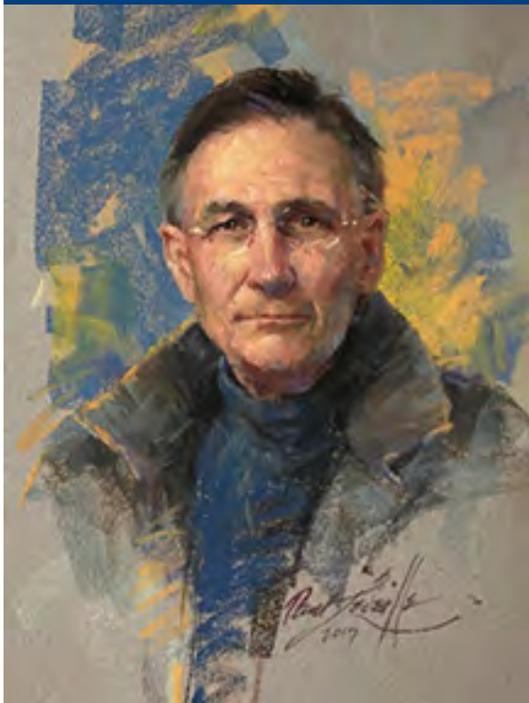




Renaissance in Pastel 2017



"Mike" by Paul Leveille earns Best in Show, 2017

"Art asks a lot of us. It encourages us to create poetry, cultivate an open mind, and communicate feelings. Congratulations to all on a great exhibit. This quote from artist Mollie Bornstein is a favorite of mine: "The Creating of the work itself is its own reward." It was a pleasure to be one of the awards judges for the Renaissance in Pastel 2017 show.

—Jean Dalton

2017 Renaissance in Pastel took place October 4 - November 4, 2017, at Art Center East, Vernon, CT. 159 artists submitted 349 images for judging. The show represented artists from 22 states including California, Texas, Wyoming, New Mexico, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Ohio, Illinois, and Maine.

"Congratulations to all participants of this beautiful exhibit. It is an incredible honor to be asked to judge an exhibit of this caliber, an honor but also a very difficult task. The reputation the Renaissance in Pastel exhibit has is outstanding, year after year. I knew going into this show that the work would be exceptional, and it was. My co-judge and I had differing opinions on quite a few pieces, but heard each other's reasoning with respect. We spent much time discussing each painting, making numerous rounds of the galleries. After careful observation and consideration, we came together with our choices. Congratulations to all the award winners and juried artists as well!"

—Jane Mc-Graw Teubner



"Moving On/Change is Good" by Jeri Greenberg was awarded the CPS Founders Award.

Reflections from Co-Chairs Jane Penfield and Vicki Rooney on Renaissance in Pastel

Connecticut Pastel Society's 24th Annual National Juried Exhibition, "Renaissance in Pastel," was an outstanding show. It featured a strong representation of CPS member artists as well as pastel artists from all over the country. We are deeply grateful to all whose hard work made this exhibit possible. Special thanks to Christine Ivers for creating the beautiful catalogue and awards certificates. We are grateful to all the volunteers who helped with receiving, transporting shipped paintings, gallery sitting, hanging the show, providing refreshments, helping to set up and take down chairs & tables, and taking pictures at the opening.

We acknowledge the generosity of all who donated awards, and the expertise of our jury of selection and judges of awards. Thank you to Dave Kaphammer for presenting a beautiful and enlightening demo.



"Memories of a Friend", by Barbara Groff received the CPS Presidents Award

Congratulations to all the wonderful artists represented. Your work continues to inspire everything that we do!

From our Co-Presidents: Karen Israel and Diane Stone



Karen Israel

New Directions

Karen Israel is stepping down as President of CPS. We appreciate her years of careful leadership and her input in so many aspects of the life of our society. She will be joining

the board of directors for our national association, Pastel Society of America, where her many talents will be put to good use. Karen will continue to volunteer for CPS in various capacities. We wish her well in all her new efforts.

From our CPS President Diane Stone

As we make our way into 2018 I want to thank former Co-President Karen Israel for all her hard work. Karen served as President for several years prior to sharing the Presidency with me. Somehow she managed to teach, mentor, give demos, give workshops,

take workshops, enter national shows, win awards, be a Grandma and run CPS! We appreciate your dedicated service. Now I have the task of being President of CPS. I started by

volunteering doing hospitality. Then I was Co-Chair of The National Renaissance in Pastel Show for four years. This past year I was Co-President. I have definitely enjoyed every position held. Have truly loved meeting so many artists over the years! Hoping to meet many more members over the next year. We will be changing up some shows. Our member's show will also have a small works show run concurrently. The Purely Pastel Show has been a wonderful addition but we will make changes so that we will no longer overlap IAPS events. Perhaps an online show will take place...stay tuned as we fine-tune our new ventures.



Diane Stone

Member Profile: Karen Suponski



Karen Suponski

Never underestimate the power of serendipity.

A while back, a friend gave Karen Suponski a set of pastels. By then she already had an extensive background in art, graduating from Art school and working as an illustrator. But she was largely unfamiliar with pastels. One day Karen and her mother, her husband, and her sisters ran into a woman plein air painting in West Hartford. Karen's mother—a great appreciator and encourager of art and artists—started a conversation with the woman, who turned out to be CPS's own Chris Ivers. A quick business-card exchange turned into a relationship: Karen to begin studying pastel with Chris, and come to be her good friend.

Artists benefit greatly from mentors and other artist friends. Karen remembers people across the years who inspired and encouraged her, starting with her artistic parents, her high school art teacher, who encouraged her to enter competitions, and her art teachers at the Art College of Worcester Museum, to the influencers of today. These days, she credits her Monday night painting group with keeping her on track.

Karen's paintings of cars, trains and buildings reveal an observant eye, as well as moments of quiet reflection. Her "No

Reservations" won Best in Show in the CPS Renaissance exhibit a few years back, and was also featured in the Pastel 100. In it we enter a scene that seems that suggests either recent vacancy—



"No Reservations" by Karen Suponski

or anticipation. There is beautiful use of strong shadows and lighting. The painting was inspired by a view from Manhattan's High Line.

When taking a break from her full-time job at a software company, Karen loves exploring New York City, taking hikes, and especially visiting her three children in Oregon, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. All that time on the road gives her a chance to notice the cars and trains she loves to paint.

"Rail Yard" shows us Karen's amazing skills as a draftsman and colorist. Her keen use of light and perspective depict a moment frozen in time, yet never static.



Rail Yard won the Herman Margulies award at the Pastel Society of America exhibit, *Enduring Brilliance*

CPS Workshops Coming Up



Vianna Szabo
Painterly
Pastels:
Three day
Color and
Landscape
Workshop”

April 13-
15,2018

9am-5pm

Location: Jerry’s Artarama, 1109 New Britain Ave., West Hartford, CT

Learn how pastels can create expressive paintings that are filled with atmosphere and light. The first two days will focus on color. While painting from still life, students will learn a simple method of identifying/mixing color as well as choosing a palette to discover your personal color sense. In the second half of the workshop students will apply the color information to landscape painting. The focus will be on design - using limited values and color harmony to create landscapes infused with light. During the workshop a variety of techniques will be introduced to enhance the painterly quality of the pastel medium. The workshop will consist of demonstrations, discussion, handouts and lots of personal critique from the instructor.

a painterly pet portrait or as an under painting when used with traditional soft pastel. The pastelists will learn how to mix colors to establish clear value and temperature relationships using sponges and applicators, much like paint. The students will learn how to create a variety of mark making and edges to give the illusion of textures. We will apply this color mixing and mark making to achieve a painterly pet or animal portrait using a photo reference of your choice. The workshop will consist of demonstration, discussion, handouts and lots of interaction with the instructor. All levels are welcome.



“Make The Outdoors Yours, Three Day Plein Air Workshop” with Lyn Asselta
September 27, 28 & 29th, 2018
9 a.m. to 4

p.m.

Location: Wethersfield Academy of the Arts, 431 Hartford Avenue, Wethersfield, CT 06109

Plein air painting can be a daunting task. From what to pack, or what NOT to pack, to how to compose a painting in the midst of all that visual chaos, it is important to be discerning. The key is simplicity. By learning to effectively edit all parts of the plein air experience, we can approach painting outdoors in a more confident and relaxed way. We’ll spend a little time discussing what to take with you into the field so that you’re no longer carrying more than is comfortable. We’ll also work on upgrading our field study sketchbook practice, since observation leads to familiarity with our subject matter and familiarity helps with decisions regarding both composition and content.

*****For more information on all workshops, contact: Debbie Temple at dtemple860@aol.com or call 860 559 4071.**



The Painterly Animal Portrait with Pan Pastel - One-Day Workshop with Karen Israel
June 9th,

2018 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Jerry’s Artarama, 1109 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, CT

Learn how Pan pastels can be used to create

Member Classes/Members' News

For more information, please follow the link after each teacher's name.

Joe Baker – Stockbridge, MA –
www.bakerworks.com

Janet A. Cook – New York, NY – janetacook.com

Mally DeSomma – Waterbury, CT –
www.mallydesomma.com

Christine Ivers – Meriden, CT, nationally –
www.christineivers.com

Karen Israel, Hartford area artbykarenisrael.com

Liz Haywood-Sullivan – eastern MA, nationally –
www.lizhaywoodsullivan.com

Rita Kirkman- nationally
RitaKirkman.com

Anne Heywood – eastern MA –
www.anneheywood.com

Pieter Lefferts – Sharon, CT –
www.northlightartcenter.com

Paul Leveille – Holyoke, MA –
paulleveillestudio.com

Leslie Lillian Levy – Kent, CT –
www.leslielillianlevy.com

Linda Bull Neilan – East Lyme, CT

Alain Picard – Southbury, CT –
www.picardstudio.com

Jane Penfield – Vernon, CT –
www.janepenfield.com

Claudia Post – Chester, CT –
www.claudiapost.com

Peggy Davidson Post, Mt. Kisco, NY
www.theartistsplace.net

Peter Seltzer – Woodbury, CT –
peterseltzerfineart.com

Jeanne Rosier Smith

www.jeannerosiersmith.com

Karen Israel's painting won the Frank C Wright Award with the American Artists Professional League and the Anchor Line Award with the Pastel Society of New Hampshire's National Exhibit.

Rae Smith received the Master Circle Award at the International Association of Pastel Societies convention last June. She was awarded the Diane Bernhard award at the Allied Artists of America exhibition in NYC. She had a solo show at the Loren Chase Gallery in Golden's Bridge, NY in September and October 2017. She exhibited in the Pastel Artists International Exhibition in Taipei, Taiwan.

Alain Picard offers travel paint away in Scotland next year, July 22-29, and invites his CPS friends to join him. For more information please see <http://picardstudio.com/scotland>

Christine Ivers, PSA-MP, IAPS/MC

Recently voted in as the Vice President of IAPS at the 2017 Albuquerque Convention, Chris has been extremely busy with her new duties on the Board of Directors. Chris also had the pleasure of being the juror of selection and awards for the Pastel Society of New Hampshire. After acting as juror of selection for Arkansas (where she will be teaching a NightScape Workshop in November) she will act as the juror of awards for their national show. Chris has been teaching workshops throughout the country and plans to go abroad to teach in France in the future. For information about upcoming workshops visit www.christineivers.com



Right: Dave Kaphammer demonstrates painting a water landscape in pastel



Pictured bottom row (l-r): Peter Seltzer, Leslie Lillian Levy, Carol T Moore, Ellie Bender, Rainie Crawford, Frank Federico. Top row (l-r): [Joe Baker](#), [Laurel Friedmann](#), [Debbie Temple](#), Carol Reeves, Marilyn Caissy, Dick McEvoy.

Veteran members of the Connecticut Pastel Society gathered to work on documenting the history of the organization. Some of us hadn't seen one another in ages. It was a fun few hours.

Out of the meeting came the idea that long-term members would write a column for this newsletter on tips and techniques for artists. The following is the first entry by PSA Hall of Fame honoree Frank Federico.

ART IN PAINTING IS THE EXECUTION OF DIMENSION ON A FLAT SURFACE'

This comment covers all basis of achieving depth whether it is explicit in the completely literal, 'realistic' terms, impressionistic...or non-objective terminology.

How to achieve these goals involves various techniques, tools and philosophies. In upcoming columns major award winner Peter Seltzer, PSA 2017 Hall of Fame, Rainie Crawford and I will offer art commentaries, bits and quotes from our experiences to help guide you toward more artistic fruition in the wonderful world of pastel.

Happy Painting,
Frank Federico

Right: Jane Penfield and Vicki Rooney, Co-Chairmen, Renaissance in Pastel



"Afternoon Brew," by Mike Beeman won the Art Spirit Foundation Diane B Bernhard Award





Award Winners 2017 Renaissance in Pastel

New CPS Board of Directors 2018

President Diane Stone

Vice President Steve Brunetti

Treasurer Linda Madin

Secretary Lynda Regina

Membership Polly Castor

Hospitality Christina Vitarello

Renaissance in Pastel Co-Chairs Vicki Rooney and Valerie Mandra

Awards Co-Chairs Pat Boes and Mary Ann D'Ambruoso

Members Show Co-Chairs Diana Rogers and Phyllis Brown

Workshop Co-Chairs Debbie Temple and Elizabeth Ventura

Online Show Stacy Mayou

Plein Air liaison Stacy Mayou

Website liaison Linda Madin

Newsletter Editor Peggy Post

From the editor of *Purely Pastel*.

I plan to publish the newsletter in November, March, and July. Send me your news a month before those issues at peggydpost@gmail.com.

Your news should be summarized in a single paragraph. Please—no brochures, flyers or enrollment forms. Write **CPS News** in the subject line, so that your news and events don't slip into the black hole of my email stream. Thank you to a very inspiring group of artists.

—Peggy Davidson Post

www.ctpastelsociety.org

