



HAWAI'I WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

Create. Connect. Celebrate.



**JUNE
2026**

HWS OPEN EXHIBIT, FRAMING TIPS, & UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

*FEATURED ARTIST:
JANE RA*

COVER ART: "UNTITLED"



HAWAII WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
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President's Message

Aloha everyone!

I hope many of you will join us later this month for our June 27th "Talk Story" gathering—a wonderful opportunity to connect, share knowledge, and enjoy the company of fellow artists. [RSVP by June 24](#) to make sure you don't miss out on the fun!

We're also thrilled to offer a special two-day online workshop with Tom Lynch in August. This is a fantastic learning opportunity for members who live off-island or who may not be able to attend an in-person workshop. [Registration is now open](#), and I encourage you to reserve your spot soon. Seats are filling up quickly!

Adding to the excitement, the [prospectus](#) for our Open Exhibit coming up in the Fall is now available on our website, and we are now accepting painting entries. I always look forward to seeing the creativity and talent our members bring to this exhibition.

Personally, I've been feeling inspired for the first time in quite a while, and that renewed creative energy has been both refreshing and exciting. I hope you, too, are finding inspiration in unexpected places.

Wishing you all creative magic and fresh ideas that excite your heart.

Happy painting, friends!
 Chloe



HWS Happenings

"Talk Story"
Plein Air Gathering
 Saturday, June 27th
 More info on page 11.

HWS Board Meeting
 Zoom on Thursday, July 2nd
 5:15 pm

Tom Lynch ONLINE Workshop
 Saturday August 1st & 8th
 More info on page 6.

2026 HWS Open Exhibit Entry Deadline
 Friday, August 7th
 5:00 pm HST

2026 HWS Open Exhibit
 Downtown Art Center
 Sept 29th - Oct 24th
 More info on page 3.

Hawai'i
 Watercolor Society

335 Hahani St. #1271
 Kailua, HI 96734

www.hawaiiwatercolorsociety.org
info@hawaiiwatercolorsociety.org

June Tips & Tricks

Choosing the Perfect Frame

[From the Blick website](#)

Choosing the right frame is part art, part science. If you're stuck between styles, these tips can help guide your decision:



Tip 1: Match the Frame Style to the Artwork's Era

- Modern Artwork: Use minimal gallery-style or floating frames to maintain a contemporary aesthetic.
- Period-Influenced Artwork: Historically influenced frames with ornate moldings or gilded finishes add authenticity to period-influenced artwork.

Tip 2: Match the Frame to the Media

- Drawings & Illustrations: Simple frames—like those with slim profiles in neutral colors—are a good choice for detailed drawings and illustrations, as they help keep the focus on intricate linework.
- Richly Textured Paintings: Wide, embellished frames can be used to balance rich textures or bold compositions.

Tip 3: Consider Colors, Materials, and Finishes

- Metal Frames: Silver and chrome frames pair well with cool-toned graphite drawings and monochromatic pieces.
- Gold Frames: Gold frames complement work with a warm palette.
- Wood Finishes: Natural wood frames add warmth and complement both traditional and contemporary art styles.
- Black & White: Black or white frames work well with black-and-white photography or prints.

Tip 4: Create Contrast with Mats and Frames

- For artwork on bright white paper, opt for an off-white or cream mat to create contrast without overwhelming the piece.
- Dark frames contrast well with lighter mats and artwork.
- Be careful when pairing dark frames with dark artwork to avoid a heavy or muted appearance.

Pro Tip: Upcycling old frames is a great way to keep costs down or add a custom touch. You can even paint directly onto the frame, using it as an extension of your canvas. Refer to guides on frame-painting techniques, finishes, and best practices for best results.

Care and Conservation: Best Practices

What Are “Archival” Framing Materials? Archival framing materials are specifically designed for long-term preservation, meeting the safety and stability standards used by museums and archives. These materials protect artwork over time by minimizing damage caused by acidic compounds, light exposure, and environmental factors.

Continued on page 4.

HWS 2026 Open Exhibit

“Flow & Fire!”

Imagination flows when fired by inspiration.

September 29 - October 24, 2026

Tuesday - Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Downtown Art Center

Entry Deadline: Entries must be received no later than Friday, August 7, 2026, 5 p.m. HST

Entry to this exhibit is open to all artists around the globe; HWS membership is not required. The exhibit will feature water media paintings—including transparent watercolor, gouache, acrylic, watercolor pencil, water-based pastels, water-based inks. As always, oil-based media are not included, nor are water-based oils, oil-based inks, or alcohol inks. Collage is not allowed.

The prospectus, WHICH INCLUDES UPDATED REQUIREMENTS, is online now at <https://www.hawaiewatercolorssociety.org/2026-open-exhibit>

Frank Eber, Central California fine artist, has graciously accepted our invitation to serve as juror for this exhibit. You can learn more about Frank Eber and his work in the [prospectus](#) on the website.

Address any questions to info@HawaiiWatercolorSociety.org

Happy painting!

Background image: Brennan Simcock, “Homage to Pele”



Officer Slate 2026

President	Chloe Tomomi
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Volunteer Outreach	Helen Turano

June Tips & Tricks (cont.)

Choosing the Perfect Frame

[From the Blick website](#)

Framing materials marketed as archival are often (but not always):

- **Acid-Free:** Made using alkaline papermaking technology, where the pH of the wood pulp is 7 or higher. The paper is also buffered with an alkaline compound, such as calcium carbonate, to neutralize acids that may form over time due to exposure to air, moisture, or pollutants.
- **Lignin-Free:** Lignin, a natural component in wood pulp, breaks down as it ages, releasing acidic compounds that cause paper and artwork to yellow, weaken, and deteriorate. Archival materials are treated to remove lignin, making them safer for long-term use.
- **Buffered:** Materials are treated with an alkaline reserve (like calcium carbonate) to counteract acids absorbed from the environment, providing additional protection against long-term damage.
- **Chemically Stable:** Resistant to environmental factors, such as humidity, UV light, and temperature fluctuations, which can cause fading, warping, or discoloration. Will not release destructive residue through decomposition.

By choosing archival framing materials, you can ensure your artwork is protected and preserved long term without sacrificing quality or presentation. [Blick Custom Framing](#) offers a range of conservation-grade options, including UV-filtering glazing and acid-free backing.

Environmental Considerations

The environment surrounding your artwork plays a key role in its longevity—with or without a frame. Consider the following when you're choosing where to install framed artwork:

- **UV Protection:** Use UV-filtering glass or acrylic to block harmful rays that cause fading and discoloration. Museum-quality glazing offers the highest level of protection.
- **Humidity and Moisture:** Install art where humidity is moderate and stable to avoid warping, cracking, and mold. Avoid locations where humidity fluctuates—near fireplaces, radiators, and walls that are damp or receive strong, sustained sunlight.
- **Heat and Cold:** Avoid areas prone to extreme temperature variations to minimize shrinkage and expansion of materials. To preserve flexibility in acrylics, choose locations with moderate temperatures (above 50° F).

Handling & Cleaning

Proper care during handling and cleaning can reduce accidental damage and extend the life of your artwork and frame.

- **Routine Dusting:** Dust frames and glazing regularly with a soft, dry brush or microfiber cloth. Avoid abrasives that can scratch surfaces.
 - **Avoid Liquids and Harsh Cleaners:** Don't use water, glass cleaner, or household chemicals on the frame or glazing, as liquids can seep in and stain or damage the artwork.
 - **Safe Handling:** Handle artwork with clean, dry hands or wear cotton gloves to avoid transferring oils and dirt. Always support the artwork from both sides when moving it.
 - **Professional Conservation:** For stubborn dirt, significant damage, or repairs, consult a professional conservator. DIY fixes may cause unintentional harm, so expert help is always the safest choice.
-

Featured Artist

Jane Ra *Signature / Life Member since 2011*

My works capture the quiet, yet beautiful, vitality of our tropical islands. Through plants, birds, wind, and the movement of the sea, I seek to express the emotions inspired by nature.

I began this body of work to share and connect with viewers through the fleeting moments that nature offers. With watercolor, I can interpret the various images created by tree trunks' light and shadows.



<https://www.janera-art.com/>



Clockwise from top: 1. *Shadow from Banyan Trees* 2. *Akaka Forest* 3. *Untitled* 4. *Travelers Palm II*
5. *Lotus Garden* 6. *Waikiki Morning* 7. *Blessing at Noon*



“Panoramic Landscape” ONLINE 2-Day Workshop with Tom Lynch

**Hawai'i Watercolor Society presents
a 2-day ONLINE watercolor workshop
with artist Tom Lynch!**

**Saturday, August 1st & August 8th
9:00 am - 12:00 pm (HST)
Online, live Zoom sessions**

**\$120 workshop fee
[REGISTER TODAY!](#)**



Tom is a master teacher and is listed as one of AMERICA'S top 20 teachers by American Artist Magazine. The demos will be taped so you can watch again and again while you stop, fast forward, rewind, and screenshot your way to success.

Enjoy his 3-camera set up for great close ups, watching the palette, and the finished sample painting for the day.

As an added bonus Tom will answer your questions and offer suggestions to your painting efforts up to 4 weeks after class!

If you like COLOR, CONTRAST, SUNLIGHT & SHADOW then this workshop is for you!

Register online: <https://www.hawaiiwatercolorsociety.org/workshops>

Questions? Email us! info@HawaiiWatercolorSociety.org

Check the workshop page of the website for a preview lesson.
Tom will begin sending workshop participants notes on supplies,
references, etc. in July

HWS Artist Biography Binder

At our Members Show, the Hawai'i Watercolor Society featured an Artist Biography Binder showcasing participating HWS artists. The binder was well received by visitors and provided an opportunity for them to learn more about the artists behind the artwork on display.

To build on that success, the Artist Biography Binder will continue to be available at future HWS shows. We encourage members to participate so that visitors can discover more about our talented artists, their artistic journeys, and their art-related businesses.

All members who would like to be included are invited to submit a double-sided 8½" x 11" artist biography sheet. This is an excellent opportunity to promote yourself, your artwork, and your art-related business to visitors attending our exhibitions.

Submission Information:

- Artists exhibiting in the Open Show: Please bring your biography sheet on Take-In Day.
- All other HWS members: Please drop off your biography sheet during regular show hours and place it in the back of the Artist Biography Binder.
- Submitted biographies will be periodically sorted and added to the binder.
- If you have previously submitted a biography, it will remain in the binder and does not need to be resubmitted unless you wish to update it.



Kevin Sumimoto, Sharon Billingsley, and Kyle Nakara, who won the Excellence in Watercolor Award in memory of Estelle Sumimoto in the 2026 HWS Members' Show.

Member News

Works by **Jane Ra**, Signature Member of HWS, and **Sook Kim**, HWS Member, are featured in the Invited International Solo Exhibition (Seoul Korea).

Ottchill Gallery
33 World Cup Buk-Ro-2-Gil.
Mapo-Gu, Seoul Korea.
May 31st - June 10th.
Open 11am-10pm (including Sunday).



Top: Jane Ra, "Blessing at Noon"
Bottom: Sook Kim, "Mixed Media"

Newsletter Gallery

The May theme was *June Blooms*. Our prompt for June is **Summer Fun**.

Email your images to us with "Newsletter Gallery" in the subject line. Please include your name and title of the work. Limit one submission per artist per month.

Deadline: June 30th

Email us your ideas for future gallery themes!

info@hawaiewatercolorsociety.org



Van James, "June Blooms"



Jana Mihara, "Flower & Ferns"



Sherry Cavin, "Happy Hibiscus"

E Komo Mai

Welcome our new members!

Amy Cesari - Kīhei, HI

<https://www.instagram.com/amyclesari>

Fredrica Ricki Cassiday - Honolulu, HI

Malialani Dullanty - Kea'au HI

<http://malialanimade.com>

Cheryl Lippman - Honolulu, HI

Ongoing Paint Outs



Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden

Tuesdays (free), 9:30 AM

Contact Garden Office (808-233-7323)

or Young Schlack

youngschlack@yahoo.com



Windward Wanderers

Wednesdays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Contact Roger Tinius for locations

rtmisawa@netzero.com

Foster Garden Paint Out

Thursdays, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Arts and cultural engagement ‘linked to slower pace of biological ageing’

From [The Guardian](#), May 11, 2026.

Singing, painting or visiting a gallery or museum helps people age more slowly, according to the latest study to link taking an active interest in art and culture with improved health.

The findings are the first to show that both participating in arts activities and attending events, such as viewing an exhibition, lead to people staying biologically younger.

“These results demonstrate the health impact of the arts at a biological level. They provide evidence for arts and cultural engagement to be recognised as a health-promoting behaviour in a similar way to exercise,” said Prof Daisy Fancourt, the lead author of the research and the head of the social biobehavioural research group at University College London.

However, slower ageing does not necessarily mean someone will live longer. The “epigenetic clocks” used in the study to assess biological ageing are predictive of future morbidity and mortality, and previous studies have suggested a link between arts engagement and longer lifespan, but much more research would be needed to establish potential causal effects on longevity.

Those who take part in artistic pursuits the most often slow the pace of their biological ageing the most. Under one of the study’s methods of assessment, those who did so at least weekly slowed their ageing process by 4%, while monthly engagement led to it slowing by 3%.



A man engages with Laure Prouvost’s installation *Above Front Tears Oui Float* at the Nasjonalmuseet, Oslo, Norway. Photograph: David Levene/The Guardian

Similarly, another of the tests showed that those who undertook an arts activity at least once a week were on average a year younger biologically than those who rarely engaged in such pursuits. Those who exercised once a week were only six months younger by that measure.

The benefit the arts confer on the pace at which people age is so dramatic that it is comparable to the difference between smokers and those who have given up smoking, the researchers say.

“Our study provides the first evidence that arts and cultural engagement is linked to a slower pace of biological ageing,” said Dr Feifei Bu, a senior author and also a UCL academic.

Continued on page 10.

Arts and cultural engagement ‘linked to slower pace of biological ageing’ (cont.)

From [The Guardian](#), May 11, 2026.

“This builds on a growing body of evidence about the health impact of the arts, with arts activities being shown to reduce stress, lower inflammation and improve cardiovascular disease risk, just as exercise is known to do.”

The results, published in the journal, [Innovation in Aging](#), are based on blood test and survey response data from 3,556 adults taking part in the UK Household Longitudinal Study. It uses blood samples to estimate people’s biological age and the pace at which they are ageing.

Participants were asked how often over the last year they had taken part in singing, dancing, painting, photography or crafting, or had attended an art exhibition or event, visited a heritage site such as a monument or historic building or park, or been to a museum, library or archive.

“Many of us know instinctively that taking part in creative and cultural activities is vital for a happy, flourishing life,” said Hollie Smith-Charles, the director of creative health and change programmes at Arts Council England. “These impressive new findings are further evidence that arts, museums and libraries help us live well for longer, and demonstrate how vital it is that everyone, everywhere has access to excellent and affordable culture on their doorstep.”



Participants in the research were also asked how often they took part in singing, dancing, paint, photography or crafting. Photograph: Christopher Thomond/The Guardian

A Note from the Editor

Have you run across a fascinating article on painting, watercolor, creativity, or painting-related topic? Send it to us and we’ll share it with others, while giving proper credit to the author.

Mahalo!



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JOIN US FOR A
“Talk Story” Plein Air
GATHERING



*Paint the world,
at home or on travel.*

Whether you set up in your backyard, a local park, or a faraway place—plein air painting connects us to where we are and how we see.

*Join fellow artists
to share inspiration
and tips!*




ALL LEVELS
WELCOME

*Light Refreshments
provided*



ARTIST DEMONSTRATION BY

Dwayne Adams
Donna Sommer
Carolyn Majewski




TRAVEL JOURNALS BY

Tamara Moan
Evelyn Johnson
Spencer Chang




COMMUNITY

Please feel free to bring your Plein Air kit to capture the sunset and share any tips on painting out doors.



SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH, 2026
4:00 PM TO SUNSET



Aiea, HI
(Exact location to be shared closer to the date)

Questions? Email
Lovelyn Voorhees
lvoorhees@gmail.com

We will have a sharing table for Art related items you no longer need or have extra of to share with other.



Member Benefits

Art Attacks

3390 Campbell Ave, #A
25% discount on framing

Art Source & Designs, LLC (Diane Ko)

212 Monohua Pl, Ste C
15% off framing, call
(808) 352-8242 for appointment.

Hawaiian Graphics

1923 S Beretania St.
10% off entire purchase
25% off fine art paper

Ki'ikau Printers

675 Auahi St Suite 3-205, Honolulu,
HI 96813
10% off printing, call
(808) 312-3316

Sunshine Arts

Windward City Shopping Center
45-480 Kaneohe Bay Dr, C-18 B
10% discount on all custom
matting and framing.

Da Vinci Artists Colors www.DaVinciPaints.com

Additional 15% off discount with
coupon code "Aloha." Flat rate
shipping of \$5.00 for orders \$50+.
This offer is exclusive to HWS
members. Not for re-sale.



Workshops & Opportunities!

Atmospheric Perspective -

4-day live Watercolor Workshop with Frank Eber!

One participant has cancelled. That seat is available to the first person on the waitlist. We are still accepting waitlist registrants, so if you are interested in attending Frank's workshop please email info@hawaiiwatercolorsociety.org.

For details about this workshop, go to

<https://www.hawaiiwatercolorsociety.org/workshops>

Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Opportunities for Hawai'i Artists

- **Artists of Hawai'i 2026** call to artists open August 15 - September 15, 2026. For details, please visit the [Downtown Art Center website](#).
- **16th Annual Abstract Only!** Abstract art only (artwork must be non-representational). All media welcomed in 2D, 3D and digital media. Entries due by July 17, 2026. For more information, please go to: [2026 Abstract Only! call for entry](#). This exhibit has been approved for an Art Acquisition Selection Committee (AASC) visit by the SFCA Board of Commissioners.
- **For HWS members who also do printmaking:** 2026 Pacific States Biennial North American printmaking exhibition open to all artists 18 years or older on the North American continent, its islands, and outlying US territories. Entries due by August 16, 2026. For more information, please go to the [University of Hawai'i Hilo Art Department website](#). This exhibit has been approved for an Art Acquisition Selection Committee (AASC) visit by the SFCA Board.
- **For Big Island residents:** 2026 Hawai'i Nei Art Exhibition at Wailoa Center (Hilo, Hawai'i Island) open to Hawai'i Island residents of all ages. The main subject of the work must be a species native to Hawai'i Island. Entries due by October 9, 2026. For more information, please visit the [Hawai'i Nei Art Exhibition website](#). This exhibit has been approved for an Art Acquisition Selection Committee (AASC) visit by the SFCA Board of Commissioners.
- **Portal 3 at the Firehouse Gallery.** The Waimea Arts Council invites Hawai'i Island artists 18 years and older to interpret the theme of "portal". Entries accepted July 1 – 19, 2026. For more information, please visit the [Firehouse Gallery website](#). This exhibit has been approved for an Art Acquisition Selection Committee (AASC) visit by the SFCA Board of Commissioners.