



PROSPECTUS

for the

160th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

of the American Watercolor Society

April 6–May 7, 2027

The Salmagundi Club

New York City

ONLINE ENTRIES:

All entries will be submitted online. If you experience technical difficulties, contact the AWS office at info@americanwatercolorssociety.org or 212-206-8986. Please submit early in the submission period so we are able to assist with any challenges. Note that submissions will close at **NOON** EST on the last day of submissions. The Annual International Exhibition of the American Watercolor Society is juried by Signature Members who have been elected by the AWS membership, in addition to one international invited juror. This is per the AWS Rules of Operation.

ELIGIBILITY

The International Exhibition is open to all living artists working in water media on paper (Yupo and illustration board are permitted). No other surfaces accepted.

- Watercolor, acrylic, casein, gouache, and egg tempera are accepted.
- No collage, pastels, digital images, any form of print or reproductions.
- **One entry** per artist, except for Signature Candidates. If you are a Signature Candidate, **See page 3.**
- No work previously exhibited in the AWS International Exhibition OR the AWS Associate Members Online Exhibition may be submitted.
- Maximum **frame** size is **44"** in any direction. (height or width)
- Minimum **image** size (do not include mat or frame) is **140** square inches (multiply **image** height x width).
- There is no restriction on the year in which the artwork was completed.
- Artists cannot substitute another work for an accepted work.
- **No work generated with or assisted by AI (artificial intelligence) may be submitted to the exhibition.** AI cannot be used to create photo references, or used in any other manner in the development of the work.
- All work submitted must be the artist's original work and authorship only.
- No class work or work done under teacher supervision.
 - No copies or likenesses of another artist's work (with or without permission).
 - If the submission is done from photographs, only source material taken by the submitting artist can be used as reference. No exceptions.
- Artists will be ineligible to enter ANY AWS exhibition for 3 years following a violation of any of the above paragraph. A second violation of the above will result in a **permanent ban** from entering all AWS exhibitions.

Artists have been removed for not complying with the above guidelines.

ENTRY PROCEDURES

ENTRY FEES

- Signature Member \$25
- Associate Member \$30
- Non-Member \$55

ABOUT YOUR DIGITAL IMAGE:

- Digital file must be in JPG or JPEG format
- Image must be at least 1800 pixels on the longer side. File size is up to 3.5MB
- Show **ONLY** the image, no frame, mat, or white border that is not a part of the composition.
- Images that are not correctly formatted are liable to exclusion from jurying.

TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY ONLINE:

- Login to your AWS member account ("Login" tab at www.americanwatercolorssociety.org) **You must login FIRST and then you will see the submission tab in your member account. If you already have an account DO NOT create a new one.**

- If you do not already have an account, go to www.americanwatercolorssociety.org and click on the "Login" tab. New account instructions are on the right hand side of this page. If your membership is not current you must either renew prior to entering or enter as a Non-Member.
- If you want to join, or your membership is expired and you want to renew, do so **before submitting your entry.**
- Image dimensions must be entered in INCHES and must be rounded to the nearest half-inch if not whole numbers. Entries in **centimeters, etc, are liable to exclusion from the exhibition.**
- The office staff will do their best to alert those with incorrectly submitted entries, but it is ultimately the responsibility of the artist to submit correctly and on time.

ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE NO LATER THAN THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2026 at NOON EST.

Note NOON. NOT MIDNIGHT.

NO CHANGES MAY BE MADE AFTER CLOSE OF SUBMISSION

LIABILITY

All artists whose work is selected for exhibition will receive instructions for shipping and delivery in the **Acceptance Notice**. Although the utmost care will be taken in handling works of art, AWS and/or AWS's representatives and the Salmagundi Club will not be responsible for damage or loss, whatever the cause. Accepted artists release AWS, AWS's representatives, DAD, Inc. and/or the Salmagundi Club from all liability with respect to loss or damage to the artist's works of art.

It is suggested that artists carry their own insurance, in proper limits. Submitting a work of art to this exhibition shall constitute an agreement on the part of the artist to comply fully with the conditions and terms set forth in this Prospectus as well as in the Acceptance Notice.

EXHIBITION - PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

All paintings become subject to the procedures and regulations of AWS upon receipt in New York. No painting received for exhibition, either in the New York Exhibition or the Traveling Exhibition, may be removed for any reason prior to the end of the exhibition(s).

The **Traveling Exhibition**, consisting of 40 paintings, will be selected for a nationwide tour of museums and galleries. All paintings for which **Permission to Travel** has been granted by the artists (this is done following acceptance) are eligible for selection. Both the New York Exhibition and the Traveling Exhibition are handled by professionals and all due care is taken to ensure the safety of every painting. All work accepted and received for exhibition will be included in the 160th Annual Exhibition Catalog. All exhibiting artists, whether AWS members or not, will receive a copy of the catalog. (International artists receive a digital copy) Images of accepted work may be used by AWS in promotional material.

SALES

- All paintings will be considered for sale at the price set forth by the artist unless marked **NFS** (Not for Sale) or **0** (zero). *Prices may not be changed or withdrawn once accepted into the exhibition.*
- Any painting sold in the New York Exhibition or Traveling Exhibition is subject to a 35% commission.
- The cost of shipping is borne by the buyer of the work.

SIGNATURE CANDIDATES

Any artist, who has exhibited in two AWS International Exhibitions, may be considered for candidacy as a Signature Member. If accepted into a third International Exhibition (and work is exhibited), the artist will become a Signature Member. If you have exhibited in two previous AWS International Exhibitions, email: Susan Weintraub, Membership Chair, at: s.weintraub@americanwatercolorssociety.org.

Specify the years of acceptances in your email. You will be invited to submit two paintings to the next AWS International Exhibition which will be evaluated by the Jury of Selection. One of the two paintings must be accepted into and exhibited in the next International Exhibition to receive Signature Status.

Those not elected may reapply for candidacy the following year. Those who reapply must again write as outlined above. **NO APPLICATIONS FOR CURRENT EXHIBITION CYCLE ACCEPTED AFTER September 1, 2026.**

SUSTAINING ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Information and applications for Sustaining Associate Membership may be downloaded from our [website](#) or obtained by writing to the American Watercolor Society, 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003. Kindly include a self-addressed envelope with first class postage.

In addition to a reduced Exhibition entry fee, benefits of Associate Membership include all announcements of AWS activities, the twice-yearly Newsletter, Prospectus, printed Catalog of the Annual Exhibition (where you will be listed as an Associate Member) invitations to the opening reception, Watercolor Demonstration Evening and Annual Dinner. Associate Members also have the opportunity to submit to a yearly online show for Associates only, the Associate Members Online Exhibition.

AWARDS

Up to \$50,000 in Cash and Medal Awards

Jury of Selection

Joel Popadics, AWS (Chair)
Ted Nuttall, AWS
Judy Saltzman, AWS
Matthew Bird, AWS
Louise Lachance Legault (international invited juror)

Jury of Awards

Iain Stewart, AWS (Chair)
Chris Krupinski, AWS, D.F.
Don Andrews, AWS

EXHIBITION CALENDAR

Entries Open	Tuesday, September 1, 2026
Entries Close	Thursday, November 12, 2026
Jury of Selection	November 30–December 4, 2026
Acceptance/Declined Notice	After December 18, 2026 by email or Check AWS Website for List of Accepted Exhibitors
Receiving Dates	<i>Shipped Work</i> due at DAD Trucking by Saturday, January 30, 2027 <i>Hand-Delivered Work</i> to Salmagundi Club, Saturday, February 6, 2027 between 10 AM - 2PM
Jury of Awards & Travel Show Selection	Sunday, February 7, 2027
Notice of Awards	After February 16 - <u>NO CALLS PLEASE</u>
Exhibition Opens	Tuesday, April 6, 2027, 1 PM
Opening Reception	Tuesday, April 6, 2027, 6 to 8 PM
Watercolor Evening	Thursday, May 6, 2027, 6 to 8 PM
Annual Meeting	Friday, May 7, 2027 at 4 PM
Cocktails, Awards Dinner	Friday, May 7, 2027 at 5 PM to finish
Exhibition Closes	Friday, May 7, 2027 at 5 PM
Walk-in pickup of Work	Saturday, May 8, 2027 from 10 AM to 2 PM
**You are responsible for notifying your agent of the pick up date.	