



Coachella Valley
Watercolor Society

Brush Up December 2025

General Meeting: December 8, 2025

5:45 PM Social, 6:15 PM General Meeting

at the Joslyn Center

73750 Catalina Way, Palm Desert, CA 92260

December Demonstrator: Jean Bradley



Web Site: www.KauaiArt.com

People often comment, in viewing Jean Bradley's work, that they feel the life force, the energy, in the vibrant colors and movement. "It's my expression of the magic in nature," says Jean.

Jean Bradley always knew she would be a professional artist. Art has been part of her life since childhood. Jean's formal training in painting initially centered on oils. For the last 30 years, however, she concentrated on watercolors, and in the last 15 years she has exploded into acrylics.

Jean has studied with nationally acclaimed artists, including John Peisley, Lisa Forster, Stephen Quiller, as well as Peter Berg, a portrait artist.



How Did You Paint That? 100 Ways to Paint Your Favorite Subject, a book published by International Art Magazine, includes photos of Jean's work and information describing her painting techniques and style. International Artist magazine came out with a ten-page feature article on Jean Bradley's "Rhythm and Light" series and her "Voluptuous Papayas" was on the cover (Feb./Mar. 2006).



President's Message



Bob Hannah, President

CVWS 2025 – 2026 Officers

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December 2025

Our first in-person meeting in November at the Joslyn Center was very well attended. There were 60-plus in attendance. It was great seeing so many new and familiar faces.

I'm hoping that the November meeting was a harbinger of things to come with even more people participating in our Painter of the Month competitions and enjoying our quality demonstrators.

Speaking of Painter of the Month, Judy Coltman, a new member, won first place with her beautiful painting. I encourage you to "put yourself out there" and enter an upcoming Painter of the Month competition. It's the best way to learn and develop confidence in your art.

Ian Cooke's demonstration was a master class in floral study. If you're a florals lover, Ian's are among the best.

December's demonstrator will be Jean Bradley, a watercolor and acrylic artist.

December is a very busy and festive month with the holidays and family gatherings taking up much of our time. However, take the time to keep creating. You never know when you'll make that first masterpiece.

In the meantime, keep putting those "miles on the brush"!

Bob

November 2025 Painter of the Month

Photos courtesy of Candi Blackman

1st Place: Judi Coltman



2nd Place: Buffy Kaufman



3rd Place & Demonstrator's Choice:
David Howell

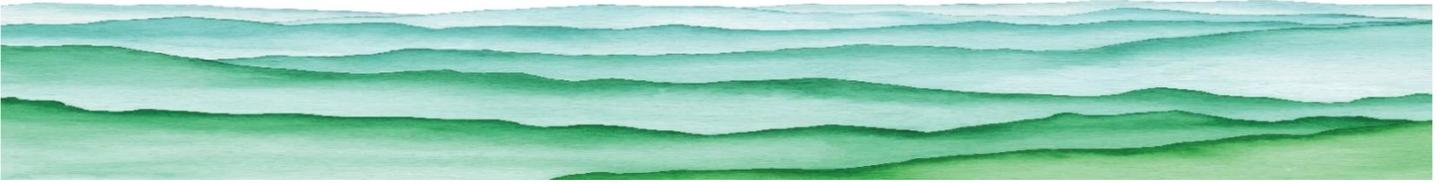


Honorable Mention: Candi Blackman



To enter POM, text or phone Connie Zane at 775-846-9719

Membership



Twenty Fun Ways to Paint Watercolor Without a Brush

Submitted by Connie Zane

Some interesting effects can be achieved in a number of ways when you start exploring painting without a brush. Here are a few:

1. Use a brush handle, a stick, fork, or pallet knife to score wet paint.
2. Use a pipette or eye dropper on wet or dry paper.
3. Paint crumpled aluminum foil. When dry, iron the paint side down on damp watercolor paper.
4. Paint dabs on plexiglass and pull a print.
5. Rub the tip of watercolor pencils with sandpaper over wet areas of watercolor paper.
6. Scratch into wet paint with a credit card or a fork, etc.
7. Paint deli paper, crumple up, let dry. Scumble (paint tops of wrinkles) with gesso or metallics.
8. Sandpaper a magazine page layered over a stencil to lift pattern.
9. Do the same with wax (over a stencil) using deli paper, then watercolor.
10. Sprinkle salt on damp watercolor.
11. Press Saran Wrap into wet watercolor and allow to dry.
12. Scrape with a credit card: drop a puddle on watercolor paper and spread with card (dry brush look).
13. Brush paint from edge of torn or cut cardstock to form crisp edges or special shapes.
14. Print with stencils or objects.
15. Use a paper towel or wax paper crumpled and dipped in paint.
16. Splatter with a toothbrush.
17. Pull paint out of a puddle with a stiff scrub brush or comb.
18. Paint and print with a string or feather or plant material such as leaves.
19. Dab with a sponge, Q-tip or cotton ball.
20. Mist damp paint with water then quickly blot with a tissue or paper towel.

Membership, continued

Welcome to New CVWS Members:

- Carrie Bova
- Julie Prater

Getting to Know You

By Kathy Weyer



Carrie Bova is making lemonade. After the fifth hurricane to upend their lives in Florida, the last one completely demolishing their house and their lives, they packed up what they could, grabbed the dog, and headed out.

No more Florida. Carrie taught art and had a community of artists, a beautiful home and a studio. All gone. There is nothing quite so sure as change, no???

Carrie is a natural horsewoman, as are her daughters, and she had a barn business before retiring in 2010.

She says she is not a painting pro, but a good amateur. In Nova Scotia she stuck to beach scenes, lighthouses, and the like, and in Florida she moved into tropical scenes.

Now she's in the desert and expanding her repertoire. (What a change of palette colors!) She has painted with Moira Johannessen here in the desert and says she has learned quite a lot with the unfamiliar natural scenery.

Carrie and her husband currently live in Nova Scotia and plan on making the valley their six-month home after they get over their recent life-upending ordeal. Their daughter lives in Indio and they are babysitting their two-year-old grandson while they ponder what's next.

Welcome, Carrie!



Have you remembered to renew your CVWS membership for the 2025 – 26 season?

Visit www.cvws.org today!

Workshops

The CVWS Workshop Committee is proud to offer you two incredible workshops this season! We don't want you to miss either one! Full information is on our webpage at www.cvws.org where you can read more about each one and join your friends who have already signed up.

'A Taste of Watercolor'

January 5-9, 2026



Mon, Jan 5: "Watercolor Pouring with Stencil Techniques" Buffy Kaufman.
(This class is currently full, but a wait list has been created.)

Tue, Jan 6: 'Design and Composition'
Connie Zane



Wed, Jan 7: 'Surface Stories: One-Day Abstracts with Water Media & Texture'
Alleyn Yasskin

Thur, Jan 8: 'Portrait Painting in Watercolor' Jim Nelson



Fri, Jan 9: 'Exploring Gouche with Watercolor'
Ellen Jean Diederich

Please sign up today while there are still openings!

Workshops, continued

Our second workshop for this season is an incredible opportunity! **Amit Kapoor**, one of the world's leading contemporary watercolorists, will be here **March 23-26, 2026**.

Amit is recognized internationally with great honor, and a list of his numerous international awards is available online.

It is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to welcome him here and this workshop should sell out quickly so please don't wait!



www.amitkapoorwatercolor.com

Instagram: @amitkapoor_watercolors



It has been said about Amit that his art captures the very soul of his subject. He loves to teach his students how to simplify a detailed scene and break it down into a manageable composition. Part of his simplifying is playing with light and shadow.

His teaching for us will include:

***Fundamentals of Composition** – building strong, expressive layouts for compelling paintings

***Light, Tone & Atmosphere** – creating mood, depth, and brilliance through value and color

***Perspective & Viewpoints** – understanding camera angles, staging, and spatial relationships

***Step-by-Step Demonstrations** – Watch Amit paint live as he explains his process in real time

***Signature Style Techniques** – Discover the methods behind Amit's world-renowned style



****This is one you don't want to miss!! Sign up now online at cvws.org ****

Kudos

Veronique Branger has shared an update of art events she is involved in:

“I will be (with my booth and art collection) at Art on Main Street in downtown La Quinta. I will also be presenting my holiday boutique at the Desert Art Center from November 19th to January 10th 2026 as well as new pieces for the winter art show.”



Mike Pascavage recently garnered a Jury Award for his painting “Stepping Up” in the recent Artists Council "Light Show" at the Galen.

Jean Stroud participated in the Imperial Valley Food Bank art show in Imperial County, and her painting “The Stone House” was voted second best in the Viewer’s Choice Award.



News



Support the Arts: Make a Tax-Deductible Donation to CVWS

Help Us Inspire Creativity and Enrich Our Community

The Coachella Valley Watercolor Society (CVWS) is dedicated to promoting the appreciation and practice of water media painting for our members and our community. We offer workshops, art exhibits, educational programs, demonstrations and support art education for the young people of the Coachella Valley.

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on the generosity of donors like you to continue our mission. Your support enables us to host workshops and demonstrations led by renowned painters and organize exhibitions that showcase the incredible talent within our community.

We invite you to make a tax-deductible donation to CVWS. Your contribution, no matter the size, will make a meaningful difference in sustaining our programs and expanding access to the arts. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law, and you will receive a receipt for your records.

To donate, please visit our website at www.cvws.org) or mail your contribution to:

Coachella Valley Watercolor Society
P.O. Box 565
Palm Desert, CA 92260

CVWS Annual Show – 2026

Entry Deadline: Enter online by midnight February 16th, or mail entry form to CVWS, P.O. Box 565, Palm Desert, CA, postmarked no later than February 13th

Intake: Monday March 2nd, 9.30am to 11.30. Paintings will not be accepted after the 11:30 deadline. Deliver artwork to Artists Center, 72567 Highway 111, Palm Desert, CA 92260.

Gala Reception, Award Presentation and Sale: Wednesday March 4th, 2025, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Show Dates: Wednesday March 4th to Sunday, March 8th, 2026, from 10:00am– 4:00 pm, 3.30 on Sunday.

Pick Up: Sunday, March 8th, 2026, from 3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Work will not be released early.

Eligibility of Artists: All artists who are currently CVWS members are encouraged to enter.

To see details of the 2026 Show Rules & Prospectus – visit www.cvws.org

Odds & Ends

CVWS Publicity

Our Publicity Chair Kathy Weyer reports that an ad promoting CVWS will be published in Palm Springs Life magazine, their calendar, and in their special Arts & Culture magazine, so be on the lookout for it!

She says further, "I have established relationships with media to begin the process of asking for airtime to promote our Annual Show."

Kathy has also created a list of places to distribute / place Annual Show cards once they have been printed, and requests that if any CVWS members participate in neighborhood online postings or have a way to get the word out, to let her know at katmweyer@gmail.com

Kathy reports that she is also in the process of designing some cards for the club in general (not necessarily about the annual show) to showcase CVWS and attract new members.

Well done, Kathy!



If you hear of someone who needs a bit of cheer or support, please contact our Sunshine Chairman, Cindy Green at (425) 765-9509 or cindynwrs@seanet.com



Editor's Note: If you have a topic or feature that you'd like to see included in the CVWS newsletter, or on the CVWS.org website, please send an email to: cvwsnewsletter@gmail.com

Many CVWS members offer excellent painting instruction and classes. Call for information:

Ian Cooke	760 408 3313
Ellen Jean Diederich	701-799-9505
Bob Hannah	206-409-9786
Karin Harris	808-268-0847
Dave Howell	425-319-5858
Moira Johannessen	760-322-2523
Diane Moregan	760-902-8855
Alicia Siegler	650-207-0585
Suzy Voss	209-768-7647
Alleyn Yasskin	503-206-9313
Connie Zane	775-846-9719



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