



Watercolor Art Society - Houston  
Prospectus  
Non-Juried Member Show  
January 2026

**Exhibit Theme: A Sense of Place**

This show invites you to travel—across landscapes, cities, memories, and emotional terrain. Each artist reflects on what it means to belong, to remember, or to long for a place. Through texture, color, and composition, A Sense of Place becomes a map of personal geographies and shared spaces.

**Important Show Dates:**

- Registration Deadline: TUES Dec 30 @ 3 pm.
- Gallery Show Dates: Jan 4 through Jan 24
- Painting Pick-Up: Tuesday, Jan 27

**Awards:** First, second, and third place winners receive a cash award (\$100, \$75, \$50 respectively) and a ribbon. Artists are eligible to win one award per show. Winners will be notified after the judging by phone or email and announced at the opening reception.

**How to Register:**

- Register and pay online through the WAS-H website ([WAS-H - Home](#)).
- The registration link will be posted on the homepage and included in the newsletter the month before the show opens.
- If you cannot register online, you may call the WAS-H office (713.942.9966) during gallery hours (Tuesday–Saturday, 10 am–3 pm) for assistance.
- After registering, bring your painting to WAS-H before the registration deadline.

**To submit your work for the Online Show:**

1. Photograph your painting.
2. Crop the image to remove the frame and mat.
3. Resize the image so the largest side is no larger than **600 pixels**.
4. Save the file as a jpg or png and name it: LastName\_FirstName – Title of Painting.
5. Attach the file (please do not embed) to an email and send it to [admin@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:admin@watercolorhouston.org).

**Rules and Regulations:** Acceptance or rejection of an entry based on any deviation from the rules below is made at the discretion of the Gallery Director.

- **Eligibility:** This show is open to members only, and only paintings are accepted for submission.
- **Timing of creation:** Paintings must be created in the last 24 months.
- **Size:** **Neither** the height nor width of an entry (including the frame) may exceed 48 inches.
- **Surface:** Any surface material is allowed that is compatible with water-based media: examples include, but are not limited to Paper, Yupo, Aquabord, Claybord, Gessobord (with or without cradle) illustration or art board, rice paper, or canvas.
- **Media:** Must be at least 80% water-based media such as watercolor, gouache, acrylic, egg tempura, casein, and water-soluble charcoal or ink.
- **Collage** is allowed as long as water media is the dominant element. No restrictions on collage source.
- **Original Work:** Work must be artist's original handmade art. No copies allowed.
- **Critiques:** Work may reflect general non-specific feedback or critique that artist received from others.
- **Exceptions:** Deviations from the rules above are at the discretion of the Gallery Director. Each show has its own prospectus, which will include the specific rules for that show.

Your art is **not** eligible for entry if:

- It is a copy of a previous winning image.
- It already won a previous WAS-H award (first, second, or third place) or has been accepted in an AME or IWE exhibit.
- It was created from a photo that someone else took.
- It was created as part of an art class, DVD or other instruction. The design of the painting must be uniquely yours.
- It is a print, photograph, giclée or reproduction. Your paintings must be original art.

#### **Rules for Framing:**

- Framed art can be mounted with or without a white mat.
- Frame colors: We prefer simple black frames; however, we will allow white, gold or silver frames as well. Other neutral colors must be pre-approved by the Gallery Director. Frames can only be one color without decorative elements. They must be simple.

- Cradled panels do not require framing but must have finished sides. This means the sides should be painted or varnished.
- No glass allowed. Plexiglass may be used for protection.
- Varnish, wax, and other fixatives are also allowed.
- All pieces must be wired across the back, capable of being hung from a single point. Wire must be fixed via screws or hardware. Do not use tape to wire the back of your painting.
- Sawtooth hangers are not allowed.
- If framed, the frame should be simple metal or wood no wider than 2".
- Mats (if used) must be bright white or neutral white. If double-matted, both mats must be the same color of white.
- Mats must be white in their core – no black or other colors allowed.
- WAS-H is not liable for damage before, during or after the exhibit. Please take precautions to protect your work.

**Gallery Sales:**

- Paintings may be listed for sale or not for sale (NFS).
- All sales of paintings during the exhibit will be handled by WAS-H.
- Interested buyers may call WAS-H at 713-942-9966 to purchase a painting.
- The gallery receives 25% of the sales price to cover operational costs. Artists receive 75% of the sales price. Checks will be mailed to each artist after the sale is completed.
- WAS-H charges, collects, and pays sales tax for every painting sale.
- The buyer is responsible for picking up their painting after the close of the show. If painting needs to be shipped, the buyer must coordinate and pay for the transportation.

WAS-H reserves the right to reject any entry that is controversial, obscene, or in bad taste. Questions about the rules and regulations of the monthly gallery show may be directed via email to: [gallerydirector@watercolorhouston.org](mailto:gallerydirector@watercolorhouston.org)

Paintings left at WAS-H for more than 60 days may be considered abandoned and become the property of WAS-H. Unclaimed artwork will be subject to removal or disposal at the discretion of the organization.