

# Northern Indiana Pastel Society

Member of International Association of Pastel Societies, IAPS • [Nlpastelsociety.org](http://Nlpastelsociety.org)  
Email: [Nlpastel@aol.com](mailto:Nlpastel@aol.com) • Find us on Facebook

December 2015

## Meeting and Program

Our next meeting will be in February 2016. Members chose not to have a holiday gathering in December because we had receptions scheduled for November and January. In the meantime, enjoy your holiday time with friends and family. We look forward to 2016, the 10th anniversary of our pastel society.

## Previous meeting

Award-winning pastel artist and graphic designer Mary Meehan Firtl, secretary and newsletter designer for our society, gave a retrospective of her art career, and her mother Norma Lu Meehan, discussed her career as a fashion illustrator and how her love of historic costumes turned into paper doll books representing historical fashion and classic movie stars. *A select group of Norma Lu's paper doll books are available by calling her at 574-233-8573 or for a complete list, visit [paperstudiopress.com](http://paperstudiopress.com) through Paper Studio Press.*

## Shows

### Members' exhibit: Celebrating 10 Years

Buchanan Art Center  
117 West Front St., Buchanan, Mich.  
269-697-4005

**Drop off:** 4:30 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10.

*Note the hours have changed.*

### Reception with awards:

2-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17.

**Fees:** \$5 per entry

Commission on sales 25 percent

**Releasing:** 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21.

Each member may enter two pastel works. The work you list as your entry Number 1 will be shown. If we have to eliminate works due to space limitations, the work you list as entry Number 2 will be considered for elimination. But it is likely all works will be shown. The call for entries form will be available on the web site [Nlpastelsociety.org](http://Nlpastelsociety.org)

This is the first of two major shows in 2016 celebrating the 10th anniversary of the founding of Northern Indiana Pastel Society. The second will be May-August at South Bend Museum of Art.

## South Bend Museum of Art, 10th anniversary exhibit: Milestones

May 28 to Aug. 7, 2016.

Crowley Community Gallery

**Drop off:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14

**Reception with awards:** 2-4 p.m. Sunday, June 5.

**Releasing:** noon to 5 p.m. Aug. 10, 11 and 13

## Salvation Army Kroc Center, South Bend:

May and June 2017.

## Previous Show

Our last exhibit of 2015 was "Looking at the World through Pastel-Colored Glasses," in the Kingsmen Art Gallery, Penn High School, Mishawaka, Oct. 22 - Nov. 25. Included were 36 works by 20 artists. Awards were presented at the reception Nov. 5:

**Mary Szabo** (People's Choice Award); Judge's Awards went to **Jim Cooke, Mary Meehan Firtl** and **Peg Luecke**.

Judges were Penn art teacher Barb Miller and Penn Principal Steve Hope, a former

art teacher. **Peg Luecke** and **Mary Firtl** sold work from the show. The current show in the Penn Gallery features Fire Arts members until Jan. 22

## Member News

A host of members are participating in the annual Student/ Faculty Show at South Bend Museum of Art: **N'isa Freedomwalker, Mary Meehan Firtl, Walter Gunn, Ti-Patrice Lavers, Cathy McCormick, Tami McNally, Rose Mireles, Akane Omanson,**

**Dee Thornton** with an acrylic painting, and **Jim Cooke** with an oil painting.

**Greg Lorch** won best in show;



Greg Lorch



**Peg Luecke** and **Zara Osterman** won honorable mentions. **Mary Firtl**'s painting was sold. The show continues to Jan. 10 in the Crowley Community Gallery. **Hours:** noon - 5 p.m. Wednesday - Sunday at 120 S. St. Joseph St., in the Century Center in Downtown South Bend.

> Several members have work on view to Jan. 2 in a show by Northern Indiana Artists in the Box Factory for Arts, 1101 Broad St., St. Joseph, Mich.: **Cathy McCormick** (judge's award) **Jude Phillips**, **Barbara Gentner Stephenson**, **James Cooke** (oil painting) and **Robert Williams** (oil painting). Box Factory hours are 1-4 p.m. Monday-Saturday.



*Helen Kleczynski*

> **Helen Kleczynski** received the French Canvas award at the Pastel Society of America in New York City for her painting "Old Blue." The same painting appeared in her Skill Builders article in the December 2015 issue of the *Pastel Journal*.

> Pastel paintings by our late member **Mary Michalak** are on view in December at South Bend Civic Theatre Gallery. These are the works that were featured at Harris Branch Library in August. The **show will travel to Colfax Cultural Center, South Bend, Jan. 15-Feb. 26**. Mary passed away in April after a battle with cancer.

> Pastel winter scenes will be featured in February at Circa Arts Gallery, South Bend. This is an annual exhibit featuring the work of **Cathy McCormick**'s class members.

> Mary Ann Pals offers a solution for the problem of painting a mountain and sky reflected in still water. See her blog, <http://tinyurl.com/maartblog>

## Classes

> **Cathy McCormick** will teach a pastel landscapes class 6:30-9:30 Tuesdays for eight weeks starting Jan. 12 at South Bend Museum of Art, 120 S. St. Joseph St., in the Century Center in Downtown South Bend. **574-235-9102**; [info@southbendart.org](mailto:info@southbendart.org). She will teach beginning drawing 1:30 to 4:30 Thursdays for eight weeks at the museum.

> **Bob Williams** will teach portrait/figure drawing and painting from live clothed model 2-5 p.m. Thursdays starting Jan. 7 for eight weeks at Elkhart Art League, 511 Baldwin St., Elkhart, Indiana 46514. Voicemail: **574-264-1810**; [admin@ealonline.org](mailto:admin@ealonline.org). Artists may draw or paint in their medium of choice.

> **Phil Monteith** will teach pastels 1-4 p.m. Fridays starting May 6 for four weeks at Elkhart Art League. Suitable for all levels, beginner to advanced, students will create still life, landscape, portrait paintings and recreations of photos. Most materials are supplied, but bring pastels. Nupastels are recommended for beginners.

> **Helen Kleczynski** will offer a workshop, *A New Approach to Mixing Color*, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 12-14 at The Art House, Vicksburg, Mich. Conquer the color beast by learning how to mix color, adjust color, and model with color.

- On the first day, you will work with a limited selection of colors to make your own color mixing handbook, which will include an alternative color wheel and recipes for adjusting color, saturation and value.
- On the second day, you will learn how to adjust the colors of watercolor or pastels that you currently own, to create the colors that you need.
- On the third day, you will learn how to use color to create more depth in your compositions. Each day, students will have the opportunity to practice what they learned by painting a still life from life.

Class fee \$225. [helenkleczynski@yahoo.com](mailto:helenkleczynski@yahoo.com) or **269-649-3282**

> **Helen Kleczynski** offers a mentorship program for students who cannot take weekly classes at her studio. Students receive guidance on their work and careers through email, skype and phone calls. At the beginning of the mentorship and after every six review sessions, students will have a 45 to 60 minute private consultation, which may be through skype, email, phone, or in person at Helen's studio in Vicksburg, Mich. The fee for the six sessions and the consultation is \$120. For more information, or to register: **helenkleczynski@yahoo.com** or **269-649-3282**.

### ***Need a critique?***

ProArtCritique is a website where paintings and drawings can be constructively critiqued by a professional artist for a fee. If you are interested in a critique, technical help, advice, or would like to connect with a future workshop instructor, see **proartcritique.com**. Several noted pastel artists are on the list to give critiques.

### ***Pastel Pointers***

Pastel Journal offers comments by Richard McKinley at **http://pastel-pointers.pasteljournal.com**

**Artistsnetwork.tv** offers sample workshops.

### ***Dues***

Dues of \$25 are due in March. Please send a check payable to Northern Indiana Pastel Society to treasurer **Sue Coultas**, 519 Woodruff, Niles, MI 49120.

*Members gather at the student show reception at South Bend Museum of Art:  
From left, N'isa Freedomwalker, Holly Webb, Akane Omanson, Greg Lorch, Mary Szabo, Zara Osterman, Ti Lavers, Dee Thornton, Tami McNally, Peg Luecke, Cathy McCormick.*



***Joyous Holidays and a Happy New Year!***