



PASTEL  
SOCIETY  
OF  
NEW  
MEXICO

# HIGHlight

October 2014



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## Monthly Meeting at the Albuquerque Museum

Saturday, October 11 • 10 - Noon

### Vasili Katakis Presentation

“Representational art, with a romantic twist,” is how Vasili Katakis describes his approach. He draws inspiration from nature, as well as manmade objects, especially architectural ones.

His goal is to reveal the “interior mystery” of the world, to engage viewers. Pastel is his current medium, with his techniques derived from a lifetime of working in various disciplines.

His aesthetic may best be described as Classical, informed by all that the art world has developed since.

Please join us as Vasili shares his work and insights. You may want to bring your sketchbooks!

## From the President...

Hi Everyone,

Fall has arrived. Everything “Art” seems to be amped up this time of year. Keeping track of what you entered, where and when notifications are coming, all that anticipation can be really stressful.

While you/we are checking our email obsessively for results of entries we have invested in, I hope we can collectively be appreciative for all the people who are buzzing around for this organization. There are volunteers who are waiting for other folks to get their piece of the puzzle in, in order to scurry to make things happen on time. There are people working tirelessly on our shows, basically throughout the year, while the event is the furthest thing from our minds.

It is at this time of year that the volunteerism of this group becomes evident to the majority. It’s when we realize just how much our society depends on them. And mostly, we become aware of the fact that this society would not function if it weren’t for them.

So what I am hoping, is that while you are voting on your slate of officers for the new year, perhaps you will consider what you can do to help your society. Ask around. Find out from the folks that are “doing” what their task entails. Choose to get involved. As a dues paying member, you have an investment in this great society. It continues to be great because of its membership and its volunteers.

As my two-year term comes to a close, I can see what a wonderful growing experience it has been for me. I understand far more about the interworking of the society than I ever knew existed when I was elected to take the office. For two years prior, I wrote the program reviews for the newsletter. I learned more about the presenters and I synthesized the information much differently than I would have just simply watching. So that was incredibly enriching as well.

Just as in your painting, I ask you to step outside of your comfort zone. Join your fellow members in volunteering for something, anything! There is a lot of pride to being involved. You help others, not just yourself. Service is a way to give back to this society that gives so much for its members. Give it some thought ☺

~ Namaste, Natasha

## PSNM Elections coming soon!

The Ballot, with names of all the nominees, will appear in the November newsletter.

Votes can be submitted by mail, or brought to the November meeting where they will be tallied and winners announced.

**Your vote matters!**

## PSNM Officers & Committee Chairs

President	Natasha Isenhour
Vice President	Annie Roberts
Treasurer	Walt Viney
Secretary	Lee McVey
Member-at-Large	Betty Tichich
Communications	Nicholas Tesluk
Evaluation	Ann Lewis, Carol Lovelady, Margi Lucena
50/50	Julie Maas
Librarian	Judy Skaar
MasterWorks Rep	Bev Snyder
Membership	Gaye Garrison
National Show	Nicholas Tesluk
Newsletter	Marilyn Drake
Programs	Ann Lewis
Program Review	Pat Oliver
Publicity	<b>VACANT</b>
Refreshments	Donna Aldrich, Terry Allen
Signature Membership	Katherine Irish
Website Manager	Judy Felsen

*To communicate with people on this list by email, go to [www.pastelsnm.org](http://www.pastelsnm.org) then click on Contacts.*

## Call for Entries

### Winter Pastel Show

**Drop off day: Tuesday, Dec 2**

Show runs from Dec 4, 2014 - March 2, 2015 in Gallery at St. John's Cathedral, 318 Silver SW, Albuquerque, at the corner of 3rd and Silver.

**PSNM members** are invited to submit up to 4 pieces each. Gallery can accommodate approximately 40-50 pieces of all sizes. No entry fee, gallery keeps 25% of sales. Pieces must be framed and wired for hanging.

Gallery open Mon -Thurs, 9am - 4pm, Fri 9am - 12pm and Sun during church services.

Pick up day - Tuesday, March 3, 2015

For more info, email Ruth Norton: [gallery@stjohnsabq.org](mailto:gallery@stjohnsabq.org)

### MasterWorks of NM

**Entry deadline for standard sizes: January 23, 5 pm**

Prospectus should be available October 1 on the MasterWorks website: [www.masterworksnm.org](http://www.masterworksnm.org)

This show is for NM residents only. If prospectus does not make it clear enough, please remember that PSNM accepts online entries and payment.

Online Entry Form, with complete directions, will be available on our website soon.

## National Show News

from Nicholas Tesluk, Show Chair



Well, a fitting ending to all the grief encountered with National Show entries this year, was that one of our jurors, Stan Sperlak, missed the deadline for getting his scores in, so notices were delayed. But all's well that ends well and we have finally closed that dark chapter of our

Show planning. Thanks, once again, to Diana Farris who worked diligently to get everything finalized the moment that Stan returned his scores. Congratulations to everyone who was accepted in to the 23rd Annual Exhibition!!

With a very generous donation of a half-page ad from SouthwestArt Magazine, we have exceeded our goal of \$10,000 in cash and merchandise and are, in fact, close to \$11,000. That will give us many fine awards to honor the deserving artists.

Now that notifications have been sent out for those who were accepted in the National Show, as our Show-Sitting Co-Director, Annie Roberts, reiterated at the membership meeting, if you have a painting in the National Show you are required to sit the Show. Please contact her ([anniedear@hotmail.com](mailto:anniedear@hotmail.com)) or Enid Sorenson ([enidls@comcast.net](mailto:enidls@comcast.net)) to sign up for one of the days in November. [Once the results from Small Works are sent, as Carol Lovelady and Annie both mentioned, you will be required to sit if a painting is accepted for that show too.]

We will now be working on the Show Catalog, and though a laborious job, Marilyn Drake, handles this great task efficiently. We often go through days of proofreading to make sure names, titles, sizes and prices are listed perfectly. It is always a pleasure to see it taking shape.

I want to mention again that this year will be new and unique as we will have the opening day on a Saturday afternoon instead of a Friday evening. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, November 1, from 1 - 6 p.m. with the Awards presentation at 2 p.m.

### Gods and Heroes: Masterpieces from the École des Beaux-Arts, Paris

**October 11 - January 4 at Albuquerque Museum**

**Public Opening:** Saturday, October 11, 2 - 5pm. Free

**3rd Thursday:** Oct. 16, 5 - 8:30 pm. Free

Ooh La La - jazz, French lesson, bilingual puppet show

**Free Wednesday Gallery Talk:** Nov. 5 and Dec 3, 11 am

**Beaux-Arts Architecture Talk:** Sunday, Nov. 16, 1 pm. Free

**3rd Thursday:** Nov. 20, 5 - 8:30 pm. Free

So you think you can't draw? Make art in the exhibit and watch other artists at work.

More details at: <http://albuquerquemuseum.org/>

# September Program Review

by Pat Oliver

## A Systems Approach to Painting by Christy Olsen

*Our presenter, Christy Olsen, is a third-generation artist who played under her mother's easel growing up and developed an appreciation for art at an early age. Her aunt, mother, and grandmother were all artists. She received her formal education from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where she studied the Old Masters and graduated with a degree in Art History and Anthropology.*

*Christy's work has been shown in exhibitions across the United States, including the "2014 Best and Brightest" exhibition at the Scottsdale Artist's School and the Porter Hall Gallery at the Tucson Botanical Gardens in 2013. She was also a finalist in the "2014 Richeson 75 Still Life and Floral" art competition and the "2014 NOAPS International Juried Open Exhibition." Christy lives in Tucson, Arizona, where she is very active in the local arts community of Southern Arizona and teaches studio art classes. She is a member of the Tucson Pastel Society. See Christy Olsen's website at <http://www.christyolsen.com/>*

Christy Olsen holds several jobs — Drawing Teacher, Teacher of Pastel Classes, and Systems Engineer. Also, early in her career, she did drafting by hand. While these pursuits may seem unconnected, Christy has found that they complement each other in her painting. Drafting taught her how to think in three-dimensional space. Drawing taught her how to take complex ideas and simplify them. Systems engineering disciplines her to combine all the aspects (line, value, shape, size, space, texture, and color) into a system. It is a "highly complex process with many elements to consider." Her purpose this day was to show us how to work through the elements in the context of relationships rather than in isolation (as is sometimes evidenced when a modification to one thing makes everything else seem "out of whack." The systems approach is to take complicated systems and work them into smaller pieces, then see how the pieces work together. The stages of a painting are (1) drawing, (2) painting, i.e., adding color, and (3) refinement.

### Demonstration

Christy said she likes to paint bigger pictures because she doesn't like to frame them. Bigger paintings can be fragile so she ships them with Plexiglas. Her favorite paper is the French Sennelier paper (LaCarte), but she has found it is not completely consistent in color. She likes the mid-tones that "help pull out the lights and darks." She uses the Dakota box for her pastels because the pastels don't break if the box should drop. Christy added straps to her box for carrying and also for strapping it to her easel. (To hold it steady, she weights it by hanging her purse from it.)

In the demo, she used a computer image of a vase and flowers displayed on an iPad for reference because it is better than a photo, however working from life is best. She said, "I like to work from life; otherwise it is flat."

First, Christy started her drawing using charcoal (Nitram charcoal regular HB - [www.nitramcharcoal.com](http://www.nitramcharcoal.com)) because "it is a very forgiving drawing tool. If I make a mistake, I can just take it off." She starts with design elements and uses a plumb line to measure the subject. She doesn't like to box it in at the beginning, but "just get something going so you can manipulate it," i.e., doing a gesture drawing just to get it in. As she worked, she emphasized that she didn't want to "get it too tight too fast" but was "blocking in gestures, looking at the proportions, and checking that the objects are in the right place."

Once the gesture drawing was on the paper, Christy took a mirror and looked back at the drawing over her shoulder to make sure it didn't tilt to one side and to see what to adjust. Still using charcoal, she looked at the values before getting into color. Then she begins shading in the darkest darks.

*Question:* Do you worry about charcoal polluting the colors?

*Answer:* No, because my pastels are opaque. It will show through them as darker values so long as I don't blend too much. When using charcoal to draw, it's not so intimidating. It feels more free.

In regard to specific colors, Christy said, "I have no idea how it (the color) will end up. As soon as I put it down, it is affected by the color of the paper, which is the effect of simultaneous contrast (everything is affected by everything around it)." Because of this effect, she tested each pastel color on a side strip of paper before using it. As she applied the pastel colors, she emphasized that she was not rubbing them in, but keeping them loose and fresh. She usually works only two-to-three hours at a time to keep the painting fresh. She uses the edge of pastels to get the right hue, chroma, and value for an impressionistic approach (versus rendering).

Christie likes Unison half sticks, but her favorites are Henri Roche. They cost more, but last a long time because she is not pressing or blending (to blend with Henri Roches, she would use a brush). The closest to Henri Roche she has found are Diane Townsend pastels. She loves the pumice in these pastels because it gives them a little texture, a breathiness or airiness.

At this point, Christie was starting on the lights, a warm yellow for the flowers. Also, she was softening hard edges so they would recede. She doesn't completely cover the paper, using the color of the paper as part of the painting. She said, "For a long time, I didn't submit work to shows because I didn't cover the entire surface. Then Richard McKinley told me that's old school." Christie said she likes for a lot of paper to show through. In her finished paintings, the paper is part of the painting. She also uses a cloth to "fuzz out" the background.

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She was using Great Americans for the softened areas because they are a lot softer. She said, "Sometimes they are too textured so I take a Holbein to work it in a little, to put texture more in the foreground." As she continued, she said she was "painting in the negative—adding neutral around the flowers, for example, and using cloth to soften the transitions." Because time was limited, Christie showed an earlier study of the same painting she was demonstrating to illustrate how the process proceeded. She concluded that it is important to spend time on the drawing, and that "color is the icing on the cake."

## Member News

*(upcoming receptions & demos highlighted in red)*

**Mike Mahon** received the "Best Painting" award in the pastel/watercolor division for a 12 x 16, pastel titled, "Abiquiu Vista" at the 2014 Enchanted Lands Exhibition put on by the Plein Air Painters of New Mexico. If you want more info about the exhibit, you can find it at: <http://www.papnm.org/>



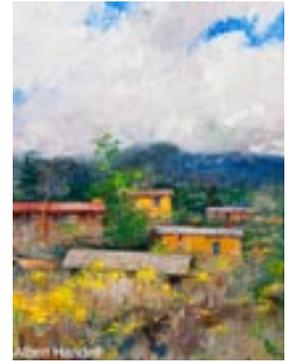
**Nancy J. Davis, John Philbin Dolan and Marilyn Drake** are 3 of the artists invited to participate in the Portrait Artists Faceoff on Friday, Oct. 17 from 6 - 8 pm. This free event is part of The Portrait Society of America biennial "Facing the Muse" exhibition which begins with a reception on Sat., Oct. 11 from 5 - 8:30pm. The show continues through Oct. 31 at the New Mexico Art League, 3409 Juna Tabo Blvd. NE, Albuquerque. [www.newmexicoartleague.wildapricot.org](http://www.newmexicoartleague.wildapricot.org)  
**Iva Morris** served as Judge for this exhibit, which includes works by many PSNM members (though some are showing oils): **Marian Berg, Nancy J. Davis, Marilyn Drake, Gaye Garrison, Betty Lehnus, and Fred Yost.**

**Denali Brooke** won 1st place for "Old School House" in the "Starry Night" paint-out sponsored by Corrales Main Street. **Barbara Clark** won 2nd place for "In the Thick of It", and **Ann Lewis** won 3rd place for "Water Lily Garden". **Tobi Clement** served as Pastel painting Judge & Demonstration Presenter. Other PSNM members participating were: **Bill Canright, Marie Fritz, Constance Gehring, Pam Lisle, Julie Maas, Carmen**



**Nothnagel, James Roybal, Adriana Scassellati, Gina Yaker, Lisa Zawadzki, and Judy Skaar.** Paintings will be on display at "The Spot Cafe", 4940 Corrales Road (in the heart of the Village) through Oct. 30.

**Albert Handell** will be participating as a Master in the 15th Annual American Impressionist Society National Juried Exhibition, opening Thursday, October 2 with a reception from 5 - 8pm at **Abend Gallery in Denver CO.** The exhibit runs through November 1. On Oct. 3, from 6 - 8 pm, Clayton J. Beck III, the Awards Judge will be giving a demonstration.



Many PSNM members had work accepted into the Fine Art Gallery for the 2014 New Mexico State Fair, including: **Jim Anderson, Lyle Brown, Barbara Clark, Marilyn Drake, Judy Felsen, Constance Gehring, Jessica Herrera, Katherine Irish, Bobbie Isaacson, Sharon Jensen, JoAnne Kennedy, Pam Lile, Julie Maas, Fred Miller, Marina Obrotova, Pat Oliver, Adriana Scassellati, Janice St. Marie and Linda West.**

**Xanadu Gallery** Owner, Jason Horejs Presents  
**"Starving" to Successful Online Workshop**  
*Get into Galleries and Sell More Art*

A Live, Online Workshop • Saturday, October 11th, 2014  
8 am - Noon (Pacific Daylight Time) \$79 (\$59 for Xanadu Gallery E-Course Students and Email Subscribers.)  
Learn how to confidently and successfully approach galleries in this intensive and interactive online workshop. Jason Horejs, has worked with hundreds of artists around the country helping them understand the business side of their careers, as well as helping them prepare to approach galleries successfully. If you haven't had the opportunity to take the Xanadu Gallery's "Starving" to Successful workshop live due to location or scheduling conflicts this is an opportunity for you to attend live from your computer.

In this four hour, online workshop, you and a small group of artists from around the nation will learn how to organize your work, identify and share your unique approach and vision, and successfully research and approach galleries.

**Can't attend Live?** The Workshop Will Be Recorded  
If you have another engagement that will not allow you to attend the live broadcast, you can still register. After the workshop is over you will receive a link to the recording of the broadcast to watch later at your convenience. All registered attendees will receive a full video copy of the workshop as well as a pdf copy of the presentation slides.

# Workshops & Classes

**LISTING POLICY:** All new announcements will be published with as much detail as space will allow. Repeat listings may be shortened. Deadline for submissions is 15th of month preceding next issue. Please send your listings for classes, workshops, events, or news via email to: [psnm.news@gmail.com](mailto:psnm.news@gmail.com)

Workshops and classes held in **Albuquerque, Santa Fe, or other NM locales are indicated in Red.**

## Doug Dawson National Show Workshop

**SPACES AVAILABLE!** Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
Oct. 28, 29, 30 • Albuquerque, NM

Held at Hispanic Arts Center on grounds of EXPO  
NM/9:30 - 4:30 daily, with lunch break!

**Register Today** so you don't miss this opportunity to study with award-winning artist, noted author, and amazing instructor Doug Dawson! Topics to be covered include: 3 types of great compositions; creating illusion of depth; how to achieve color harmony; different approaches to under-painting; and the field size theory of exciting color. Night scenes, figures, and on-site *plein air* painting are options for those wanting to do so, since Doug's work features urban night scenes, cityscapes, portraits and magical landscapes which range in focus from intimate rural scenes to sweeping vistas.

Learn more about Doug on his website:

[www.dougdawsonartist.com](http://www.dougdawsonartist.com)

**Tuition: PSNM members \$395/ Non-members \$425  
FULL-PAYMENT DUE NOW!**

Pay by check (*payable to PSNM*) or credit card (using PayPal). *Please add a 3% convenience fee (\$100+3=\$103) if using PayPal.*

See page 12 of Policies & Procedures at: [www.pastelsnm.org/misc/2013\\_policies.pdf](http://www.pastelsnm.org/misc/2013_policies.pdf) for workshop cancellation policy. Questions, including instructions about where to mail check or how to use PayPal, should be sent to Marilyn Drake at: [psnm.nswkshop@gmail.com](mailto:psnm.nswkshop@gmail.com)

## TAUGHT BY PSNM MEMBERS

### **NEW!** Sharon Jensen Classes

**Nov 3 - 15 • Albuquerque**

7 week class at Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center from 1:30 - 4 pm. Small class with lots of attention. Concentration will be on composition, color and emotional content.

Tuition: \$112 Call Sharon to enroll and for more information. 505-323-7522

### Lee McVey, PSA Workshop

**Nov 6 - 20 & Dec 11 • Albuquerque**

4 week classes; Thursdays, 1 - 4 pm held at The Artist Studio in Hoffmantown Shopping Center, Menaul & Wyoming. Join Lee for pastel classes and receive lots of one-on-one attention at your easel, plus demos and good information to create paintings using landscape photos as a reference. Accelerate improving your skill levels with the guidance of an experienced teacher.

Tuition: \$100 plus tax.

Individual critique sessions with Lee at mutually convenient times in her studio or at your home. \$35 plus tax per hour.

Register by emailing Lee at [lee@leemcvey.com](mailto:lee@leemcvey.com) or call 505-417-3516

### Mike Mahon Workshops

**Oct 8 - 10 • Taos, NM - Plein Air**

**Nov 1 - 4 • Houston, TX - Figures in Pastel**

Sponsored by Pastel Society of Southeast Texas Afternoon on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, all day 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>. Learn about Mike's *DiVine Setup*<sup>TM</sup>, a 7-step systematic approach to painting based on classic principles of art which are logical, memorable, and freeing. Gain more control of your painting while developing genuine spontaneity.

**Apr 15 - 17, 2015 • Weatherford, TX - Portrait Painting**

To register or ask questions, contact Mike at:

505-795-4639 or by email at: [art@mmahon.com](mailto:art@mmahon.com)

***Paint Southern France with Mike in 2015!***

**Aug 8 - 17, 2015 • Domaine du Haut Baran, France**

Plein Air Painting Workshop. To see more about this amazing art location, you can visit <http://hautbaran.com>

### Terri Ford, IAPS Eminent Pastelist, PSA Master Pastelist, PSNM/DP Workshops

Terri's workshops focus on creating luminous paintings with Deeper, Darker, Richer underpaintings and pure pigment, vibrant light.

**October 8 - 10 • California Coast • 2 spots available!**

Last minute cancellations opened up 2 spots - call now.

Contact Terri at: [tford@terrifordart.com](mailto:tford@terrifordart.com)

*Terri also offers private instruction by appointment.*

### Denali Brooke & Bill Canright Workshop

**Oct 15 - 25 • Juzcar, Andalucia, Spain**

The villages of the Genal Valley offer a unique painting experience and taste of the local culture. Our workshop bases in tiny Juzcar in a modern hotel with a rustic feeling, rooms with bath and an outstanding chef.

Instructors combine diverse backgrounds in landscape

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ARTISAN & THE ARTIST'S MAGAZINE PRESENT

# ARTISTS' MATERIALS EXPO 2014

## CREATIVE FUSION

OCTOBER 17-19 • SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

www.expoartisan.com



**Free Admission to 68 Vendor Booths**  
**Artist Workshops • Oct. 16 - 19**  
**Buffalo Thunder Resort**

Artisan and The Artist's Magazine present the 6th Artists' Materials Expo this fall at Buffalo Thunder Resort & Casino in the Pueblo of Pojoaque, just minutes north of Santa Fe.

Artist Direct Art Gallery, displaying art works for sale made by workshop instructors and participants will be located on the vendor floor.

Artists' Materials Expo will feature manufacturers' demos and super savings on their materials.

Instructional workshops, taught by 60 regional and national artists offer participants great value in experimentation, inspiration and creative expression. Only \$75 for a 3-hour workshop and \$140 for a 6-hour workshop. Pre-registration required.

Visit [www.ExpoArtisan.com](http://www.ExpoArtisan.com) for more info and to register for workshops. Or contact Ron Whitmore at 505-954-4180, ext. 111, or [ron@artisan-santafe.com](mailto:ron@artisan-santafe.com)

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and figurative painting. Beginning to advanced artists are welcome. Contact Bill at [pcstudios@cableone.net](mailto:pcstudios@cableone.net) or 505-294-7752. More details at: [www.billcanright.com](http://www.billcanright.com)

### Artists' Materials Expo • Pojoaque

Sponsored by Artisan and The Artists' Magazine. Held at Buffalo Thunder Resort, 15 minutes north of Santa Fe. Classes are filling up quickly, so if you're thinking about taking an Expo class, put your order in soon, so you don't miss out on the classes you want!

Pre-registration required for all workshops.

#### Paul Murray • Thursday, October 16

*"The Speed of Light."* 9 am to 4 pm. \$140

Learn how he prepares his paintings so they are light-filled and luminous. Morning demo as well as showing how he makes his pastel surface. In the afternoon everyone paints the same demo image to experience the same techniques and reinforce his explanations about painting light. Demo will be in pastel so he can quickly make his points, but the workshop will be open to all media.

#### Jakki Koufmann • Friday, October 17

2 three-hour mini-workshops. \$75 each. Morning session covers the art of acrylic landscape painting. In afternoon session, work with the newest liquids, gels and metallic colors to create whimsical abstractions.

Visit [www.ExpoArtisan.com](http://www.ExpoArtisan.com) for more info and to register. Or contact Ron Whitmore at 505-954-4180, ext. 111, or [ron@artisan-santafe.com](mailto:ron@artisan-santafe.com)

### Christine Debrosky Workshop

August 2015 • Domaine du Haut Baran, France

Contact William Haas at: [hautbaranfrance@gmail.com](mailto:hautbaranfrance@gmail.com)

### TAUGHT BY OTHERS

#### Sally Strand Workshops

October 19 - 25 • Domaine du Haut Baran, France

Personal mentoring workshop. Contact: William or

Rosalie Haas: 513-533-0511 in US

or call 011 33 565 246324 in France

Email: [hautbaranfrance@gmail.com](mailto:hautbaranfrance@gmail.com)

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**"Starving" to Successful** Topics cover: How to create a consistent body of gallery-ready work; What you should do to present your work in a manner that will appeal to galleries; How to price your work; How to organize your work and track your inventory; How to best allocate your marketing efforts and dollars with an eye toward getting into galleries; How to build your resume; How to pick the best markets for your work and how to find the galleries in those markets that would best suit your work, and more... To register, go to: [www.xanadugallery.com/Workshop/2014-Online/index.php](http://www.xanadugallery.com/Workshop/2014-Online/index.php)

## IAPS - 2015

### IAPS Eleventh Biennial Convention

The Biggest Pastel Party on the Planet!!!

**Preview of the Convention** including a list of instructors, classes, demonstrations and costs can be found on new IAPS website: [www.pastelinternational.com](http://www.pastelinternational.com)

Remember that because PSNM is a member of IAPS you are eligible for the discounted registration fee of \$175.

**Registration opens Wednesday, Oct. 8 at Noon EDT** to sign up and pay for your selections. Hotels will also be available to take convention reservations.