



March 2026



Submit entries via CaFÉ:
Registration closes:
Artist Notification:
Deadline to Receive Shipments:
Awards and Gallery Reception:
Gallery Exhibition Dates:
Juror and Judge:
IWE Director:
IWE Contact Info:

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=16102
January 10, 2026, 11:59 pm MST
January 30, 2026
February 26, 2026, 3:00 pm CST
March 1, 2026, Sunday, 3:30 pm CST
March 3, 2026 to March 29, 2026
Don Andrews
Lynn Rodriguez
iwe2@watercolorhouston.org or (713) 942-9966



Prizes

\$10,000 in cash awards

1st Place \$2,500

2nd Place \$2,000

3rd Place \$1,500

Ten Merit Awards of \$150 each

Odette Rubin Memorial Award \$1000

ET Kraycirik Award \$500

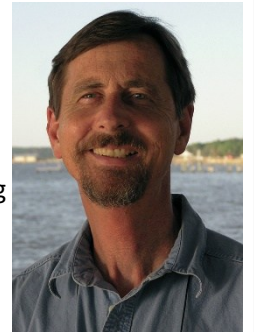
Margaret Scott Bock Award \$500

WAS-H Signature and Elite Signature Status

Signature Status and Elite Signature Status are honors awarded to WAS-H members whose artworks have been selected for multiple years' participation in the WAS-H IWE. Signature artists have exhibited their work in three IWEs; Elite Signature artists have exhibited their work in five or more IWEs. Once designated, artists may add the credential "WAS-H" after their signature to indicate their status.

To be eligible, an artist must be a WAS-H member at the time their works are submitted into the IWEs, however, there is no requirement for an artist to retain ongoing membership in WAS-H. A "Signature Status Artist" retains that honorific for life regardless of membership.

Judge and Juror IWE 2026 Don Andrews



Don Andrews is a nationally known watercolor artist and workshop instructor. He is a graduate of Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Florida, and a resident of Bastrop, Texas. He is an active member and past board director of the American Watercolor Society. His paintings have received numerous awards in national watercolor competitions including three awards from the American Watercolor Society, and two Best of Show awards from the New England Watercolor Society. Don has conducted painting workshops throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Europe for over 35 years. He is the author of the books, *"Interpreting the Figures in Watercolor"*, *"Interpreting the Landscape in Watercolor"*, and *"Rough Sketches: Short Stories of a Traveling Artist"*. He has had numerous feature articles published in American Artist magazine and the Watercolor issue of American Artist.

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE PROSPECTUS CAREFULLY SO AS NOT TO RISK DISQUALIFICATION

For questions about the exhibition and/or entry, Contact
IWE Director: **Lynn Rodriguez at (713) 942-9966 or**
iwe2@watercolorhouston.org

Please submit early, so we can assist you with any technical issues in the entry process. Submissions are done via **CaFÉ**.

IWE 2026 PROSPECTUS: ENTRY

Participant Age	Must be 18 years of age or older.
How to Enter	Artists must create an online profile on CaFÉ and submit their artwork digitally. File type: jpg, 1200 pixels or greater on the longest side, max 5MB. <i>Images must be cropped to exclude mat, frame, and any background.</i> Set up a CaFÉ profile at https://www.callforentry.org Direct link to register: https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=16102
Number of Entries	Up to three(3) works per artist may be submitted. Only one(1) per artist may be selected for the exhibition. Not all artists will have works selected.
Entry fees	1 entry = \$40; 2 entries = \$55; 3 entries = \$70 Gold Level WAS-H members enter for free. <i>Entry fees are nonrefundable.</i>
Creation Date	Only artwork completed on or after January 1, 2024 is eligible. Artworks may not have been accepted in previous WAS-H Annual Members Exhibit (AME) or previous IWE.
Originality	Artwork must be original and created without instruction. No works will be accepted that were created in a class or by other media instruction (Book, DVD, YouTube, etc.) or in collaboration with other artists or Artificial Intelligence (AI).
Reference	Reference photo may be used only if the photo was taken by the artist. <i>No artwork will be accepted that was created from photos taken by others or photos in the public domain.</i>
Watermedia	At least 80% aqueous media including: watercolor, acrylic, gouache, egg tempera, casein, ink, metallic and luminescent water-based paint. <i>Unacceptable media:</i> oil paints; water-miscible oil paints; oil pastel; oil stick; pastel; colored pencil; impasto; fabric; digital media or digitally enhanced images; multiple edition prints; sand; glitter; gold or metal leaf; collage from printed materials, newspaper, magazines, etc.; photography; reproductions; 3D media.
Enhancements	Acceptable media up to 20%: soft pastel; watercolor pencils; charcoal; graphite; wax accents and resists; water-based monotypes and monoprints; embossing. No digital, copies, giclee, photography, prints, or fabric. No glitter, gold or metal leaf.
Collage	Collage images must be 100% created by the artist and at least 80% aqueous media on archival materials. Commercially printed collage materials are not permitted.
Surfaces	Acceptable surfaces: Watercolor paper; toned watercolor paper; Yupo and similar synthetic papers; paper coated with water-based varnish and gesso (Gessobord™); Aquabord™; Claybord™; watercolor board; illustration board; textured paper; rice paper. <i>Unacceptable surfaces:</i> Gallery wrapped or stretched canvas; canvas paper; composite paper, panel, or wood that is coated with embedded materials that are not listed as acceptable surfaces; unmounted canvas or other fabrics; Tyvek; DuraLar; metal; glass.
Surface size	No smaller than 9 inches (or 22.86 cm) and no larger than 44 inches (or 111.76 cm) on any side in the vertical or horizontal direction. No diptych, triptych, etc. <i>Submission dimensions should not include the frame and/or mat. Must be specified correctly on entry or subject to disqualification.</i>

IWE 2026 PROSPECTUS: PARTICIPATION

All artists will be notified whether their artwork is selected by the Juror to participate in the Exhibition. If your artwork *is* selected by the Juror to participate, you will receive an Invitation. Congratulations! Promptly accept your Invitation, pay the handling fee on **CaFÉ**, pack your artwork and ship it to Houston.

Invitation, Acceptance, and Shipping

Notifications	Sent on 1/30/2026. All artists will be notified whether their work is selected. Artists whose works were selected will receive an Invitation by email. Please double check your spam folder or CaFÉ .
Acceptance Deadline	Accept by 2/06/2026. Invited artists must accept or decline their invitation. Lack of response will be treated as declining. Declining forfeits eligibility for gallery participation and awards.
Agree to online exhibition	Invited artists must agree to participate in the <i>online</i> exhibition as well.
Selected artwork	Selected artwork must be the same as the digital picture originally entered online. No substitutions or alterations. Registration information (price, title, entry size) cannot be changed.
Handling Fee	\$25 for hand-delivered work \$50 for shipped works; Paid on acceptance through CaFÉ .
Shipping Period	Shipping period is 2/06/2026 - 2/26/2026 Instructions will be provided in the invitation notice. Mailing address is: 1601 West Alabama Houston, TX 77006
Shipping Fees	Artists are responsible for all shipping fees and must include pre-paid return shipping labels.
Delivery Times	Deliveries are accepted Tuesday – Saturday 10 am – 3 pm
Delivery Deadline	2/26/2026 Paintings received after the deadline will not be in the judging. No exceptions.
Intake	2/27/2026 Works are uncrated and closely examined for compliance with Prospectus regulations. No substitutions or remedies are allowed. The Screening Committee and IWE Director make the final decision regarding the disqualifications. Disqualified works are shipped back to their artists.
Location	WAS-H determines the location for hanging and placement for all artworks. No special requests.
Exhibition	3/1/2026 - 3/29/2026 Artwork must remain on display in the gallery for the entire duration of the Exhibition. Removal of artwork prior to closing will result in penalties assessed by WAS-H and disqualification from entering future shows.
Awards	US residents will be paid via check. US residents who receive \$600 or more in awards will receive a Form W-9 and a Form 1099 in January 2026 for tax purposes. Payments to non-US residents will be made via wire transfer. Entrants who are not US residents will receive a Form W-8 BEN (which will be emailed with instructions for completion). Withholding tax will be made from awards in accordance with US tax laws and any existing tax treaty with the entrant's country of residence. No withholding is required on proceeds of a sold painting that was painted outside of the US.

IWE 2026 PROSPECTUS: EXHIBITION AND SALES

Framing, Matting, and Hanging

Framing	Artwork must be framed unless it is a cradled panel.
Cradled panels	Cradled panels (such as Aquabord™ or Claybord™) must have professionally finished sides. Flat panels without a frame or cradle are not accepted.
Mat	A mat is recommended (but optional) and must be true white, no off-white or natural shades. No colored mats or colored liners. Mat cores must be white. Double mats are allowed but must be the same brand of white. Mat must be clean. No more than two mats.
Frame material	Wood or metal.
Frame style	Plain, simple, not ornate. No frame embellishments (such as carving, edging, accents, distressing, texture or wood graining.
Frame color	Solid black, white, brown, gold or silver are only allowed colors. Frames must be one solid color. No bronze, copper or other color frames. No tone or color changes, mottling, patterns, metal leafing, or obvious wood graining.
Frame thickness	No thicker than 2.0 inches/5.08 cm measured from front to back and side to side.
Stability	Frames must be stable, sturdy and undamaged. Artwork in loose or damaged frames will be disqualified.
Hanging	Frames and cradled panels must be wired across the back with sturdy wire appropriate for weight. No sawtooth hangers. Wire must not show when mounted.
Weight	Framed Artwork must not exceed 45 lbs.
Protection	Artwork must be protected by Plexiglass for framed work or varnish for cradled panels. No glass allowed. Artwork must be protected. No artistic embellishments on frame, mat, or plexiglass.
Exhibition Ready	Artwork must have a professional presentation and be ready to hang when received by the gallery. Secure the wire across the top third to top quarter of the frame with a slight slack, ensuring the wire is hidden when mounted. <i>Mat(s) must be clean.</i>

Sales

Painting Sales	Sales of paintings during the Exhibition will be handled by WAS-H on behalf of the artist. Interested buyers may call the gallery at 713-942-9966 or send an email to: admin@watercolorhouston.org.
Pricing	The art price listed includes the frame and 25% paid to WAS-H. The sales price is specified in the initial entry in CaFÉ and may not be changed after entry. For not-for-sale (NFS) artwork, specify \$0 (zero) as the price in CaFÉ . Price is set in CaFÉ in "My Portfolio".
Discount	WAS-H reserves the right to negotiate up to a 10% discount to close a sale.
WAS-H donation	WAS-H receives a donation of 25% for paintings sold during the Exhibition. This covers the costs of hosting the event and other operational expenses.
Sales tax	Sales tax is charged for all sales regardless of artworks' country of origin. Sales tax is 8.25%.
Sold paintings	Sold paintings may not be removed from the gallery until the Exhibition closes.
Shipping of sold paintings	Artists are responsible for coordinating with buyers the logistics for delivery including any applicable handling and shipping costs. WAS-H is not responsible for shipping paintings.

IWE 2026 PROSPECTUS: DISQUALIFICATION CHECKLIST

<i>Artwork is not eligible for entry or exhibition if it is:</i>		
	Outside Creation Date	Created before January 1, 2024.
	Previously accepted	Accepted into a previous WAS-H AME or IWE show.
	Not Original or Copyright Infringement	A copy of someone else's art.
		Not the artist's original work or done in collaboration with other artists or AI.
		Created using a class reference or by other media instruction (Book, DVD, YouTube, AI,...).
		Created from a reference photo not taken by artist. <i>No artwork will be accepted that was created from photos taken by others or photos in the public domain not taken by the artist.</i>
		A collage that is not 100% created by the artist or uses restricted materials.
	Not a watermedia artwork	A digital image, copy, print, or giclee - not an actual watermedia painting.
		More than 20% non-watermedia content.
		More than 20% enhancement media: pastel, wax accents/resists, charcoal, graphite, etc.
	Surface Infraction	Not on an approved surface.
	Altered from entry	Significantly altered or different from the digital photo provided.
		Different in dimensions or media specifications provided in registration.
	Inappropriate Frame	Not a plain, unembellished, one-color frame in black, white, brown, silver, or gold.
		Not a wood or metal frame.
		Frame thickness is larger than 2 inches front to back or side to side.
		Artistically embellished on frame, mat, or plexiglass.
		A frame that is damaged or unstable or framed as a diptych, triptych, etc.
	Glass Inclusion	Covered with glass.
	Mat Infraction	A mat and/or mat core that is not true white. Double mats that do not match each other in brand or color.
	Size Infraction	Too big (>44"), too small (<9") or too heavy (>45 lbs).
	Not ready for exhibition	In a tube on arrival.
		Does not have a wire across the back or wire shows when mounted.
	Late on arrival	Does not arrive by the deadline.
	Fees not paid	Handling fee is not paid.

LIABILITY

Neither WAS-H nor WAS-H's representatives will be responsible for damages or loss, whatever the cause. Submitting a work of art to this Exhibition shall constitute on the part of the artist a release of WAS-H and WAS-H's representatives from all liability with respect to loss or damage to the artist's work of art. Artists may carry their own insurance on their artwork.

PENALTIES

Artwork must remain on display in the Gallery for the duration of the Exhibition. Removal of artwork prior to the closing will result in penalties assessed by the Board of Directors of WAS-H and disqualification from entering future shows.

DISCLAIMER

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. Artwork not picked up and remaining at WAS-H 12 months after Exhibition opening will become property of WAS-H to donate or sell.

PUBLICITY

WAS-H reserves the right to photograph and duplicate works for the *49th International Watermedia Exhibition Catalog* and for publicity purposes. Every effort will be made to assign attribution for the works. An online catalog will be available before the last day of the Exhibition.

IWE 2026 CALENDAR

Entry	10/01/2025 - 1/10/2026	Artists enter works for consideration on CaFÉ. January 10, 2026 11:59pm MST is the deadline for entry.
Selection	1/11/2026 - 1/29/2026	Juror determines which entries are invited to exhibit.
Notification	1/30/2026	Artists are notified via email whether or not their artworks are accepted into the Exhibition.
Invitation Acceptance	2/6/2026 (deadline)	Invited artists accept or decline the invitation to participate and agree to participate in the online exhibition. Pay handling fees in CaFÉ: \$25 for Hand Delivered or \$50 for Shipped
Shipping	2/6/2026 - 2/26/2026	Artists pack and send original artwork ready to hang. <i>Artwork must arrive by February 26, 2026 3pm CST.</i>
Intake	2/27/2026	Artwork is uncrated and examined for compliance. Disqualified works are shipped back to artists.
Judging	2/28/2026	Judge selects winners and winners are notified.
Awards	3/1/2026	Winners are announced on Sunday, March 1, 2026, at 3:30 pm CST followed by the reception.
Exhibition	3/1/2026 - 3/29/2026 3/3/2026 - 12/31/2026	The Gallery Exhibition is open to the public. The Online exhibition is available through end of the year.



1601 West Alabama Houston TX 77006
 Gallery: 713-942-9966
 HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 3 pm

For general questions about the exhibition and/or entry
 Contact IWE Director: Lynn Rodriguez at iwe2@watercolorhouston.org

WAS-H
 Membership



WAS-H Membership information: <https://watercolorhouston.org/Membership-Application>