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## monthly newsletter

### January 2026



If you weren't there, you missed a wonderful holiday party at the Encino Community Center. Andrea Monroe went above and beyond, finding the location, doing all the shopping, not only the delicious food but also creating center pieces and other decor, and doing so much else of the organization that I've lost track. We had an art swap, sale of books rescued from MOCA by Arlene and Lizz, and a white elephant sale. Fun was had by all, a lot of new connections were made and a couple hundred dollars were raised. The only thing that went wrong was that everyone was having such a good time, it seems we all forgot to take photos. I'm awarding Andrea the Woman of the Year for Women Painters West. No, that's sadly not a real award, but it's the best way I know how to show the appreciation for all her hard work.

The other lady that has gone above and beyond this year is Melissa Elliott. We have had three people approach me for information about prior WPW members. Melissa as our historian has access to the bits of history that we still have, mostly just in scanned documents which doesn't make for easy searching. With a little help from some other long-time members, she produced not necessarily an answer but sometimes a few extra crumbs for the researcher to follow.

Wishing you all Happy Holidays and a wonderful 2026.

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## CALENDAR

**Meeting: Board Meeting**

**Date: Thursday, January 8. NOTE THE DATE This will follow after the General Meeting.**

**Time: 3:00 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83838819012?pwd=6DEb0AXaWgfHVumHjzGXu4yPxK5aQ9.1>

Meeting ID: 838 3881 9012

Passcode: 631438

## **Meeting: General Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday, January 8 (Second Thursday of the month)

**Time:** 1-3

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83838819012?pwd=6DEb0AXaWgfHVumHjzGXu4yPxK5aQ9.1>

**Meeting ID:** 838 3881 9012

**Passcode:** 631438



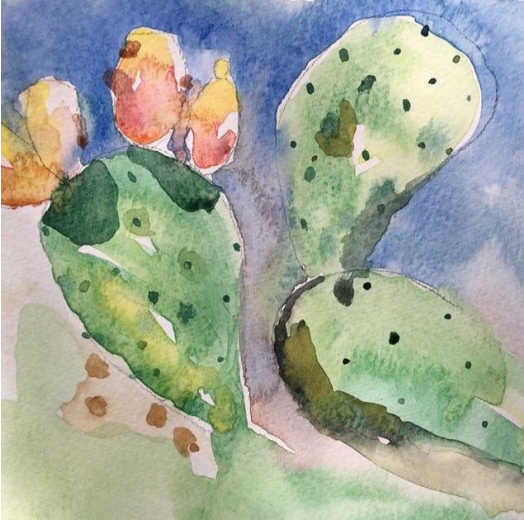
Anne Kupillas is a Long Beach-based fine artist working primarily in watercolor and acrylic. Anne was born in 1968 in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. Her love of art began as a child growing up with a family of musicians and artist on Long Island, NY, who encouraged her creativity. Anne's artwork is primarily informed by a love of nature and the human form. A seasoned traveler, Anne enjoys sketching in different locations – wherever she is, she finds local inspiration. A seasoned traveler, Anne enjoys sketching in different locations – wherever she is, she finds local inspiration.

A graduate of the State University of Albany, New York with a Bachelor of Arts, Anne has studied fine art, art history and archaeology in New York, England, New Mexico and California. Anne currently lives in Long Beach, California and is a member of the Arts Council of Long Beach, Bishop Arts Council, Palm Springs Arts Council, Huntington Beach Art League and SOCALPAPA Plein Air Painters group.

In addition to teaching watercolor painting at CSULB's OLLI program, Anne also teaches at the Alper JCC and other local workshops, offers private instruction and leads a free weekly Watercolor Happy Hour Zoom class on Fridays from 4-5pm PST.

Anne's artwork has been showcased in group and solo exhibitions in California, New York and Florida. Her artwork hangs in several hotels and resorts, including Ghost Ranch in

New Mexico. An avid plein air painter, she also leads small groups of plein air artists on retreats and workshops painting on location with her Eat Paint Live program. @annekupillasfineart AnneQPdraws@gmail.com  
www.annekupillasfineart.com



*If you can't make the live monthly meetings on Zoom, most meetings are recorded and posted to our [YouTube channel](https://youtu.be/UKMwBRS8Paw). The link is <https://youtu.be/UKMwBRS8Paw>.*

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## ART BOOK GROUP

Loraine Veeck [bookgroup@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:bookgroup@womenpainterswest.org) or at 818-346-0855 is in charge of the book club for the year. If you are interested in reading and having a wonderful discussion about art books, join us. The meeting is on zoom every third Thursday of the Month at 1:00 pm.

**January 15 "Life Studies" by Susan Vreeland**

**Zoom link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7201018411?pwd=aG9sSGNyenE5enhac2RJV0dqL2ZyUT09>

**Meeting ID: 720 101 8411**

**Passcode: 70753**

**February 19 "Artcurious" by Jennifer Dasal**

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## MEMBERS' NEWS

Members, we are requesting any announcements, past or present, of your exhibition activity so we can support you and celebrate your art. Please include the following information: your name, the show's sponsor, gallery and location, date and time of reception, and the opening and closing date. Submit the information to Joan Baral at [membersnews@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:membersnews@womenpainterswest.org) by the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month to be included in the upcoming month's newsletter.

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## ARTIST OF THE MONTH

### GLORIA CASSIDY

Gloria Cassidy is a mixed media artist living in Santa Clarita. A SoCal native, she was encouraged to create and realized that artistic expression was her passion. After raising a family, she began making art full time. Since 2010 she has been producing drawings, paintings, collages and fiber art.

"I'm obsessed with gel printing and collaging. I first create textural mono-printed papers, using repetition, simple shapes, colors and symbols. Hopefully my work will lead the viewer to explore the depths of their own stories.

My work has been included in galleries in Santa Clarita, Santa Barbara, Carpinteria and Chaffey Community Museum of Art. My piece "Past Present Future" is in an exhibit at Descanso Gardens".





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### Upcoming Exhibitions and Call for Art:

Here is the information on our next two shows:

#### Upcoming Exhibition: "Horizons Unbound" at 29 Palms Art Gallery

74055 Cottonwood Dr, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

Take In will be December 28, with two locations for the Art drop off.

Exhibition Dates: January 2 - February 1, 2026

Reception: January 3

4-6PM

#### Call for Art: "When The Earth Whispers Back: Nature's Hope" at Solvang... California Nature Art Museum

1511-B Mission Drive, Solvang, CA 93463

Exhibition Dates: March 15- September 7, 2026

Opening Reception: March 15

The theme will be centered around California's species and landscapes "on the edge" of survival. It will highlight plant and animal species that are endangered, or threatened, or even extinct, and areas of land set aside for conservation & preservation of these species. We will be presenting this show with the purpose of bringing attention to their beauty and fragility, as well as promoting better protection and stewardship of our ecosystems. You may choose any natural spaces you feel have been dedicated to the protection and preservation of nature.

Resources that may be helpful:

CDFW - Fully Protected Species, CDFW - Threatened & Endangered Animals, CDFW - Threatened & Endangered Plants

The directors, Stacy Otte-Demangate and Rachel Metz will be the jurors and will select 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners and three Honorable Mentions.

All entries will go through

<https://www.onlinejuriedshows.com/>

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We are looking for members that can be a part of our exhibition committee!

Or any ideas of future exhibition locations!

Can contact me...

Diane Karpel.. [jdka@jkdka.com](mailto:jdka@jkdka.com) 818-388-7770

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#### Current and past online exhibitions

View exhibits on the Online Gallery page of our website <https://womenpainterswest.org/gallery/>.

Scroll down the Gallery page to see each exhibition.

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### Upcoming ART SHARE:

Winter: January 11 1-4 pm at Andrea Monroe in Lake Balboa

### Upcoming Speakers in 2026

**Alaia Parhizi** ( February 12, 2026 at 1 pm))

painter, musician, gallerist

In April 2018, Parhizi opened Wonzimer, a Los Angeles-based gallery space. Since its inception,

the gallery has been a creative hub that has exhibited many important contemporary artists.  
<https://www.wonzimer.com/>

### **E.E. Jacks** ( March 12 at 1 pm)

Oil painter, poet and curator, based in Washington State. With a French father and a Mexican mother, her multicultural heritage informs a perspective deeply influenced by both European and Latin American traditions. She is recognized for her nocturne and naturalistic oil paintings, and her creative process draws on elements of romanticism, shape, form, and emotional resonance.  
<https://www.eejacks.com/>

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### **Exhibition space request:**

Any members who have contacts for gallery/exhibition space, please contact our Exhibition Chair at [exhibitions@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:exhibitions@womenpainterswest.org)

We have to have 3 shows a year due to our bylaws. It would be very helpful for the entire group if you can let us know of any space that you think might be a good venue for us to have a show. It can be office space or store front, restaurant, etc. any connections that you have. Thank you,

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**Volunteering:** PLEASE VOLUNTEER! WPW supports your endeavors, and WPW needs your support too.

We are looking for members that can be a part of our exhibition committee!

Or any ideas of future exhibition locations!

Please, contact Diane Karpel: [exhibitions@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:exhibitions@womenpainterswest.org) or 818-388-7770

For new members, your entrance into our illustrious group includes some volunteer time to assist us in many ways. If you have computer skills, are able to provide support to members that need help with navigating technology, please reach out. If you need assistance or would like to help us in any way, please contact Zony Gordon [wpw@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:wpw@womenpainterswest.org) or Jeni Bate [president@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:president@womenpainterswest.org).

### **WPW Facebook page**

You can link to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/49019849628>. Ask to Join, and the FB administrator will add your name as Facebook Page member to receive notifications.

### **WPW has an Instagram page**

<https://www.instagram.com/womenpainterswest/>

INSTAGRAM POSTINGS on WPW IG account

One of our members does the postings that will stay on this page. If you want her to post a message, send an email to [programs@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:programs@womenpainterswest.org) with your Instagram handle. Also send the exact text you want her to post and a square image with the title of your artwork, the image must be about 1920 pixels each side. You will be tagged with your IG handle.

You might also want to post on your own Instagram page. If you do so, please include the hashtag #womenpainterswest in your post.

### **WPW has a YouTube Channel**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRs\\_fVAielsGPbnGG9AdglQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRs_fVAielsGPbnGG9AdglQ)

Many of our recorded meetings are posted on this channel.

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Keep WPW in Your Loop

Change in email address? Please send an email to [news@womenpainterswest.org](mailto:news@womenpainterswest.org)

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Women Painters West

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