

Saint Louis Watercolor Society's 26th Annual Membership Awards Exhibition, “Big Splash 2023” Prospectus

About the Saint Louis Watercolor Society

Saint Louis Watercolor Society (STLWS) was formed in 1996 by a small group of area artists for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to artists who are interested in water media and to exhibit water media artwork to the public. From the original charter group of seven members, the membership has grown to over 200 active members. Regular monthly membership meetings are held 12 times per year with educational demonstrations and lectures by area guest artists. Meetings are open to members, prospective members, and guests. In addition, guest artists conduct instructional workshops that are open to members and non-members. Information pertaining to STLWS may be found on our website at stlws.org. The ‘Cold Press Paper’ newsletter is published quarterly and available online.

About the “Big Splash” 2023 Exhibit

Eligibility

The exhibition is open to members who paid their annual dues by August 1, 2023. The Treasurer’s record shall be considered final.

Entry Fees

The nonrefundable entry fee is \$10, with one painting allowed per artist, and paid at the time of entry through PayPal on our website. You do not need a PayPal account to use this method of payment, just a credit card. After completing the online entry form, go to the stlws.org website - **STLWS Shop – 26th Annual Membership Awards Exhibition, Big Splash 2023**. (See online registration)

Awards

Our “Big Splash” awards consist of high-quality donations from our commercial supporters.

1st Place, Judge’s Choice
2nd Place, Award of Excellence
3rd Place, Award of Achievement
Award of Recognition # 1
Award of Recognition # 2
Award of Recognition # 3
Award of Recognition # 4
Award of Recognition # 5

Award of Recognition # 6 Honorable Mention Awards (number determined by judge)

About our Judge, Alicia Farris

Alicia Farris has been painting professionally and teaching for 20+ years. Alicia loves to share her knowledge and passion and gains incredible inspiration when she teaches her workshops. The personalities and flavors of people that she encounters in day-to-day life definitely inspire her work. Even if it's for trying to just capture a mood, she usually has one hand on her camera when she's in a crowd. She tries to recreate not just an image, but mood, light, and colors that capture her imagination. Alicia likes to isolate what seems common and try to recreate it in a different light, all the while, providing a source of emotion for the viewer. Her work has won numerous awards and has been exhibited in galleries and private collections throughout the world.

Exhibition Schedule:

Online Registration opens: Tues., August 22, 2023

Online Registration ends: Thur., September 7, 2023

Receiving at Norton's Front Door: Sat, September 9, 2023, 10:30 am - 2:00 pm.

Judging for Awards: Wed., September 13, 2023

Awards Notification: Wed., September 13, via website or phone call

Award Ceremony: Sat., September 16, 4:30 pm, Norton's Gallery

Exhibit Opens: Tues., September 19, 2023

Exhibit Closes: Sat., October 7, 2023

Retrieval: Tues., October 10 to Sat. October 14, 10 am – 6 pm

Note: Gallery closed on Sunday and Monday

Online Registration

Online registration begins on August 22 and ends on September 7th. To enter go to the Exhibits tab on the STLWS.org website. Next click on Call for Entries and then Receiving. The Receiving tab will go live on August 22 and will be taken down on September 7th. Complete the entry form under the Receiving tab and email an image of your artwork without a frame or mat to communications@stlws.org. Photo of artwork submitted should show only the painting. If you have already framed your artwork do not include the mat or frame in the photo. Our website (stlws.org) has more information on how to take a photo for submission to an exhibition.

Next, go back to the homepage and click on the Shop tab. Pay the ten-dollar entry fee, and another ten dollars if you wish to purchase a catalog. You must use PayPal even if you do not have a PayPal account. Simply use your credit card as if you were at Schnucks.

Your entry is not complete until you have paid for it.

Which paintings are accepted, and which are denied?

Only original works are accepted. No copies or work done under instruction or from copyrighted photos/artwork; no prints from originals, giclee prints, digital reproductions, and computer art. Any painting which was accepted in a previous STLWS juried exhibit, or which has received an STLWS award, including honorable mention are not eligible.

Paintings must be executed in water media on paper – organic or synthetic paper, no canvas. Water media includes, but is not limited to watercolor, gouache, acrylic, tempera, and casein. No water-based oils. No animal parts may be used in any painting. Mixed media paintings must be 80% or more water based.

The STLWS has the right to refuse any painting that does not meet specifications and has the final authority on whether nudes will be accepted. If the gallery has no objection to nudes and if done in good taste the STLWS Board will approve their acceptance.

How many paintings can be entered? What fees?

One entry per member; entry fee of \$10.

Diptychs and triptychs in one frame will be considered one entry. If in separate frames for entry fee and judging purposes, they are considered separate paintings.

What are the framing requirements?

Paintings must be securely and appropriately framed with a white mat and under unscratched acrylic/Plexiglas or glass. Colored under mats shall be limited to a ¼” reveal.

Paintings may be floated on mat board.

No saw tooth hangers.

Screw-eye or D-rings and wire, adequate for hanging weight, are required.

Maximum framed dimensions on the longest side shall not exceed: 32” with 1/4” allowance.

All artworks must have the name of the artist, title of the artwork and price on the back.

The exhibition committee may disallow work not appropriately matted and framed.

Gallery Requirements

Each artist will adhere to the specified times for receiving and retrieval for gallery exhibitions.

Paintings in the gallery cannot be hung after or removed before specified times.

All accepted work will remain installed in the gallery until the designated retrieval time.

STLWS is not responsible for damaged or stolen artwork.

What about sales and commissions?

Artwork in “Big Splash” must be for sale. Norton's retains a 20% commission on any painting sold.

Exhibit Catalog

A printed version of the catalog, mailed through the USPS, may be purchased for \$10 on the stlws.org website under the **STLWS Shop** tab *at the time of registration* using PayPal. You do not need a PayPal account to use PayPal as a payment method, just a credit card.

Liability

Although STLWS will exercise due care in the handling of artwork submitted to the exhibition, neither STLWS nor Norton's Fine Art and Framing will be responsible for any loss or damage to artwork. Photos of artwork submitted for display on the STLWS website are copyrighted.

Use of Images

Acceptance into show gives STLWS the right to use the photograph of your work for promotional purposes. Digital archives of accepted entries will be retained by STLWS to be used for the show catalog, any printed material, and the website, now and in the future.

Agreement

Entering this exhibition shall constitute an agreement on the part of the artist to accept all rules and conditions as set forth in this Prospectus.

By completing the online registration form:

I certify that I am a member in good standing.

I have read the rules and regulations and my painting is eligible for entry.

I realize that if my work is selected and if it does not meet eligibility requirements set forth in this Prospectus I will be disqualified immediately.

Questions

Address questions to:

Deb Dey (exhibits01@stlws.org), or

James Willmore (exhibits02@stlws.org)

Exhibits Co-Chairs