



## Maryland Pastel Society Fall Newsletter

October 2018

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### MPS Board and Volunteers

**President:** Mary Boeh

**Vice President:** Kim Stone

**Treasurer:** Mary Anne Warner

**Recording**

**Secretary:** Lyn Laviana

**Corresponding**

**Secretary:** Joyce Turk

**Membership**

**Chair:** Kathleen Risk

**Workshop Chair:** Joyce Lister

**Co-Exhibition Chairs:**

Susan Gleason, Laurie Basham

**Web:** Pam Sheary

### Planning Calendar

**Oct 18-19:** 2-day Tony Allain workshop before Fall meeting

**Oct 20:** Fall member meeting at Gary J. Arthur Community Center, Glenwood, MD

**Dec 15:** MPS Board Meeting

**Jan 19:** Winter member meeting at Gary J. Arthur

### From the President's Easel

Fall is my season for setting "new year" resolutions. This began with my very first MPS workshop nearly a decade ago with Richard McKinley. I knew few MPS members then, and I was terribly intimidated by their awesome talent. That workshop opened a whole new world of pastels to me. I learned a great deal about painting from Richard's instruction, but I also learned a greater lesson about pastellists.

First, I learned that I wasn't the only one in the group who felt intimidated. Several of us were fairly new to pastels.

Secondly, I was impressed by the "give back" principle modeled by Richard. He was gracious in giving feedback, and as it turned out, the attending artists more experienced than I were also friendly, encouraging and gracious in sharing their knowledge about pastels with others. I have since observed this "give back" attitude to be strong among pastel artists. I was inspired by that workshop experience. When I returned home, I did something I had never done before; I made a painting resolution for the upcoming year. I was never one to make, much less keep, new year's resolutions. The MPS experience changed that. I had been transformed. Since that first workshop and every fall since, I have set annual painting resolutions. The practice has helped me grow as an artist.

So, why this confession? Because fall is also a time of transformation for MPS. Every two years in October, our members vote in a new slate of officers. I am honored to present a slate of dedicated nominees for your approval on October 20th. The candidate officers, as well as the chairpersons and volunteers who have stepped up this year are a terrific group who will work hard for you. They have a lot of great ideas, but they need your help and support. I want to personally invite you to participate in our MPS transformation. Don't sit on the sidelines. Make it your new year's resolution to help, even if it is in a small way.

Need some inspiration? There will be plenty of it at our next meeting because Tony Allain is joining us. The first time I saw Tony paint was at the IAPS 2015 Convention. His use of color and bold strokes energized everyone in the room. At one point, in just a few strokes, he suddenly put a sailboat in the painting; a move no one expected because it was not in the reference photo. If you blinked, you missed it. The crowd roared!

Community Center,  
Glenwood, MD

### Directions to Glenwood

Directions to our  
meetings at the Gary J.  
Arthur Community  
Center at Glenwood

You may not roar, but I promise you, you will be energized by Tony! So, be sure to join us on Saturday, October 20th.

Happy painting!  
Mary

### Next Meeting: Fall

Our Fall General Meeting will be held Saturday, October 20, from noon to 4 pm at the Gary J. Arthur Community Center in Glenwood, Maryland.

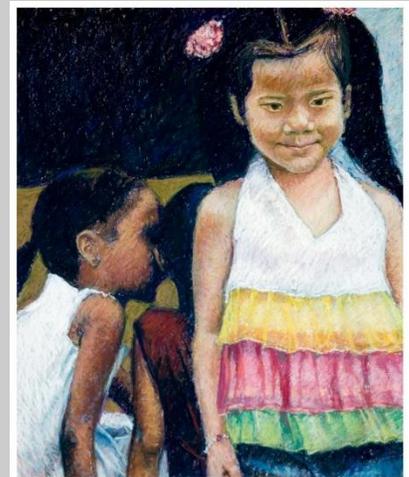
We are honored to have the award-winning painter, instructor and author, **Tony Allain**, as a demonstrator. Born and raised in the Channel Islands he moved to paint and live in Cornwall to capture the unique clarity of light living on the peninsula of the West Country. His work can be found in many leading galleries as well as private and corporate collections worldwide, including the Maritime Museum, Guernsey and Queen Mary 2, Cunard Liner. A move to New Zealand in 2006 proved to be a turning point in his career with the acceptance as a Master of the Pastel Artists of New Zealand. He is also a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America, Master Circle Member of IAPS and a member of the Pastel Society UK. His work is regularly featured in *Artist* magazine, *Pastel Journal* and *Pratique des Arts*.

You won't want to miss the demo at our next meeting by renowned Tony Allain. To view his work and learn more about his career visit [tonyallainfineart.com](http://tonyallainfineart.com).

### Featured Artist: Elroy Williams

A New York City native, Elroy Williams graduated from the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan, where he majored in fine arts and painting as well as commercial art. The dual course of study provided the foundation for his multifaceted career as a painter, illustrator and award-winning advertising designer and editorial art director.

To achieve his goal of connecting with people and provoking thought through his art, Williams uses a variety of media, alone and sometimes in combination.

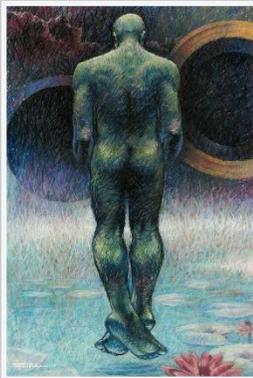


"The Smile" by Elroy Williams



*"Walkin"* by Elroy Williams

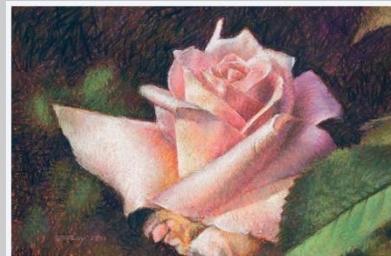
Each medium affords a particular feeling for a certain theme or subject, he believes; and he works with pastels, oils, acrylics, watercolors, pen and ink, charcoal, graphite, found objects and metal-plate etching.



*"Prayer"* by Elroy Williams



*"Chinese Lady"* by Elroy Williams

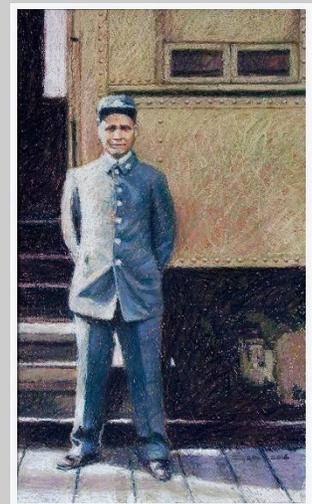


*"Borderless"* by Elroy Williams



*"E-Flat to B"* by Elroy Williams

To learn more about Elroy and view more of his work visit his website at [elroy2004@comcast.net](mailto:elroy2004@comcast.net).



*The Porter* by Elroy Williams

**Signature Members** may sign up to be a **Featured Artist** by sending an email to [mpsnews18@gmail.com](mailto:mpsnews18@gmail.com). You will need to provide a write-up and five to seven images upon acceptance.

Also, Signature Members, if you would like to update your images on the MPS web page gallery, please contact Joyce Lister by email [listerstudio@comcast.net](mailto:listerstudio@comcast.net).

## Member News

**Michael McGurk** was awarded the Great American Artworks award, the Full Monty Plus, at the 2018 PSA exhibition: 46th annual "Enduring Brilliance", N.Y.C. Value: \$2710 for "Tire Repair". This painting was also selected to be included in the Butler Museum of American Art exhibit for 2018-2019 [mcgurkcm@gmail.com](mailto:mcgurkcm@gmail.com).



"Tire Repair" by Michael MCGurk

**JoEllen Murphy** will exhibit 20 paintings at The Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital in Washington D.C. from 9/27/18- 1/6/19. For more information visit <https://www.hillcenterdc.org/galleries/>

She is also part of the Washington Society of Landscape Painters group show at the Principle Gallery in Old Town, Alexandria. That show will close on 10/15/18. For more information visit <http://www.principlegallery.com/alexandria>



"Dance of Light" by JoEllen Murphy



"Bartlett Pears on Crate" by Betsy Kellum

**Betsy Kellum** has achieved Master Pastelist with the Pastel Society of America receiving the Blick Art award for "Bartlett Pears On Crate" in this year's PSA 46th "Enduring Brilliance" exhibition, N.Y.C. [betsykellum.com](http://betsykellum.com).

**Jean Hirons** is having a solo show of her Washington paintings called "A Colorist's D.C.", 10/05/18-10/24/18. The show is at Artists and Makers Studios 2, 12276

Wilkins Ave, Rockville, MD 20852. Opening reception is 10/5, 6-9 pm. Featured will be alleys, canal views and Chinatown. Free parking. [jeanhirons.com](http://jeanhirons.com).



**Kim Stone** has two paintings on display at the 2018 SAAG (Southern Appalachian Artist Guild) National Juried Show in Blue Ridge, GA. Judge and Juror is Z. L. Feng. Opening Reception is Sat. 10/6/18, 5-7 and the show ends Sat. 11/11/18. [kimlackeystone.com](http://kimlackeystone.com).

"The Commuters" by Kim Stone

## Membership Update

Maryland Pastel Society is very happy to welcome nine new members from June through September! They are:

Mary Cassidy	Jeri Greenberg
Patrick Claret	Donna House!
Elbert Cole	Barrie Leigh
Jean Frey	Regina L. Williams
Lucy Gadsby	

Next juried Signature membership application deadline: November 3, 2018.

## Past Events - Summer General Meeting 7/14/18

### Gail Piazza - All About PanPastel®



Gail was an excellent demonstrator and helped to demystify the medium of PanPastel.

Gail presented a Portrait Set of 20 colors placed in a specially made tray.

Attendees of our summer general meeting were treated to an informative and engaging demonstration of PanPastel® by talented artist and educator Gail Piazza. For many of us, it was a first introduction to the product and a lot of good questions were asked.

PanPastel Colors are professional artists' quality soft pastel colors packed in a uniquely designed pan format that, to some of us, resembles a little round cake of makeup. The medium allows the application of "dry" color to be painted with applicators similar to



There are sets of 20 in the categories of Landscape, Tints, Shades, Extra Darks and Painting/Pure Color. Metallics and Pearlescents are also available. There are five-color and ten-color sets. Trays stack nicely together. You may also choose to purchase a few individual PanPastel Colors to experiment with before you commit to a larger set. They can easily be used in harmony with other pastel brands. Gail likes to mix them with Schmincki, Rembrant and Richeson pastels, as well as CarbOthello pastel pencils. Often her paintings are completed entirely with PanPastel. There is no wasted product as with little pieces of stick pastels and they never need sharpening. For her

Portrait set of 20 colors.

demonstration, Gail worked on Colorfix paper. She also introduced the Sofft® tools created specifically to apply PanPastel Color.



Stackable trays and sponges (left). Gail shows one of her favorite applicators (right).

She began by drawing with a small wedge-shaped sponge, one in a variety of sizes and shapes. These sponges, we are told, last a very long time. As with any pastel medium, applied-pressure to surface is important. Glazing can be achieved with a very soft touch. She showed us how a plastic or kneaded eraser can be used to revise and/or remove color.



Her first marks (left) and blocking in shapes with various sponge applicators (right).

Gail cautioned in her enthusiastic way that fingers do NOT blend this medium well because of the oils in our skin. She used other applicators

resembling small palette knives with long handles and replaceable sponge covers in the shape of rounds, flats, ovals and points. Nearing the finished piece, Gail used a colored pencil to re-define her shapes while keeping her edges soft.



Gail's finished piece was fresh and interpretive.

After the demo we were invited to try the tools out for ourselves. How fun was this!! The dry medium felt surprisingly "creamy" when touched to the surface

with wedges and other tools. Sponges, like the previously mentioned sponge covers, range in two sizes of ovals, rounds, flats, wedges and points. A big advantage is the presence of no dusty residue.

Going forward, it will be interesting to hear from MPS members if and how PanPastel Colors have become an addition to their palettes. To see more of Gail Piazza's beautiful work with PanPastel visit her website at [gailpiazza.com](http://gailpiazza.com).



## Past Events - Paint-Out and Pop-Up 9/1 and 9/8/18

**Linganore Winecellars, Mt. Airy, MD**, which opened in 1972 and is run by the Aellen family, hosted the very first MPS Paint-Out and Pop-Up earlier this month. With both days having a threat of rain and even a pending hurricane, the paint-out on 9/1 and the pop-up exhibit on 9/15 were hot and humid, but the wet stuff stayed away.





Everyone who painted plein air at the winery enjoyed the day in spite of the weather!

We had more than a dozen members participate and over 20 pieces of exceptional work beautifully displayed the day of the Pop-Up. The winery was buzzing with excitement (and thirsty yellow jackets) as guests enjoyed the sumptuous cheeses and fragrant wines, produced by Linganore, in the comfortable atmosphere of their outdoor patio. We are looking forward to scheduling similar events in 2019 with more socializing and promotion of our society of pastel artists, MPS.



A good time was had by all who attended and exhibited at the MPS Pop-Up event.

## Past Events - Nancie King Mertz Workshop



Members of MPS gathered at Allenberry Resort, Boiling Springs, PA in the beautiful Cumberland Valley, for a three-day workshop Friday, 10/5 through Sunday, 5/7. The plein air workshop was led by well-known and highly respected **Nancie King Mertz**, who flew from her home in Chicago to be with us. The first day everyone painted in the nearby historic village of Boiling Springs after a skillfully executed demonstration by Nancie; her subject an 18th century mansion viewed from across a lake. Nancie likes to use a fan brush with denatured alcohol to knock down the darks, turning them into a wash of dark shapes and creating a stained base upon

which to easily over-paint with lighter pastels.



Workshop attendees sketching and painting in Boiling Springs.

The two final days were centered on the resort grounds at Allenberry with a fly-fishing creek, the Yellow Breeches, and flora that was just beginning to turn the colors of Autumn. Nancie's demo focused on the creek and the varied foliage beyond, with a few adept strokes that turned into a fly fisherman.



Nancie's demo painting of the Yellow Breeches Creek.

When beginning a painting, Nancie suggests asking yourself to note an overall color indicated by the scene and begin with a wash or stain of that color. In this way the empty format is not so intimidating and you can cover up much of the color as the painting progresses.

Nancie was generous with her time and ideas to make us better pastel artists. Videos of her technique are soon to be released by Streamline Publishing and her Richeson Pastel Sets under "Nancie King Mertz"



A group critic after a successful day of painting.

can be purchased on Amazon. Learn more about Nancie and her work at [nanciekingmertz.com](http://nanciekingmertz.com). We all enjoyed the camaraderie of shared evenings and painting outside together in the fresh air.

**Upcoming Workshops**

### **Tony Allain Workshop (waiting list only)**

**October 18 - 19**

#### **Artists and Makers Studio 2, Rockville, MD**

This 2-day indoor "Chasing the Light" pastel workshop with Tony Allain is for those who wish to speed up and become less tight in their work. Students will learn how to simplify their approach and experiment ways to introduce color and light into their work - to achieve exciting, impressionistic paintings. Tony lives in Cornwall and travels extensively teaching workshops throughout the US and Europe. He is a prolific painter and much sought after workshop instructor, generous with information and individual help. Tony is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America, a Master's Circle Member of IAPS, as well as a member of the Pastel Society UK, and a Master of The Pastel Artists of New Zealand. Tony will hold a two-day workshop before he enlightens us with a demonstration at our Fall general meeting, Oct. 20. Visit Tony's work at [www.tonyallainfineart.com](http://www.tonyallainfineart.com).

### **Upcoming Exhibit Opportunities and Events**

**Pikes Peak Pastel Society (PPPS)** presents "The Color of Light", a national annual exhibition, from 1/12/19 to 5/5/19. Entry Deadline: 11/12/18. Held at Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, Pueblo, CO [pikespeakpastel.com](http://pikespeakpastel.com). Find out how to enter this competition at [onlinejuriedshows.com](http://onlinejuriedshows.com).

Did you know you are a member of the **International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS)**? IAPS was founded in 1994 as a non-profit organization representing pastel societies worldwide. It seeks to demonstrate the validity and quality of pastel fine art. Just by being a member of MPS you can enter shows and are invited to attend the IAPS convention held every other year. The **13th IAPS Convention** will be held 6/4/19 to 6/9/19 in historic Old Town Albuquerque, NM. There you will find exciting classes, workshops, demonstrations and personal development seminars by renowned pastel artists; and a Trade Show featuring famous pastel supplies, and lots of new products to purchase. Convention registration is fast approaching, 10/15/19, starting at noon, so if you are interested, check out [iapspastel.org](http://iapspastel.org) for more information and particulars.

**Pastel Society of New Mexico** is having their 27th National Painting Exhibition 3/1/19 to 3/31/19. Entry deadline is 12/1/18. To get the prospectus go to [pastelnm.org](http://pastelnm.org). For more information on the exhibit visit [showsubmit.com](http://showsubmit.com).

### **MPS Needs You**

#### **Get Involved!**

To keep our organization healthy and happy we all need to participate. Everything from bringing snacks to heading up committees is an opportunity to get involved. Are you interested in serving on the board or offering your special expertise? Please contact a board member if you are willing to contribute your time and talents.

### **Parting Thought**

"If you could say it in words, there'd be no reason to paint."

Edward Hopper

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