



PASTEL

notes



MARCH • 2017

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

As I'm writing this letter our first major snow storm of the season is blowing outside. Appreciating the beauty of the moment I'm also thinking ahead to spring. We will hold our annual paint-out this year at Presby Iris Garden in Montclair, tentatively during the week of May 22, so mark your calendars. Whether painting en plein air or simply taking reference photographs it's a wonderful place and time to visit. Hope you will join us.

Our first critique group meeting was such a positive experience that we are adding it to our regular schedule of events. We formed a Critique Committee chaired by our Program Chair, Margaret Cohen. Read her message on page 6. Margaret will also take part in planning the "Welcome Back" membership party in September and we need more volunteers to plan and chair the event so if you are interested please step forward.

We have a busy schedule ahead of us in April, including two exhibitions and our General Meeting, featuring a demonstration by Judith Leeds. You will be glad to hear that we added and increased some of the awards in our shows, now that our balance has improved.

Looking forward to seeing you all in our gatherings,

Michal Barkai, President  
Pastel Society of New Jersey



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### April 2017

#### **First Bi-Annual**

#### **Juried Signature Members Exhibition**

4/11/17 - 5/16/17

Mayo Performing Arts Center

100 South St., Morristown, NJ 07960

#### **Twelfth Annual Members Exhibition**

4/1/17 - 4/30/17

Watchung Arts Center

18 Stirling Rd., Watchung, NJ 07069

#### **4/30 General Meeting, 2-4 pm**

Madison Community House.

Demonstrator: Judy Leeds

### May 2017

tentative paint out at Presby Iris Garden :  
week of 5/22/2017

#### **5/7 Peer Critique meeting**

### July 2017

7/17 **additional demo,**

**Debora Stewart**

<https://deborastewart.com/>

### September 2017

Welcome Back membership party  
*tentative*

GREAT THINGS ARE  
HAPPENING  
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## Spring 2017 TWO PSNJ SHOWS

ACT  
NOW!

Twelfth Annual Members Exhibition  
April 1, 2017 - April 30, 2017  
Exhibition Juried by: Sara Canfield, PSA



### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

REGISTRATION DUE: March 15, 2017 (postmarked)  
RECEIVING: April 1, 2017; noon - 1:30pm  
RECEPTION: Sunday, April 9, 2017; 2pm-4pm  
PICK-UP: Sunday, April 30, 2017; 10am-11:30am

## Challenging Our Signature Members — Anita Gladstone, Exhibitions Chair

One of the ongoing goals and challenges of the PSNJ Board of Directors is to continually look for activities and programs to benefit our members at all levels of skill and accomplishment as a pastel artist. Therefore, every other year making our Annual Signature and Board Exhibit a juried competition rather than the current open call. Acceptance into this exhibition counts towards your future D-PSNJ designation.”

## First Bi-Annual Juried Signature Members Exhibit April 11, 2017 – May 16, 2017

Juror of Selection: Karen Israel, PSA-MP - <http://artbykarenisrael.com/>  
Juror of Awards: Rae Smith PSA-MP - <http://raesmithart.com/>

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

REGISTRATION DUE: March 20, 2017 (postmarked)  
RECEIVING: Tuesday, April 11, 2017; 10am-11:30am  
RECEPTION: Saturday, April 22, 2017; 3-5pm  
PICK-UP: Tuesday, May 16, 2017; 10am-11:30am



**For questions about either show , please contact:**  
**Anita Gladstone - Exhibitions Chair - (201) 341-8852; [agladstone123@gmail.com](mailto:agladstone123@gmail.com)**  
**Stephanie Cook - Exhibitions Co-Chair - (201) 741-3347; [steffi17@optonline.net](mailto:steffi17@optonline.net)**

## PSNJ Newsletter: Featured Award Winner Jacqueline Meyerson

My career as an accountant came to an abrupt end as a result of downsizing 15 years ago. I started playing with pastels and indulged myself everyday while my daughter, an art major at the time, continued to encourage my new passion. I learned from many of my mistakes and soon began to develop my own style and technique. Before long, friends and family encouraged me to enter exhibitions, and to my surprise, I was winning awards. People started asking if I teach pastel workshops and was then pressured to start one. I feel blessed and humbled today, to be able to take my students on a pastel journey with me.



My studio is set up like a horseshoe, where my easel is in the middle of two aisles of cabinets. I can reach into many stacked drawers of Ludwig's, Unison's, Sennelier's, Richeson's, and numerous other pastels arranged by density and color, at arm's length from either side. Four windows, a glass door, and fluorescent day-lighting allow me to have clear vision of my work. My current muse is painting multiple objects in what I call "organized chaos." Currently, I am working on an assortment of leather bound antique books. I get my inspiration from everywhere and challenge myself to find my next source every day.



## PSNJ Newsletter: Featured Award Winner - continued

I feel there is plenty of room for impressionism, painting in the abstract, or just a very loose interpretation of a subject. Painting with pastels has become a tribute to the exploration of opportunities the medium has to offer. But for me, photorealistic painting is a demonstration of the highest level of skill and ultimate expression of perfection in anyone's respective medium. Tricking the viewer into thinking she/he can touch the subject in my painting and feel its surface, while encouraging her/him to connect emotionally with the subject are my goals. Traditional soft and hard pastels allow me to create rich sensual textures and realistic transparent effects. Using both, cool and warm palettes, I can express the drama and passion I feel for my subjects.



Jacqueline Meyerson, PSA  
[www.meyersonstudios.com](http://www.meyersonstudios.com)  
[jm@meyersonstudios.com](mailto:jm@meyersonstudios.com)  
610-336-0589

Accomplishments I'm most proud of are my signature membership in the Pastel Society of America, and my two gold medals, which I garnered from juried Allied Artists of America exhibitions. I am also grateful for my membership into the Pastel Society of New Jersey, where I currently won the "Best in Show" award, at our 2016 Annual Juried Exhibition, with my painting "Basket Case" 16" x 16" on U-Art 400 grit sanded paper. This painting was inspired by an assortment of baskets in my attic. The baskets brought my eye into concentric circles with varying textures. These baskets were also reminders of festive occasions.





**Sunday, April 30, 2017, 2-4 pm**  
**General Meeting**  
 Madison Community House.  
 Demonstrator -  
**Judith Kazdym Leeds**

<http://www.judithleeds.com/>



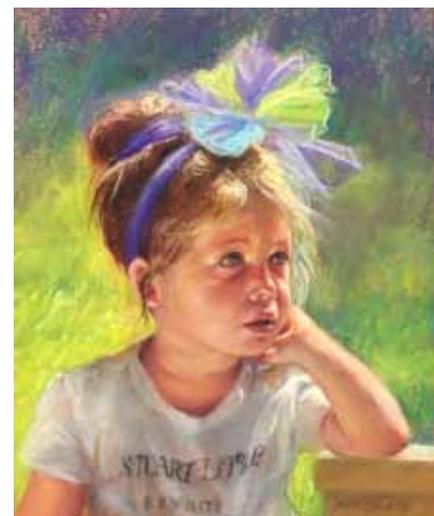
My first love is painting people, but it took a number of years to accept that it was my path. I draw my inspiration from those I meet and the world surrounding them. I certainly don't have aspirations of making some great political statements but I do want to depict the average person's life. I work mostly in pastel, but I am pushing myself to do more paintings in oils.

The subject of my new work is the people who make our lives better but who might be invisible to us. I started with my hairdresser and his clients. For me this has been a real struggle. I haven't been happy yet with the results but I'll keep at it until it feels right.

When I need a break from my "serious" work I do paintings like FUN or sketches of my artist friends or models. Trips to Maine and my favorite place, Monhegan Island, help clear my head.



See recent article on Featured Award Winner  
 2016 Sept PSNJ Newsletter



**WHILE THE PSNJ IS WITHOUT A HOSPITALITY  
 CHAIR, PLEASE BRING FOOD TO SHARE AT THE  
 GENERAL MEETING.**

## Peer Critique Meeting

Sunday, January 22,

Hosted by: Michal Barkai

Our very first peer critique gathering took place in January in my house.

There were four of us and we went through several rounds of critiquing, each displaying and receiving comments on at least two paintings. We also shared some tips, techniques and thoughts of favorite materials.

It was quite interesting to view your peers' work with a critical eye. It required a closer look and a more active one, revealing in "layers" what worked well and what may still need attention.

It was interesting to hear how other artists viewed your own artwork and allowed us to receive some feedback without compromising the work's eligibility for our juried exhibitions.

In all it was a very productive and positive experience, which was beneficial to us all, both as receivers and givers of critique, and I'm looking forward to our next ones.

Pictured here are Nancee Brown, Leona Chung and Linda Schwartz.



*Thank you so much for such a lovely afternoon yesterday. It was great to meet you and some of the other members. It was such an informative afternoon! I really appreciated the relaxed and positive atmosphere.*  
-Nancee

### Critique Committee:

Margaret Cohen will chair the committee

To join committee, host critiques, help-  
mhcohen@optonline.net  
732.549.5568

Peer Critique, not a  
professional critique,  
so members can still submit  
art to shows

### Save the Date: Peer Critique Meeting

When: Sunday, May 7, 1-3PM  
Where: 105 Lyons Place, Springfield  
Hosted by: Anita Gladstone, PSNJ, agladstone123@gmail.com 973.564.6451  
RSVP by: Tuesday, 4/30/17 (General Meeting)  
Bring: 0-2 pastel paintings, any stage; constructive attitude; good spirit  
Limited to: 5-15 participants

## "For Pastels Only" on Cape Cod 2017



Dear Fellow Pastel Societies,

The Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod wishes to share the opportunity to participate in our annual "For Pastels Only" (FPO) national juried show. We thank you in advance for sharing the 2017 FPO Call for Entries/Prospectus with your members.

The exhibition dates are June 20 to July 16, 2017 at the Cultural Center of Cape Cod, 307 Old Main Street in South Yarmouth, MA. The Opening Reception for the For Pastels Only Exhibition is Saturday, June 24, starting at 6:00 PM. Show awards total approximately \$5000 in cash and merchandise with a \$1000 Best of Show prize. This exhibition is open to all pastelists.

Deadline for submissions is April 2, 2017. Full prospectus and entry information is at [onlinejuriedshows.com](http://onlinejuriedshows.com) and on our website at [pastelpainterssocietyofcapecod.com](http://pastelpainterssocietyofcapecod.com)

We are most willing to reciprocate sharing your societies' call for entries. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Shelly Eager  
President

Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod  
[president@pastelpainterssocietyofcapecod.com](mailto:president@pastelpainterssocietyofcapecod.com)

<http://www.pastelpainterssocietyofcapecod.com/>



## Member News: Juried Shows and Awards

### Anita Gladstone

"Zigzag" was accepted into the Monmouth Museum's Annual Open Juried Exhibition. The exhibit runs through March 13 at the museum in Lincroft, NJ.

<http://monmouthmuseum.org/in-the-galleries/main-gallery/>

"Sundown in Alskat" was awarded the Best in Category for Impressionism at the West Essex Art Association's Annual Open Juried Exhibit at the Crane's Mill Koether Gallery in W. Caldwell.

### Stephanie Cook

One-person show at the Wyckoff YM-YWCA for the month of May with at least 30 paintings shown.

## Get Involved

### Open Board Positions

There is currently 3 open board positions that need to be filled. The Board continues to function and manage the business of the organization, but even with a full board, there is plenty of work to go around. We are currently in need of an Assistant Webmaster, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Hospitality Committee Chair.

#### About the board

- The board meets 5-6 time a year and board members take turn in hosting the meetings, which are held on Saturday mornings and usually last about three hours.
- Board members are required to attend most meetings but can miss an occasional one if they have a schedule conflict. See our bylaws on our website/About.
- Additional work, discussions and brainstorming is conducted via email and ad-hoc committees.
- Board reports are submitted before each meeting and twice a year before the general meeting.

**Assistant Webmaster:** The duties would include assisting the Webmaster in keeping the PSNJ website and Member Facebook page current.

#### Treasurer:

- Monitors the bank account and prepares the Treasury Report
- Deposits checks received for membership renewals and exhibition registrations,
- Writes checks for awards, judge/jury and venue rentals,
- Pays the annual insurance renewal and website domain renewal,
- Reimburses board members for their expenses and
- Pays for IAPS annual membership renewal.

#### Recording Secretary:

- Create record of the board and general meetings, i.e. take and record minutes
- Maintains and periodically review the Bylaws and
- Chair the Nominating Committee.

#### Hospitality Committee Chair:

*This is not a board position and attending board meetings is not required. As a committee chair you can select your own committee members to assist you.*

Hospitality committee is responsible for

- Purchasing refreshments and supplies for PSNJ programs and receptions
- Setting up the refreshment table before meetings and taking down after.

Please consider lending your time and talent to work with a group of dedicated, hard-working people to promote pastels in NJ and beyond.

Please contact President, Michal Barkai, if you can volunteer or have questions.

mbarkai1@comcast.net

973.994.7449



## PSNJ Mission Statement

"The mission of the Pastel Society of New Jersey shall be to secure a membership of dedicated pastel painters, to promote educational activities such as programs, demonstrations, and workshops of pastel techniques to benefit the artistic and professional goals of its members, to exhibit pastel paintings of professional quality, to increase and expand opportunities for pastel artists in New Jersey, and to promote and educate the public interest in pastel painting."



## THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

### PRESIDENT

Michal Barkai  
mbarkai1@comcast.net  
973.994.7449

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Unfilled

### PUBLICITY COORDINATOR

Urmi Battu  
urmibattu@hotmail.com  
973.533.4433

### 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT/ MEMBERSHIP

Carol Clemens  
psnjmembership@icloud.com  
973.256.2545

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Adrian Giuliani  
adrianpastelportraits@gmail.com  
908.317.0470

### NEWSLETTER

Catherine Love, PSNJ  
newsletter@pastelsocietynj.org  
732.768.5192

### 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT/ EXHIBITIONS

Anita Gladstone, PSNJ  
agladstone123@gmail.com  
973.564.6451

### TREASURER

Dana Abel  
dana.abel@gmail.com  
201.444.8652

### WEBMASTER/ SOCIAL MEDIA

Beth Varkala, PSNJ  
bcvarkala@gmail.com  
973.726.9701

### Exhibitions Co-Chair

Stephanie Cook  
steffi17@optonline.net  
201.934.0589

### PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Margaret Cohen  
mhcohen@optonline.net  
732.549.5568

### Assistant Webmaster

Unfilled

### HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE CHAIR

Unfilled