



# Adirondack Pastel Society

News & Notes

Volume 13 Issue 1

Spring 2026

## LETTER FROM PRESIDENT BEV SAUNDERS

Celebrating 18 years! Same message different year. 2025 was another successful year. We have created a foundation of events/programs that are easily managed now that they have stood the test of time. As said before, these initiatives take commitment by our all-volunteer board to bring them to you, our members!



Ronnie Benware has served more than 10 years as our treasurer/membership chair. She will be resigning this year. It is with sincere gratitude and appreciation for her time and commitment to the ADK Pastel Society that we... Thank you, Ronnie!

**Presidents request!** Once again! Please, consider a leadership role on our board. We need a Vice-President willing to commit to becoming president in the future. We need a *Membership/Treasurer* chair to replace Ronnie.

We want new ideas and a younger view to move us forward and to inspire younger artists in the medium. Let's keep up the great opportunities this group offers, consider volunteering for a position! We are here to help you learn the ropes! For more information on the roles of our board members please refer to our bylaws.

2025 brought our 3rd annual winter virtual workshop with Lana Ballot, Wiawaka Social Day with fellow member, Catherine LaPointe-Vollmer, our 11th Annual National Pastel Exhibition once again at the Tom Myott Gallery with Doug Dawson and workshop, a members show at the Downtown Artist Celler in Malone, followed immediately by an exhibit at the TiArts Gallery in Ticonderoga, NY. Finally, our 17th Annual Members Show at Crandall Library.

Coming May 11 - June 21 Members Exhibit, Reception Friday May 15, 5-7pm. "Color and Light in Pastel" Tannery Pond, Widlund Gallery, North Creek, NY. **Watch for details in email for delivery and pick up instructions!**

We are proud to announce our...

**12th Annual Adirondack National Pastel Exhibit July 3 - August 5, 2026**

**Awards and reception: Saturday, July 10, 5 - 7pm**

**Master Pastelist [Jane McGraw-Teubner](#)**

**[LARAC](#) Lapham Gallery, Glens Falls, NY**

**This will include a 2-day workshop with Jane McGraw Teubner**

**[APS National Pastel Exhibition 2026](#)**

**This venue is one of most important and prestigious yet! Help us make it the most successful by submitting your works and participating in this year's exhibit.**

Don't forget! Annual Members Exhibit in the month of October at Crandall Library. Celebrating 18 years!

Finally, I would like to welcome new members and thank all the members for your continued support for our distinguished group. I hope that you will have a fabulous year in pastels and take advantage of the opportunities we have set forth in 2026!

Sincerely,  
Bev Saunders, APS President

## SAVE THE DATES - 2026

### 2026 MEMBER MEETINGS

Monthly, usually 1st Wednesday at 6:00 pm via Zoom. All members are encouraged to attend. Contact Bev Saunders, President, for the Zoom link at [bjartsworks@gmail.com](mailto:bjartsworks@gmail.com).

### WIAWAKA PAINTING DAY

Saturday, July 25th at Wiawaka Center for Women  
APS members are invited to paint plein air & socialize all day, with demo.  
Contact for sign up: [lfuller52@roadrunner.com](mailto:lfuller52@roadrunner.com)

### 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ADIRONDACK NATIONAL PASTEL EXHIBITION

Exhibit at The LARAC Gallery, Glens Falls

Submissions: [ShowSubmit.com](http://ShowSubmit.com)

Deadline: May 11

Dates: July 3 - August 5

Reception: July 10, 5-7pm

Gallery Committee

[adkpastelsociety@gmail.com](mailto:adkpastelsociety@gmail.com)

Mark Grasso

[mgrasso2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mgrasso2@nycap.rr.com)

### Workshop with Jane McGraw-Teubner

July 11th - 12th, 2026

At the Shirt Factory, Glens Falls, NY

Watch for an email announcing registration

Space limited, first come first served

### APS Spring Member Show

Tannery Pond Center, North Creek NY

May/June 2026; watch your email for more info

Reception/opening: May 15th

### ANNUAL APS MEMBER SHOW

Dates: October 1-31

Crandall Library, Glens Falls

Reception TBD followed by Annual Member Meeting

Contact: [adkpastelsociety@gmail.com](mailto:adkpastelsociety@gmail.com)

# WIAWAKA RESORT APS - PAINTING DAY

SATURDAY JULY 25<sup>th</sup>

Our annual plein air day at the idyllic resort of Waiwaka (located on the eastern shore of Lake George) is always different. Last year our APS member Catherine LaPointe-Vollmer demonstrated her process of plein air painting. Many members took advantage of this free demo in 2025. (It is open to non-members for their daily fee of \$15.00.)



This year the workshop date is Saturday, July 25th. It is always a very fulfilling day connecting with our fellow pastel members. All APS members are invited to enjoy a day of plein air painting and socializing. In addition to breathtaking views, there are beautiful gardens and historic buildings to paint as well.

Participants should plan to arrive at 8am. The APS will have the Main Tent on the lawn in case of rain, and admission will be covered by APS. A painting demonstration will be announced as we get closer to the date. Keep an eye on your emails!

To register for the event, contact:  
lfuller52@roadrunner.com

To stay overnight at the resort or arrange a lunch reservation, call 518-668-9690 or [www.waiwaka.org](http://www.waiwaka.org)

## A LETTER FROM RONNIE BENWARE



I have been the treasurer and membership chair for the Adirondack Pastel Society for the past 10 years. Over that time, I have seen our society grow from 30 to 75 members. We are quite a diverse group. While our home base is in Glens Falls, we have members from every corner of New York as well as Vermont, and a few from as far away as Indiana,

Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia.

It is my intention to step down from this position after our national exhibit this summer. As such, I would like to take the time to thank everyone for their many kind words of support over the years. I have amassed quite the collection of notecards illustrating member works, which I keep in my studio as they are so inspirational to me.

I will continue to remain active in the ADK Pastel Society in other ways such as assisting with our member show and the national exhibition.

I am looking forward to putting more energy into my artistic endeavors, and spending time traveling while I still can.

## Adirondack Pastel Society

The Adirondack Pastel Society was established in 2008 and is open to any artist working in the medium of soft pastel and to any person or organization wishing to promote participation in the medium.

APS provides exhibiting opportunities for pastel artists and works to educate and encourage students and professionals in the medium, through workshops, demonstrations and interaction among its members.

APS is a member of the International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS). For more information or to become a member visit our website:

[www.adirondackpastelsociety.com](http://www.adirondackpastelsociety.com)  
[adkpastelsociety@gmail.com](mailto:adkpastelsociety@gmail.com)  
71 Lawrence St., Suite 311, Glens Falls, NY 12801

Bev Saunders - President  
([www.bjsartworks.com](http://www.bjsartworks.com))

Catherine LaPointe-Vollmer -Secretary/WebNewsletter Chair ([www.lionheartgraphics.com](http://www.lionheartgraphics.com))

Ronnie Benware -Treasurer/Membership Chair/Solicitor of Awards ([benwarer@hotmail.com](mailto:benwarer@hotmail.com))

Mark Grasso - National Show Chair & Workshop Coordinator ([mgrasso2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mgrasso2@nycap.rr.com))

Dave Francis, Past President/National Show Advertiser

Lise Fuller, Past President/Wiawaka Coordinator

Tanya Hamell, Newsletter Committee

It's not too late to renew your membership. \$30 gets a year's worth of opportunities in the Adirondack Pastel Society. Look on Page 7 for information.

# 12TH ADIRONDACK NATIONAL PASTEL EXHIBITION CELEBRATING PASTEL IN 2026 AT LARAC LAPHAM GALLERY



The Adirondack Pastel Society is happy to announce the 12th Annual Adirondack National Pastel Exhibition at the LARAC Lapham Gallery at 7 Lapham Place, Glens Falls, NY. The show runs July 3 through August 5, with a reception and awards ceremony on Friday, July 10. APS is accepting entries now through May 11, 2026.

The juried competition is open to adult artists working in the medium of soft pastel. To enter go to [www.ShowSubmit.com](http://www.ShowSubmit.com)

### Dates at a Glance

Entry Deadline: Mon, May 11, 2026

Acceptance Notification: Fri, May 29, 2026

Reception and Awards: Fri, July 10, 2025, 5-7pm

Exhibition Closes: August 5, 2026

### Jurors of Selection & Awards

Jane McGraw-Teubner PSA-MP

### Awards:

Best of Show: \$1,000

Second Place: \$400

Third Place: \$200

Additional cash and merchandise prizes will be awarded.



**Jane McGraw-Teubner- 2026  
Juror**

### 2-Day Workshop with Jane McGraw-Teubner

*Fun, quick studies to...finished painting!  
Techniques to improve your artwork.*

Dates: July 11th - 12th, 2026 9:00am-4:00pm

Location: The LARAC, 7 Lapham Place Glens Falls, NY

Jane's workshop is structured for all levels of students. On the first day the concentration will be on quick studies. Jane will demonstrate the technique for these fast studies on the first day and on the second day demonstrate a step by step approach for more finished paintings.

The class will be painting at least 6-10 paintings on day 1 spending only 10 to 15 minutes on each one. This is one of the best ways to improve your work, whether you are a beginner or more advanced artist, and it's lots of fun! When painting with time constraints, you don't have the option to be timid or picky: you choose a color, put it down and commit to it. No second guessing and no worrying. It's a great way to develop your mark making, which is the way you communicate the "personality" of your subject. It's not about the destination but the journey.

On the second day we will be using some of the quick studies or photo references to create a more finished painting.

## Call for Art!

Entry Deadline: May 11, 2026

[showsubmit.com](http://showsubmit.com)

OPENS Jan. 1, 2026

ADIRONDACK PASTEL SOCIETY

12th Annual National Pastel Exhibition  
July 3 - August 5, 2026

LARAC'S Lapham Gallery, Glens Falls, NY



[www.adirondackpastelsociety.com](http://www.adirondackpastelsociety.com)

Card image: Best in Show 2025 by Stacey L Mayou "Holding the Hill"

LOWER ADIRONDACK REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL  
**LARAC**  
LEARN / SHARE / CREATE



### Note:

This venue is where the 12th Annual Adirondack Pastel Society's National Exhibition will be.

### Cost:

Adirondack Pastel Society (APS) members - \$275 | Non-members - \$325.

### How to reserve your spot?

(# of students required - minimum 5 and maximum 12)

1. Send an email to: [markgrassofineart@gmail.com](mailto:markgrassofineart@gmail.com) to reserve your spot with-in 7 days send in your check for \$275 or \$325 based on your membership status to lock in your spot, otherwise your spot may be given to the next person on the list.

2. Make checks payable to ADIRONDACK PASTEL SOCIETY and mail them to the address below to confirm your spot:

**Adirondack Pastel Society  
c/o Ronnie Benware  
14 Thistlewood Dr  
Queensbury, NY 12804**

If you have any questions, please send Mark Grasso an email at: [markgrassofineart@gmail.com](mailto:markgrassofineart@gmail.com)

# MEMBER NEWS, STORIES, AND WORKS

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## Ronnie Benware-*Alternative Realities*

To say that I am obsessed with all things shiny, reflective, translucent, and transparent would be an understatement. Over the years I have amassed quite a collection of old irons, bottles, marbles, polished rocks, and various other objects that I often used in my classroom before I retired. Anything from a reflection in a window, mirror, or body of water is the perfect subject matter for my work.



My pastel painting, "Alternative Realities," was adjudicated into our 2025 National Exhibition. The current political atmosphere definitely influenced this particular work.

benwarer@hotmail.com

## Sandra Jabaut -*Alexia*

Sandra Jabaut had two pastel paintings accepted into the 2025 Adirondack National Pastel Exhibition. She had one painting accepted into the Hyde Juried Show and one painting accepted into the Larac Juried Show. She has been exhibiting works in the NCAC Gallery, Crandall Library and Ticonderoga Arts. She participated in the Ticonderoga Harvest Plein Air Festival and sold two paintings. She exhibited at the Plein Air Adirondack show at the Library and sold four paintings. She currently exhibited at the BANF Film Festival and sold two paintings.



sjabaut55@gmail.com

## Jim Griswold -*The Old Mill at Rensselaer Falls*

I painted clear gesso on white mat board to get this effect.



## Linda Masten

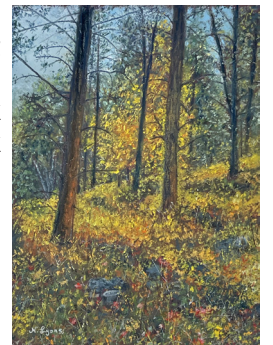
I received the luminous landscape award at the Vermont Pastel Society's member show held at the Chaffee in Rutland, VT.

lindamarymasten@gmail.com



## Nancy Lyons -*Sunlight in the Autumn Woods*

Nancy Lyons had a busy year in 2025. Not only did Nancy continue to teach her art classes throughout the Capital Region, but had the opportunity take workshops to grow as an artist in pastels and other mediums. She was honored to receive the Dick Blick Award in the 11th Adirondack National Pastel Exhibition at the Tom Myott Gallery in Glens Falls for her pastel piece "Sunlight in the Autumn Woods." In addition, she received 2nd place for her pastel painting at the Colonie Art League Christmas show.



lyonsnancy27@gmail.com

## Susan Elizabeth Baldwin

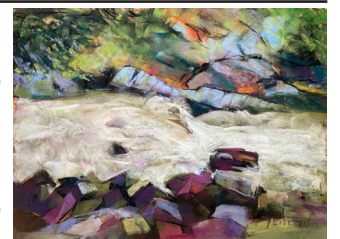
I am thrilled to be a new member of APS. I am based in Orange County NY and recently had my painting voted best in show by my peers, which was humbling given the talent included in the show. I look forward to spreading my wings in the Adirondack region which was a summer vacation destination for my family since I was 5. Thank you for welcoming me!



hangofit54@gmail.com

## Terry Teitelbaum

I am keeping busy with pastels... choosing images from my travels for upcoming work. My inspiration is often taken from my visits to nature preserves. "ON THE ROCKS" was awarded the Silver Award by juror Doug Dawson at the 11th Annual Adirondack National Pastel Exhibition in 2025.



www.terryteitelbaum.com

# MEMBER NEWS, STORIES, AND WORKS

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## Catherine LaPointe-Vollmer -*Morning on Main*

I had worked to tackle architectural subjects in 2025, so I was pleased when my piece "Morning on Main" won Best in Show at the 2025 Carmel on Canvas plein air paint-out. In 2026, I will have two solo exhibits:

Opens May 27 - June 14  
at Tupper Arts in  
Tupper Lake NY

Opens July 12 at the Iva  
Smith Memorial Art  
Gallery in Hammond,  
NY until October.



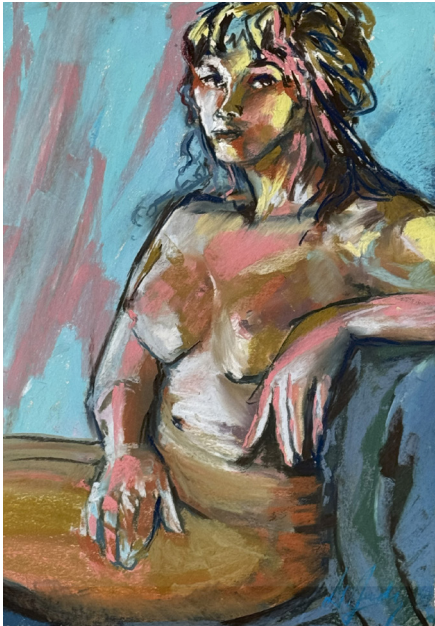
[catherinelapointe.com](http://catherinelapointe.com)

[www.facebook.com/LaPointeLionheartGraphics](https://www.facebook.com/LaPointeLionheartGraphics)

[www.instagram.com/lionheart\\_graphics](https://www.instagram.com/lionheart_graphics)  
[info@lionheartgraphics.com](mailto:info@lionheartgraphics.com)

## Gina Judy -*Nicole, With Flair*

Gina is currently in the Philadelphia Pastel Society Member Show, both online and an actual exhibition at the West Chester PA Chester County Art Association at 100 N Bradford, through January 29. (Image attached). She also just received two pieces back that were recently in the North Carolina Pastel Society Member Show at the end of 2025.



[ginajudy@comcast.net](mailto:ginajudy@comcast.net)

## Romane Chuncharoen-Borghese

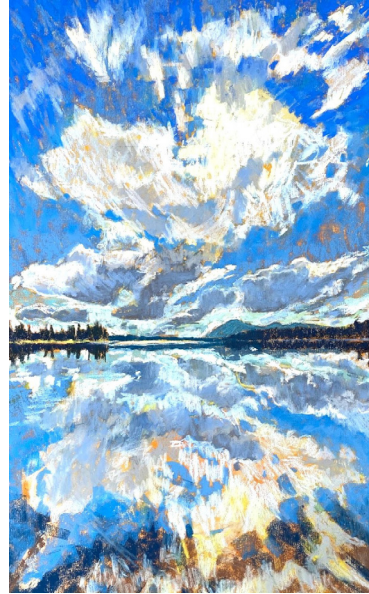
Painting is a form of meditation; it allows us to experience inner peace and tranquility.

[oun9480@yahoo.com](mailto:oun9480@yahoo.com)



## Ingrid Van Slyke -*Reflections in Golden Spiral*

This past summer, I had the opportunity to exhibit a series of pastel paintings at the Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts in Blue Mountain Lake, NY. The exhibition, Whispers of Color, explored the ever-changing Adirondack sky. Several of the works were larger in scale, featuring looser, more expressive mark-making. I experimented with a new color palette and explored subtle atmospheric shifts in an almost abstract manner. The show was on view for one month, from July through August, and was well attended.



The show was on view for one month, from July through August, and was well attended.

[ingrid@ingridvanslyke.com](mailto:ingrid@ingridvanslyke.com)

## Beverly Saunders -*Crow Island, Lake George*

2025 was an advancing year for me in pastels. With a total of 10 paintings completed, primarily commissions, I have exceeded past years. I have incorporated the use of



pan pastels in all of my work, using it as a foundation for the painting. I love the use of the applicators as a way to distribute the pigment and lay down the composition. I am using the metallic pan pastels as a

new signature to my work. It creates the iridescence that supports God's light that I intend to convey in all of my work." Favorite Commission of 2025 "Crow Island, Lake George"  
[www.bjsartworks.com](http://www.bjsartworks.com)

# MEMBER NEWS, STORIES, AND WORKS

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## Mark Grasso - *Winters Guardian*

Mark has been busy painting and taking workshops to continue learning new techniques and processes. Here's *Winters Guardian* which was entered in the members Crandall Library exhibition this past fall and was voted the People Choice! What an honor it is to receive such an award among all the other great artists and works. Mark is already busy in the new year painting. Here's to 2026!!!



mgrasso2@nycap.rr.com  
www.markgrasso.com

## Barbara Smith - *Ice on Blazer Pond*

I started out 2026 with a bang, participating in a painting challenge with Jacob Aguiar's Patreon group to paint 31 paintings in 31 days. I committed to posting a study or painting every day, and that commitment, plus the daily painting, gave my art and confidence a significant boost! I found myself willing to take risks and jump in and try things I would



otherwise have avoided. Had a blast and it helped get me through the deep snow and extreme cold we've been having. Looking forward to the January 2027 challenge!

dairy@meadowsweetfarm.com

## Sheryl Scales - *Two Greeters*

Saturday, April 11th, Sheryl Scales will showcase her soft pastel paintings, *Seasons in the North Country*, at TAUNY in Canton, NY.



## Patricia Byrne Varcasia - *Day at the palace*

Awards:

-Pastel Society of New Jersey Juried Distinguished and Signature Member Show won Honorable Mention for Marie.

-Texas Studio International juried show: Honorable Mention for Marie.

-Southern CA non- juried Exhibition won second place for Day at the Palace.



Juried Exhibitions Acceptance 2025-2026  
12 International , National, Annual exhibitions

Workshops:

Adirondack Pastel Society-Doug Dawson, Italy - Margaret Dyer. Will be attending workshop for Lyn Diefenbach in April.

railroadlady78@gmail.com

## Lise Fuller

Years and years ago, I met the two pastel artists in our area. We all had office/studios at the Shirt Factory in Glens Falls. What were the chances? They put out a call for pastel



artists to form a Pastel Society, and I was the only person who showed up. The three of us have all taken turns being president and handling all kinds of jobs that a society needs to survive. I am excited about having our annual National Show at the LARAC Gallery in Glens Falls. It has been a pleasure to be part of this community of pastel artists.

# MEMBER NEWS, STORIES, AND WORKS

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## Janine Gibson -First Irises

2025 was a year of trial and error. Challenging myself with new subject matter and materials. I happily accepted one of the Dick Blick awards, at the APS National Show, for Winter Moon Light. Honored to receive Personal Best recognition at our Annual Member Show. Currently, I'm working on a commission piece and moving forward on a botanical series.



janinegibson58@gmail.com

# 2026 APS MEMBERS

IS YOUR NAME HERE? IF NOT - JOIN!

Pam Agan-Smith	Lew Millenbach
Sue Baldwin *	Mary Lisa Minnich
Ronnie Benware	Marianne Nealy *
Romane Borghese *	Beth Olsen
Jill V. Burke	Judy O'Neill-Rhea
Oksana Burr	Kat Ostrovsky
Alison Carter	M. Janet Palmer
Eden Compton	Corey Pitkin
Lynn Couey	Pete Preston
Terry DeArmas	Joann Quinlivan
Elizabeth DiPalma *	Anne Ray
Chrissey Dittus	Joan Reid
Connie Dodge	Jennifer Richard-Morrow
Shelli DuBoff *	Denise Rizzo
Kayleigh Peters Falconio	Sharon Roberts
Dave Francis	Bev Saunders
Lise Fuller	Sheryl Scales *
Janine Gibson	Susan L. Securo
Mark Grasso	Athenia T. Schinto
Lana Grauer	Barbara Smith
James Griswold	Susan Smith *
Jill Gruben	Trudi Smith
Tanya Hamell	Nancy Stoliker *
Joyce Hanson	Terry Teitelbaum
Sandra Jabaut	Lisa Townson
Gina T. Judy *	Patricia Tribastone
Laura Winn Kane	Kathy Van Loan
Matthew O. Kestner	Ingrid Van Slyke
Judith Kornfeld	Patricia Byrne Varcasia
Cristine Kossow	Catherine LaPointe
Joan Kraemer	Vollmer
Lisa LaMothe	Linda S. Ward *
Phyllis Lapi	Anne White *
Diane E Leifheit	Claude White *
Nancy E. Lyons	Kristen Woodard
Linda Masten	Susan Zefting—Kuhn
Karen R. McGinn *	

\* new members in 2026

## Welcome members new and old!

Would you like to get more involved in the Adirondack Pastel Society?

Are you interested in organizing a social gathering for APS members?

Or do you have a regular meetup with other artists, and you'd like to spread the word?  
We will be accepting nominations (self or others) for new Board members later this year. If that's not your style, we'd still love for you to volunteer your talents in any way you'd like, such as:

Host a social gathering  
Help out with our social media or website  
Solicit award sponsors for our shows  
Teach a workshop  
Help with show hanging or setup  
What would YOU like to do?



## Adirondack Pastel Society

71 Lawrence Street, Suite 311  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

### Benefits of APS Membership

1. Vote to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors of APS.
2. Membership to IAPS, benefits listed online.
3. All society members are listed on the APS website.
4. Participate in various APS activities including the Annual Member Exhibit and Adirondack National Pastel Exhibit.
5. Receive APS Newsletter.
6. Post your workshops and exhibits online and in the APS Newsletter.
7. Member workshop discounts.
8. Participate in member demonstrations.
9. Communication network with fellow pastel artists.

Renew your membership today.

Your support is very much appreciated.

Go to [AdirondackPastelSociety.com](http://AdirondackPastelSociety.com) to renew and pay for your membership through PayPal.

It doesn't get any easier!



APS was pleased to welcome Master Pastelist Doug Dawson as both the juror for the National Pastel Show and as our featured workshop artist this past summer. During three days in July, we learned all about color harmony, color thumbnails, values, composition notans and other pastel techniques. One of the most interesting things we learned was how Doug prepares the handmade surface he uses for all of his beautiful, award winning pastel work.

Doug uses sturdy printmaking or etching paper like BFK Rives or Stonehenge as the base substrate. He then prepares a mixture of gesso and medium texture grit (Rainbow #FF) in a proportion of 3:1. The mixture is then thinned down with water to the consistency of heavy cream. Doug then tints this mixture with either alizarin crimson acrylic paint to use for nocturnes and misty, rainy scenes or yellow ochre acrylic paint for other subjects. The texture of the dried handmade paper provides the beautiful surface that makes Doug's paintings so eye-catching. It is also a much less expensive alternative to the commercially prepared sanded papers available

## SPRING MEMBER SHOW May/June 2026 Opening Reception: May 15th Tannery Pond Center, North Creek NY

Tannery Pond Center is dedicated to enriching lives with quality arts programming and a welcoming community center. TPC presents a full schedule of arts programming, including exhibits of original art, musical concerts and performances, as well as workshops and children's programs.

There is no entry fee for participation. This exhibition serves as both a celebration of pastel artistry and an opportunity for the community to engage with the medium. APS is committed to providing education on pastel techniques and fostering opportunities for artists to share and learn.

The title of the show is "Color and Light in Pastel". Drop-off and pick-up dates to be announced. Stay Tuned!



### Adirondack Pastel Society

71 Lawrence Street, Suite 311  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

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Page: [facebook.com/ADKpastel](https://facebook.com/ADKpastel)  
Group: [facebook.com/groups/adkpastel](https://facebook.com/groups/adkpastel)

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