



# Pastel Painters Society

of CAPE COD

## 2023 For Pastels Only On Cape Cod

### AWARDS JUROR, CHRISTINE IVERS, COMMENTS

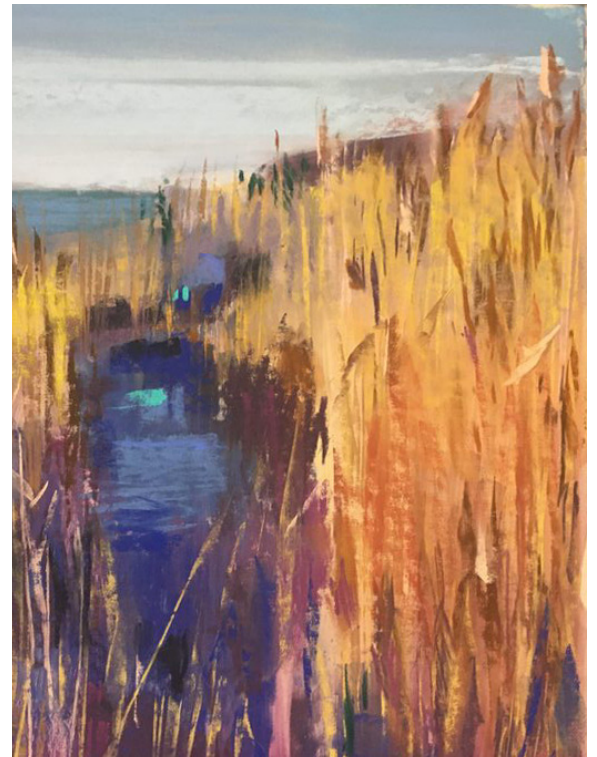
This was one of the toughest shows that I have ever had to judge in my life! With over-the-top incredible paintings this exhibit is one of the best that I have ever experienced. I only wish I had more awards to give because there are plenty of works that deserved award recognition. I always try to curate awards to show the world the diversity of our beloved medium. I find beauty in all styles and am always amazed at the different ways pastel artists approach similar subjects. From photorealism to abstract impressionism I love them all and try to be objective in my approach. I take my job seriously and spend much time fighting the inner arguments that come with the difficult job of being an awards judge. I want to thank all who entered and were accepted in this spectacular show and I only wish I had twenty more awards to give. Thank you to all who asked me to judge, I am humbled to be in the presence of such incredible work.

*Chris Ivers, PSA/MP, IAPS/EP, CPS, PSWC*

### Best in Show

Sarah Miguelle, "Phragmites"

Having reviewed the panel of entries online, oh, maybe 50 times before I came to the Cape, this painting remained in my mind. When I walked into the room and actually was able to experience the incredible energy in this uplifting work I immediately knew it was going to be a top award winner. The vertical strokes, the determination of the artist to force me to move up through the painting only to make me stop dead in my visual tracks when my eye was caught by the bright turquoise marks on my visual journey upwards. Breaking all the rules by not using this color throughout the painting made those marks somewhat of a rebel with a cause. But it worked! By pushing the envelope with bright color and the force of directional strokes this piece was my top choice. Kudos are in order for creating this spectacular piece.



## Award of Excellence

Eileen Casey, "Honesty in Ochre"

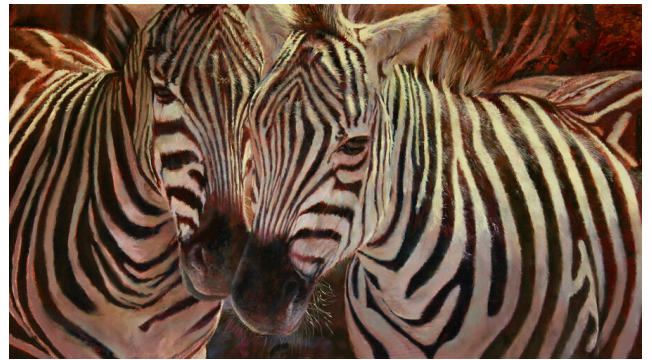
There is something to be said about judging a show in person versus judging for awards online. To be honest, I would not have given this painting a second thought until I walked into the room and stood face to face with it! The actual colors of this painting are incredibly beautiful with the use of muted complimentary colors that bring this composition to life! It is graphically well planned and is pleasing to the viewer and in its own way an impressionistic abstract. I'm glad I got to experience it "in the flesh" as they say. Congratulations!



## Award of Honor

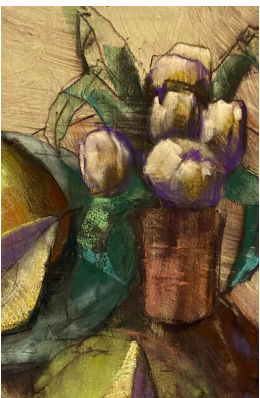
Maryann Mullett, "Double Vision"

The amazing patience of this artist is to be applauded! And tackling such a complicated subject is to be awarded! The optical illusions created in this work are nothing short of amazing and the capable hand that created this piece had no reservations on either this painting's challenges. This remarkable painting, with what on the surface appears to be one of a limited palette is deep with richness and vibrancy. The emotion that arises in me when viewing this subject matter was not to be ignored. Thank you for creating this wonderful piece.



Pastel Society of the West Coast Award  
Betsy Payne Cook, "Humble Remembrance"

This painting caught my eye due to the delicate mark making of the background as well as the pronounced marks that created the flowers and other props in this painting. It takes a truly talented artist to determine what you need to leave behind in a composition and the ability to make those decisions only comes with experience. The bold shadows on the delicate background play wonderfully in this piece and I especially enjoyed the harmonious decisions that brought color, such as the hot magenta throughout the work. Congratulations on a job well done!



Terry Ludwig/Airfloat/Blick Art Materials/UART Award:  
Bonnie Maresh, "Morning Light"

I am enamored by the originality of this painting! This incredibly delicious still life had a twist to the mark making and the use of a near tonal look immediately pulled me to investigate it. Breaking borders and placing bold colors in carefully planned sections of the more subtle ones made this piece one that was just a little out of the ordinary yet incredibly beautiful. Keep up the great work! Congratulations!



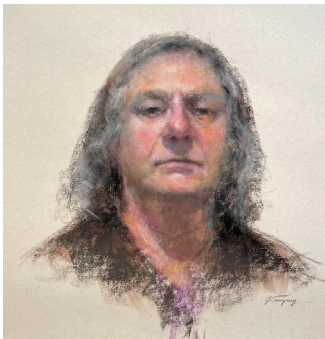
Providence Art Club/Pan Pastel Award:  
Laurinda Phakos O'Connor, "Winter's Edge"

Frozen. Ice. The angular strokes of this artist's marks are deliberate and striking. The use of positive and negative space in this composition cries out of motion in what, in reality, would be a scene without it! With the range of values in this spectacular piece there is no doubt this is a well thought out composition that begs for attention. The square format brings another dynamic to this already stunning piece and the ability to play with sunlight in the bold and fearless strokes forces the viewer to travel up and down the frozen water, front to back and down again. This is an amazing painting, Kudos to its creator!



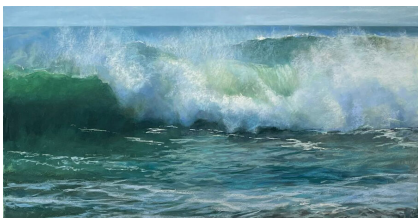
Allied Artists Award:  
Anne Healey, "A Perfect Day"

What a story this painting tells! This is a painting that is not only proficient in its technique and use of our beloved medium, it is a storyline in our not too distant history. These children have lived through the pandemic better than most of us I'm sure as this painting tells the saga of the normalcy most children adapted to better than adults! Compositionally excellent, color mastery, and an incredible recording of the world we have hopefully just left behind. This artist is a true historian. Congratulations for reminding us all that art is a stronger communicator than we think!



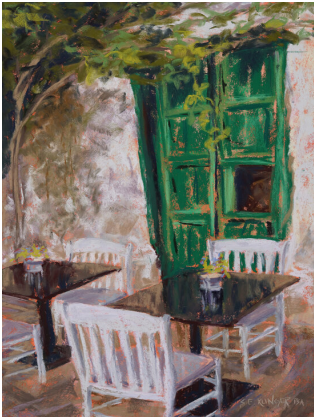
Pastel Society of America/Ampersand/Dakota Art Pastels Award:  
Jeanne Tangney, "John"

Have you ever felt that a painting is watching you? Well, that's how I felt as soon as I saw this fantastic portrait! The sensitivity that emanates from this rugged looking individual is awe striking to say the least. The layering of the pastel by the artist brought this man to life for me and to top it all off the position it was hung in the gallery only amplified his gentle stare. Or was it a look of empathy? A beautiful portrait which truly deserves recognition.



Copley Society Award: Sandra Kavanaugh, "Winter Reflections"

This crashing wave with its foreground reflections from the sky above was certainly created by an artist who has studied the ocean. Complete with the undertow, curls and swirling foam this work commands attention from its viewers! With the delicate spray and the ability to see the next wave coming, this artist saw a harbinger of the weather to come. Powerful and executed with confidence this painting is a masterpiece seascape. Congratulations!



### ShowSubmit/Blick Art Materials Award: Susan Klinger, "Table for Two"

From the reflective table tops to the arching tree branches that seem almost foreign to the architectural players, this artist loves to make their marks judiciously over a glowing under painting. The orange that bounces right out from behind the bright green doors shows just how much an under painting can do for a painting. I was also intrigued by the missing panel in that door which cleverly carried the rectangular shapes of the table tops to give the viewer a much more interesting composition. I hope this artist continues to paint quaint settings such as this because they will be much enjoyed.



### Barbara Stone Memorial Award: Wolfgang Ertl, "Sand Beach, Acadia"

Although this scene of a wave coming into the beach isn't a huge breaker, I still sensed a windswept day with the ocean at unrest. I especially loved the translucency of the foreground sand where you can "feel" the wetness as it is portrayed with this artist's underlying colors. The range of dark to light pastel strokes give the painting a dynamic feeling that beckons me to grab a windbreaker! I enjoy paintings that talk to me this way. Thank you for creating this great seascape.



### Judith Barnet Memorial Award: Dave Kaphammer, "Waiting Out Winter"

Working with a minimal palette has always intrigued me, and this piece is a fine example of that. This artist was not only able to set the tone for an incredibly frigid winter scene, the format of the severe vertical composition put a tension in the painting that cries out for Spring to come! Through the use of incredible draftsmanship and subtle undertones this story is one I enjoyed from the beginning. Kudos to the artist!



### Red Rock Pastel Society Award: Mary Tennaro, "Late Afternoon Glow"

Talk about capturing the light! This painting stopped me dead in my tracks! It didn't take many marks to make this incredible "golden light" painting. Sometimes less is more as the old adage goes and this is a fine example of that. With the confidence of an artist who doesn't fear color or boldness, this piece definitely shows itself off by using complimentary colors and directional composition. Stunning is all I can say to the artist who created it. Congratulations!



### Pastel Society of North Carolina Award: Dave Francis, "794"

I have to say that I am truly amazed at the balancing act in this painting! Not only with the subjects but with the use of color and proficiency of hand to create this fun piece. Red and green compliments top and bottom, the breaking of tangents (one of my all time favorites), and the choice of the characters involved in the story kept me looking to see what "everyone" wanted to do. This is a joyous painting and such a treat for its viewer.



### Joan A Ledwith Memorial Award for Landscape: Christine Bodnar, "Return to Rexhame"

How stunning can you make a simple conifer? This artist created a jewel with angular marks and subtle highlights to show off the deep shadows of this star of the painting. The vibrant under painting adds to the sparkle of this scene and let's me know that the artist is well versed in composition, and that comes through with a style of their own. Sometimes simple is better, and in this case that is totally true. I truly love these beautiful marks. Congratulations!



### Piedmont Pastel Society Award: Jill Law, "Unconscious Ascent"

This is one of those paintings that deserved many "second looks." An abstract for sure, but is it really? To me it is transcendent of the two dimensions it was created on. With its use of soft colors and an almost veil-like quality this piece kept me asking many questions into whom this artist was trying to create. I love exploring a painting as much as I love exploring its creator's reason for painting it. Thank you for keeping me guessing. It's a difficult and wonderful path you gave me.



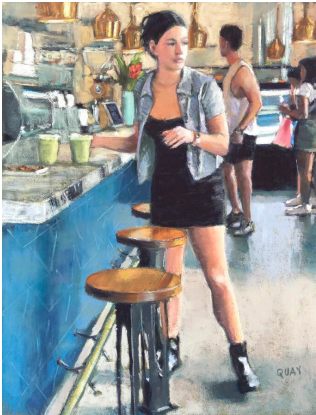
### Connecticut Pastel Society Award: Maxene Raymond, "Windswept 1"

Dynamic is the first word that came to my mind when I first saw this painting! Bold and brash, strong determined mark making, and a directional pull that almost moves you off of the painting. But wait.... That is not to be as you wander back through the deep blue path of the composition! I love an artist with a sure hand and who isn't afraid to push the boundaries. Awesome work and Congratulations!



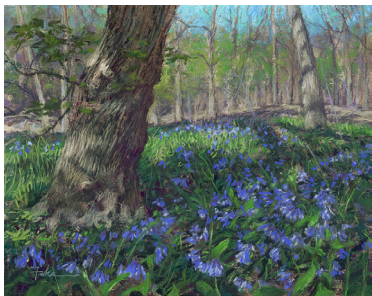
Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club Award:  
Terri Brooks, “Criterium Circle Race”

Wow! If this story isn't one of determination, what is? Capturing this type of energy is rare to say the least. Even the strokes are leaning into the race! From the vibrant reflective light on the helmets to the swirling shadows on the pavement, you can't help but become a spectator in this painting. But I had to get out of the way because I am sure that there will be more fantastic paintings like this in the future! Kudos to the artist.



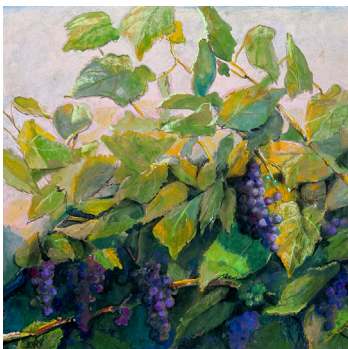
Rosalie Nadeau Award for Brilliance and Presence:  
Heather Quay, “At the Café”

I've always been drawn to interior paintings and this one is no exception. With a hand at creating great perspective and the ability to create personality in the main figure, this artist loves architecture as well as human anatomy. Is she a waitress? Is she a To-Go customer? Is she in a hurry? What is she looking at? I love to ponder the possible true story of this young lady. Strategically placing the copper and blue pastel throughout the painting, this artist holds the composition together beautifully. Wonderful work and Congratulations!



Central Mass Pastel Society Award: Ted Fuka, “Bluebell Zone”

The mark making in this striking painting caught my eye immediately when I saw it in the online panel. But nothing could prepare me upon viewing it in person as to how the artist was able to create the distance in the forest scene with strokes of captured dappled light. Along with deliberate strokes on the foreground tree trunk and bluebells to the soft marks making up the distant tree line, I wanted to walk through this forest in the painting. I hope to see more of his work! Kudos!



Chicago Pastel Painters Award:  
Jory Mason, “Chianti Classico Potential”

What is there not to love about rim light and shadow! The capturing of those two elements are predominant in this painting of the leaves and grapes that have an underlying abstract feel to it. Accentuating the warmth and coolness of the vine, leaves and fruit with an expert use of value for depth, I find this artist to be accomplished in using every tool imaginable to create this lovely work. What a wonderful painting!



### Degas Pastel Society Award: Denise Theodores, “Cape Shadows”

The compliments of the warm violets along with the warm greens set the tone for a work that plays within a comfort zone for me. Peppered with just enough turquoise this deliberate soft use of colors allows for the incredible punch of the magnificent white clouds! Directional movement of the foreground grass forces my eyes upwards to the heavens. Do I stay there ... NO! I come right back around and travel again. Congratulations!



### Maryland Pastel Society Award: Ruth Rinard, “Through The Fog”

Ethereal and mystifying were the first two words that came to mind when I first saw this painting. Seeming to beckon the viewer to take just one more step to really see the landscape that was shrouded in mist left me thinking... Do I Dare? Do I want to disturb this peace? I think not! This painting with its delicate story must forever remain unworldly and almost spiritual. Congratulations for creating such a beautiful story.



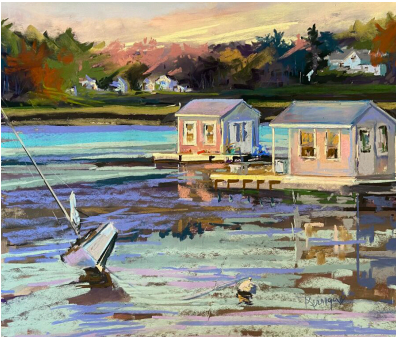
### Pastel Society of Maine Award: Joelle Feldman, “Golden Light on Shaker Mill Pond”

Not knowing the name of this or any of the paintings in the show, I was thrilled to see that the name of this work was the reason I chose it for a prize! That little sliver of golden light captured me from the first time I saw it and I wondered how that little bit of water had come to be in such a frozen environment. The play of captured light throughout this story brought me around the composition right back to the little golden light. A wonderful piece!



### Pastel Society of New Hampshire Award: Elaine Juska Joseph, “Carriage Horses”

Such a magnificent rendition of two of the animal kingdom’s proud working horses! The mark making and the use of subtle changes in the white tones that create these “portraits” is not an easy feat to achieve. Complimented by the stark dark tones that make up the forest behind them, I can almost envision their anticipation to get going. This is a striking piece and I hope to see more from this artist. Congratulations!



### Pastel Society of New Jersey: Susan Kerrigan, "Oyster Shacks"

With bold definition and vibrant use of color, this artist has set the tone for a confident painting that calls for attention. I sense no hesitation in the mark making and I find the composition that draws you in with the boat's mast clever and well thought out. The use of color harmony only adds to this piece's depth. Kudos on a job well done!



### Vermont Pastel Society Award: Lisa Thorne, "Tri Throwing Some Shade"

What a story of motion! This magnificent creature is drawing me into its world with the circular vortex of calculated strokes. I am left to wonder where this will bring me in the next few seconds of its flight! Shade or light, this is a wonderful example of an artist who brings imagination to the surface. Congratulations!



### Chris Ivers Award of Excellence: Anne DeBenedictis, "Sunning"

A dear artist friend of mine always said, "Take the ordinary and make it extraordinary!" And this little painting spoke just that to me. The anticipated next moves of either of these hard-shelled reptiles isn't easy to fathom creating a slight tension which I find intriguing. With glistening reflections that add to this little story in play I fell in love with this narrative. Keep up the good work!