

# Northern Indiana Pastel Society

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Email: [Nlpastel@aol.com](mailto:Nlpastel@aol.com) • Find us on Facebook

February 2016

## Dues

Memberships are due for renewal. The price has increased from **\$20 to \$25**, the first increase in 10 years. Please send a check for **\$25** payable to **Northern Indiana Pastel Society** to treasurer Sue Coultas, 519 Woodruff, Niles, MI 49120.

## Meeting and Program

**1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28**

Second floor studio, South Bend Museum of Art  
120 S. St. Joseph Street

South Bend, IN 46601

Located in the Century Center in

Downtown South Bend

574-235-9102 | [info@southbendart.org](mailto:info@southbendart.org)

Contributions of cookies, fruit, crackers and other finger foods will be appreciated.

## Program

Award winning pastel artist **James F. Cooke** will give a retrospective of his career and discuss his work. He recently won judge's awards in the NIPS shows at Buchanan Art Center and Penn High School. He won the top prize in the drawing category in the 2014 Regional Competition at Midwest Museum of American Art, Elkhart.

## Current Show

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show, Buchanan Art Center, Buchanan, Mich.** through Feb. 20.

Awards went to **Greg Lorch** for "After the Storm 2," **Mary Meehan Firtl** for "The Weaver," **Walter Gunn** for "Still Waters," **Peg Luecke** for "After the Storm," **James F. Cooke** for "Winter Hike in Kill Deer Woods, MI" and **Nisa Freedomwalker** for "First Snow at Red Barn." The exhibit features 41 works by 24 artists. The judge was **Kim Hoffmann**, former curator of collections, South Bend Museum of Art. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Info: [Buchananartcenter.org](http://Buchananartcenter.org) or 269-697-4005.

## Juror's statement

*I have juried many group exhibitions including shows for the Northern Indiana Artists and the St. Joe Valley Watercolor Society in South Bend, IN, also the Minnetrista Art & Space exhibitions and the Ball State University Annual Student Exhibition in Muncie, IN. As in any juried exhibition one looks for command of the medium, and a freshness to subject, composition, and color. Framing and presentation are considered. I also look to the individual's history and growth as an artist.*

*The level of overall accomplishment as a group is notable in the Northern Indiana Pastel Society. There is not a far distance between awarded selections and other works on display. Other paintings could have been chosen by another juror on another day. Many artists in this exhibition are previous award winners, some are newer to the status of exhibition. Many exhibitors are artists I have followed over time; others are new to me. Some paintings stood out when I first came in the door. When I returned to the gallery again, other pieces began to emerge. I have found when you spend some time with a roomful of art, impressions will evolve.*

*The theme of landscape is a stronghold of the pastel society, and representational art presents a solid group current, yet I commend those who explore other choices. My selections include expressive paintings done with energy and a loose hand, to others which impart a still, complete scene conveying a sense of calm. Each is a gem of full intent.*

*I thank the NIPS for the opportunity to enjoy the work of all these artists at the Buchanan Art Center in this Members' Exhibit: Celebrating 10 Years. Thanks also to Cathy McCormick and the founding members of the NIPS for their commitment to our community. Thank you for your hard work, and dedication to the arts. To the artists: keep up the good work! —Kim E. Hoffmann*



Top: L-R, Jim Cooke, Mary Firtl, Nisa Freedomwalker  
Bottom: L-R, Walter Gunn's entry, Greg Lorch, Peg Luecke



### Scholastic Art Awards

The pastel painting, "Eyes in the Horizon" by **Mariah Devine**, grade 10, Portage High School, has been selected by Northern Indiana Pastel Society for an award of \$100 in the annual Scholastics student art exhibit

Jan. 31 to Feb. 27 at South Bend Museum of Art. Awards ceremony is 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 7.

### Future Shows

#### South Bend Museum of Art, 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibit: *Milestones*

May 28 to Aug. 7 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

#### South Bend Civic Theatre:

Sept. 16 to Oct. 2 for *Legally Blonde, The Musical* and Oct. 21 to 30 for *The Mountaintop*. Art will be hung prior to Sept. 16 and remain through Oct. 30.

#### Salvation Army Kroc Center, South Bend:

May and June 2017.

#### MoonTree Studios, Donaldson, Ind.:

October 2018  
**Opening:** October 6  
**Releasing:** November 5.

### Member News

Pastel paintings by our late member **Mary Michalak** are on display Jan. 15 to Feb. 26 at Colfax Cultural Center, 914 Lincoln Way West, South Bend. The reception is 7–9 Feb. 5 during the First Friday in South Bend.

These works were featured at South Bend Civic Theatre Gallery in December and Harris Branch Library in August. Mary, who was a veterinarian, died of brain cancer April 4, 2015. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

### > Winter Landscapes

"Frosty Vistas" is the theme of a pastels exhibit during February at Circa Arts Gallery, 528 East Colfax Ave., South Bend.



**Reception:** 5-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5.

**Gallery hours:** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Wednesday-Friday  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday  
circaartsgallery.com  
574-233-8400  
Members of **Cathy McCormick's** classes participate in this annual show. *Pastel by Peg Luecke*

> **Patty Rose** won first prize in the All Creatures Great and Small exhibit Dec. 9–Jan. 9 at Buchanan Art Center.

> **Mary Meehan Firtl** won best of show for her pastel in the Landscape Competition Show in January at Fernwood Botanical Gardens, Niles, Mich.

> **Phil Monteith** will have a retrospective show in mid-March at Arts on Main Gallery, Elkhart. Included will be 40 pastels and woodcuts dating from 1966 to 2015. The show will continue for six weeks.

> **Bob Williams** won an award for an oil painting in the Northern Indiana Artists exhibit Jan. 15 to March 5 at the Salvation Army Kroc Center, 900 W. Western Ave., South Bend. The exhibit will be open during Kroc Center hours: 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, and 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Bob's painting was titled "A Great Team." **Lea Goldman** won the Glenda Cobb Bixby Award for expressionistic work for "The Visit," a mixed media piece. The judge was **Alan Larkin**, emeritus professor of art, Indiana University South Bend.

> Art by **Bob Williams** and Jason Watts will be featured Feb. 9 to March 6 in the Gallery of Smith Hall, Andrews University, Berrien Springs MI. Reception will be at 6–8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9. Each artist will show 7 to 10 pieces selected by curator Greg Constantine. Bob's works are figurative oil paintings done in the last five years. Jason's pieces are contemporary and narrative.

*Directions: proceed from the main entrance of Andrews University, to the rear of the campus. Smith Hall is located near the base of the water tower.*

### Website News

Please see our redesigned website, **NIPastelSociety.org**, for show forms, photos, announcements and newsletters.

## Classes

**Cathy McCormick** teaches pastel landscapes 6:30–9:30 p.m. Tuesdays 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 She teaches beginning drawing 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays at the museum.

**Bob Williams** teaches portrait/figure drawing and painting from a live model 2-5 p.m. Thursdays at Elkhart Art League, 511 Baldwin St., Elkhart, Indiana 46514. Voicemail: 574-264-1810; admin@ealonline.org. Artists may draw or paint in their medium of choice.

**Phil Monteith** will teach pastels 1–3 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 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. For more information, or to register: helenkleczynski@yahoo.com or 269-649-3282.

## Tips

**Mary Ann Pals** suggests we check out a blog post by **Vianna Szabo**, viannaszabo.com. Here's the link: <http://viannaszabo.com/blog/102945/choosing-value-or-color-for-a-stronger-painting>. The post says we should choose to emphasize value or color in a painting, and planning in advance can make a huge difference in a painting's end result. Mary Ann said it was a real eye opener for her.

## Hoosier Women Artists Contest

Entries will be accepted until March 4 in Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann's 2016 Hoosier Women Artists Contest. The annual competition celebrates Women's History Month by highlighting female artists of Indiana. Winners will have their artwork displayed in Ellspermann's office at the Statehouse for a year.



2015: Marie Arch: PEACE – Pastel, South Bend

Applications can be submitted online through the website, [www.lg.in.gov](http://www.lg.in.gov), or mailed to 200 W. Washington St., Room 333. Indianapolis, IN 46204. Selected artists will be honored at a reception 1–3 p.m. March 29 at the Statehouse.

## 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](http://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>