip _____

Personal Art Website _____

1. PAY ONLINE on the [website](#) . If your information needs to be updated, please send the information to mffsmith@gmail.com.

2. PAY BY CHECK. Send this form and a check made out to Pastel Society of New Hampshire (PSNH) to Maggie Smith, 658 Greenbush Rd, Charlotte, VT 05445.

Note: If you do not wish to have your name appear on the website, please check here. _____

If you are interested in helping out PSNH in any way, please contact the Vice President of the Board, Annie Halvorsen, anniehalvorsen@gmail.com

Interested in becoming a Signature Member of PSNH?

Signature Membership: a member in good standing may apply to become a Signature Member after earning 10 points from the following categories:

Best of (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.)	5 points
Second place (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.)	4 points
Third place (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.)	3 points
Any Award (PSNH Juried) Show (includes jury into show pt.)	2 points
Juried into Annual PSNH Juried Show	1 point
Best in PSNH Members Show	1 point
Juried into another National Pastel Show (includes Pastel Journal top 100)	1 point

Signature Member applicants must apply for Signature Membership. The applicant must keep records and send copies of all documentation of all earned points to the Vice President who will be responsible for Pastel Society of NH Signature Member record keeping.

The applicants must be members of the Pastel Society of NH while earning all points and must have served on a board position for 2 years.

Once approved, they must remain members in good standing to maintain Signature Memberships.

Benefits of Signature Members:

- May use the initials "NHPA" (NH Pastel Society Artist) on their art work, publications, and biographies as long as they remain a member in good standing.
- May organize and participate in show only for Signature Members.
- May display additional artwork on the Pastel Society of NH's website in the "Signature Circle Members" section.
- May receive a discount for application fees for all PSNH shows.

Responsibilities of Signature Members:

- Promote pastel painting, mentor and assist newer members
- Participate in a demo or presentation for a members' meeting.
- Offer critique at paint-outs or PSNH functions
- Organize and participate in Signature Members Show

The earning of points is retroactive to 2009.

PSNH Signature Members

Linee Baird, Kate Bergquist, Laetitia Borden, Roxane Chardon, Carol Corliss, Suzanne DeLesseps, Keith Demanche, Linda Dessaint, Shelly Eager, Mary Ann Eldred, Wolfgang Ertl, Joelle Feldman, Jeff Fioravanti, Paula Fraser, Robin Frisella, Sandra Kavanaugh, Randy Knowles, Christine Kossow, Susanne Larkham, Shuk Susan Lee, Deb Luoma, Sandra Machell, Judith McKenna, Maryann Mullett, Gary Ozias, Ellen Pelletier, Lisa Regopoulos, Barbara Scott and Gill Truslow.