



**On Tuesday, April 14th at 2:00 PM, we will meet at The Wheat Ridge Center for Music and Art, also known as The Wheat Ridge United Methodist Church, 7530 W. 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. (on the southwest corner of Vance St. and 38<sup>th</sup> Ave. One block east of Wadsworth). We hope you can join us.**

April 2026

Volume 12:04

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



## From the President

I love the spring blossoms! Is anyone painting them?

Randy Hale gave a great demonstration in March. He enjoys painting plein air and instructed us about his art supplies and his painting process. Start with a tight sketch and then paint loose, suggesting the details. He leads painting travel trips around the world and has a lot of experience with teaching.

The St Andrew art show is ending on April 1, and I have heard of 3 sales there. Thank you to all the participants!

Do you start with a value sketch before you paint? I am trying to get into the habit.

Spring is a time for renewal. We can try something new or renew something that we have. I appreciate the creativity of this group.

Rebecca (Becky) Near

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# April Program

## Mitch Caster

After many years as a news and courtroom artist, covering some of the nation's most notorious trials, Mitch Caster now concentrates on showcasing the positive aspects of the world. He wants to bring joy to viewers.



Known as an outstanding figurative artist, Caster paints the human form in all walks of life, drawing on his appreciation of all cultures to pass on their uniqueness and history to future generations. He also loves painting wildlife, landscapes, lighthouses, and much more.

Caster's artwork is in collections throughout the world and has been featured in several national art magazines and has shown in numerous galleries throughout the country. He has received awards from and is a Signature Member of Pastel Society of Colorado, Oil Painters of America, and National Oil and Acrylic Painters' Society. He has received numerous other awards, including Colorado Governor's Art Show and Sale, and is also a Signature Member of American Society of Marine Artists. From his work at 9NEWS/KUSA-TV, he received five Rocky Mountain Emmy Awards in art direction. He is a long-time figure drawing instructor at the Art Students League of Denver.





## Lucky Artist

Our 'Lucky Artist of the Month' for April was Norm Ziegler. Norm has been a member of MAG for five or six years. He was born in Youngstown, Ohio where his father was doing his surgical residency. From there the Zeigler family moved to Espanola, Mexico where Norm lived until college. After graduating college, he joined the Peace Corps and went to India. Returning from India, Norm attended the University of Chicago where he received his doctorate in South Asian studies. His first teaching job brought him to Colorado in 1973 as a member of the faculty of the University of Denver. Norm's next profession was nursing. He went to nursing school and became an RN and enjoyed a nursing career for 25 – 30 years.

Norm said his interest in art started in graduate school. He is very active in MAG and participates in the Members and Ecter's shows. He is also a member of the Pastel Society of Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Weavers Guild. The painting Norm is holding in the picture is titled "View of Jemez Mountains". His choice of medium for this painting was pastel.

Some of the artists Norm admires are Clark Hulings (a New Mexico artist), Van Gough, Salvador Dali, and Hieronymus Bosch. When asked about his style, he describes it as representational. The art tip he'd like to share with you is 'Persevere'. Congratulations, Norm, on being our *Lucky Artist of the Month*.

## Our Website

[www.mtinsideartguild](http://www.mtinsideartguild)

Currently on our website you will find helpful information on the organization and when we meet, as well as information about the next presentation and other items of interest. You can find forms for membership

and for rotating exhibits, where they are and the forms to fill out for expenses and sales, as well as entry forms for current sponsored shows of our membership with the prospectus. We have an online member gallery where members may place their own work to be viewed by the public. The cost for a personal page is a one-time fee of \$15.00. Also available are pdf copies of the Mountainside Messenger.



# MAG Mailing Addresses

MAG has two mailing addresses. The first is **Mountainside Art Guild, P.O. Box 694, Wheat Ridge, CO 80034**. Please send **envelopes** to this address. **Packages** may also be mailed to MAG, but they need to be addressed as **Mountainside Art Guild, 4210 Wadsworth #694, Wheat Ridge, CO 80034**. They will be held in a secure area in the post office.

## Hospitality



Meeting Date	First Person	Second Person
April 8th	Kiki Moore	Karen Misko
May 12th	Kay Cassa	Darcie Kurtak
June 9th	Del Kelly	Maryjane Sharpe
September 8th		
October 13th		

There are still openings for hospitality indicated by the red areas. Please consider signing up for a day. There is a form available at the meetings on which you can place your name, or you may call Cheryl Annett at 303-986-8602.

## Calendar

Delivery and hanging of Membership Show art	Tuesday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 PM – 2:00 PM
April Meeting	Tuesday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
May Meeting	Tuesday, May 12 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
June Meeting	Tuesday, June 9 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

## Member News

- Congratulations to Cheryl Annett, Carolyn Tegeder, Darlene Woolley, Kiki Moore and Warner Reeser who all had art sales this month!
- If you have anything of news for the MAG membership, please send it to me, Susan, ([slhtennis@aol.com](mailto:slhtennis@aol.com) or call me at 303-489-2025) and I will put it in the newsletter.

## Members Show

The Membership show can accommodate at least 42 paintings. We have received only 24, so far. The deadline for entering the show is Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are two ways to enter: check and registration form by mail with a postmark no later than Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> or registration form submitted by email to [dkurtak@gmail.com](mailto:dkurtak@gmail.com) by Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and then you must bring your check along with your paintings to the member meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The prospectus is at the end of the newsletter, and you can also review the procedure there. Or you may contact Darcie Kurtak by email ([dkurtak@gmail.com](mailto:dkurtak@gmail.com)) or by phone (303-859-7501) if you still have questions. If for some reason we have an overwhelming response, the way the entries that will be accepted will be determined by when the entry form was received.

If you will recall, our January meeting demo was done by Mark Eirhart. At the end of the time Mark progressed to the point of what you see on the left below. He has since finished the artwork and sent a photo of it. It is on the right, and the title is 'The Situation Has Started to Drift'. Thank you, Mark, for letting us see your creative process to completion.



MOUNTAINSIDE ART GUILD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2026 Annual Membership \$35.00 ALL PUBLICATIONS ARE BY Email. New Member Website Gallery \$15.00 ½ year Membership (after 5/1) \$17.50 (For New Members Only) All members who were active in 2025 or earlier must pay Full Membership Yearly. Exceptions are for Emeritus Members who don't pay due to long continued service to the Guild.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Any Change from Past Information YES NO

Total Amount you are Paying: \_\_\_\_\_ Checks are payable to Mountainside Art Guild.

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR PAYMENT TO THE TREASURER: Susan Hommel 807 Nevermore Lane, Evergreen, CO 80439 or bring it to a meeting.

# 2026 ANNUAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP SHOW PROSPECTUS

OPEN APRIL 14 –JUNE 9, 2026

(Reception May 12, 2026)

*Wheat Ridge Center for Music & Art (WRCMA)*

*7530 West 38th Ave*

*Wheat Ridge, CO 80033*

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all members of Mountainside Art Guild

**SHOW DATES:** April 14–June 9, 2026 (Reception & Awards at the meeting on May 12, 2026)

**MEDIA:** Any wall-hung fine art. Art must be for sale.

**ENTRIES:** Each member may submit up to three (3) original framed works (no prints), not to exceed 24x36.

**ALL ARTWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED INTO THE SHOW!**

**FEES: \$10.00 PER ENTERED PIECE, or \$27.00 for THREE ENTRIES.**

**SPECIFICATIONS:** ALL WORK MUST BE ARTIST'S ORIGINAL COMPOSITION. Works must be identified on the back with title, medium, artist's name, and phone. Works must be dry, framed (when applicable) or have wrapped and painted edges with staples visible only on the back, and ready for hanging with screw-eyes and wire. NO SAWTOOTH OR CLIP HANGERS. Entries with chipped frames, broken glass, etc. will be disqualified.

STANDARD MAG Cards will be used for the show.

**SALES:** Works must be for sale and cannot be a piece of art shown in a previous MAG Member Show. Sales will be made through Mountainside Art Guild. Sales tax will be paid by the buyer & included at the time of the sale.

Commission on sold paintings is 15% to MAG. Artist will be notified of a sale, and arrangements will need to be made for the buyer to pick up the painting. Paintings must stay in the show until at least May 12<sup>th</sup>, when they will be judged for awards. Buyers may pick up paintings towards the end of the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting or at any time during the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Any other buyer pick-up times will need to be coordinated with the artist. Instructions for potential art buyers will be posted at the show.

**AWARDS:**

First Place \$100

Second Place \$75

Third Place \$50

Merit Awards (3) at \$25

**DEADLINES AND EVENTS :**

- **DEADLINE** for Registration – 2 Ways to enter – Check & Registration Form by Mail (postmarked by Fri. April 3--see form for address) *or* Registration Form by Email ([dkurtak@gmail.com](mailto:dkurtak@gmail.com)) by Fri. April 10 & bring check to meeting with paintings on April 14
- Optional--Email Digital Pictures of your works before framing under glass or plexi to Darcie Kurtak @ dkurtak@gmail.com for inclusion on the website (pls include titles & prices in email)
- **DELIVERY** of Paintings to Wheat Ridge Center for Music and Art, Tuesday, April 14, 2026 1:00-2:00 pm (before meeting so we can get all paintings hung before the meeting)
- **JUDGING:** May 12 @ 1:00 pm by our Juror Linden Kirby (for awards only--all works accepted into the show). Linden will give his comments and insights of the winners at the May meeting.
- Winners not in attendance at the May meeting will be notified by phone or Email
- **PICK-UP** of unsold works at the SHOW CLOSING - Tuesday June 9, 2:00-4:00 pm (during June meeting)
- **WORKS MUST BE PICKED UP ON TIME -- THERE IS NO SPACE FOR STORAGE! AWARDS CEREMONY** (in Conjunction with monthly meeting) Tuesday, May 12, 2:00-4:00 pm at Wheat Ridge Ctr for Music and Art
- **FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE WELCOME AT THE RECEPTION & AWARDS CEREMONY AT THE MAY MEETING!!** PLEASE Invite Friends and Family!

**QUESTIONS:** Rebecca Near (303) 619-3204 – [beckyn6017@gmail.com](mailto:beckyn6017@gmail.com) OR  
Darcie Kurtak (303) 859-7501- [dkurtak@gmail.com](mailto:dkurtak@gmail.com)

**REGISTRATION:** If by mail -- must be Postmarked by Friday, April 3 (see address on Registration Form below); or you may email registration to Darcie Kurtak – [dkurtak@gmail.com](mailto:dkurtak@gmail.com) by Friday, April 10 and bring your check to the meeting on April 14 along with your paintings.  
Make checks payable to MAG (\$10.00 each piece, or \$27.00 for Three Paintings).

Optional--Please also Email Photos of your Paintings (if possible) before framing under glass or plexi for inclusion on the MAG website and the newsletter, include the Titles, Medium & Price in the email with the photos -- to Darcie Kurtak - [dkurtak@gmail.com](mailto:dkurtak@gmail.com).

Standard/Blank MAG Cards will be used for the show. They will be available at painting delivery if you don't have any blank cards.

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**2026 ANNUAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP SHOW REGISTRATION**  
**APRIL 14 –JUNE 9, 2026 (Awards & Reception May 12, 2026)**  
***Wheat Ridge Center for Music & Art (WRCMA)***  
***7530 West 38th Ave***  
***Wheat Ridge, CO 80033***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

1. Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Price \_\_\_\_\_ Tax (8.0%) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Price \_\_\_\_\_ Tax (8.0%) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Price \_\_\_\_\_ Tax (8.0%) \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION: If by mail – Darcie Kurtak, P.O. Box 252, Idledale, CO 80453. Must be Postmarked by Friday, April 3; or you may email registration to Darcie Kurtak – [dkurtak@gmail.com](mailto:dkurtak@gmail.com) by Friday, April 10, and bring your check to the meeting on April 14 along with your paintings (from 1:00-2:00, so we have time to hang our paintings). Instructions for painting sales will be posted at the show. Make checks payable to MAG (\$10.00 each piece, or \$27.00 for Three Paintings).



### **Our Juror – Linden Kirby**

Linden is a Signature Member of the [Colorado Watercolor Society](#), a member of [American Watercolor Society](#), [National Watercolor Society](#), and a charter member of North American Watercolor Society, the Arvada Center's Artists Circle as well as local art clubs. Linden's paintings are exhibited in the Denver area, across Colorado,

Linden Kirby started painting for family and friends at a young age, but not until a few years ago was he able to take up a brush on a regular basis. And strictly speaking, it's not always a brush that he paints with. He enjoys painting and mark-making with credit cards and putty knives, string, plastic wrap, manipulative tools and other inventive ways of expression on paper and canvas.

Watercolor is Linden's primary medium, but he also enjoys the challenge of new media and techniques that improve the quality and enjoyment of art. He finds inspiration most often in the beauty of God's creation, so landscapes, trees, and nature are favorite subjects. And since he and his family travel across the US and Europe, these scenes also find their way into his work. Linden believes that art touches the heart when it tells a story, evokes an emotion, or brings back a memory. So, he chooses his subjects carefully and paints with the idea of telling a story through the image and the medium.

Linden also enjoys teaching workshops, giving demonstrations for local art clubs, and encouraging other artists. You may contact him through his website, [ArtByLinden.com](http://ArtByLinden.com). Commissions are accepted.

**MOUNTAINSIDE ART GUILD**



**INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPORTING SALES (SALES FORM BELOW)**

ACCOUNTS WILL BE PAID ON THE 1ST AND 15TH OF EACH MONTH; SALES REPORTS MAY BE TURNED IN BY MAIL OR AT THE MEETINGS; CHECKS WILL BE MAILED TO THE ARTIST.

1. Use this form when reporting sales to MAG. Money sent without this form will be held until the artist submits the completed and proper paperwork.
2. Send FULL amount of sale (sale price + sales tax). You will be issued a check for sale, minus sales tax and appropriate commission or fee.
3. If sales tax isn't collected from the buyer, you must pay it yourself by including it with your submittal to MAG.
4. Checks from buyer should be made out to: "**Mountainside Art Guild**". If the check has been made out to the artist, please **do not** send it to MAG. The bank is not willing to accept a 2- party check, so please send a new personal check or money order payable to "**Mountainside Art Guild**" for the full amount, including sales tax, to the Treasurer.
5. If you receive cash for a sale, send a personal check for the TOTAL amount, including sales tax, to the Treasurer.
6. Commission for most sales will be deducted by the Treasurer from your payment. EXCEPTIONS: If the show place requires its own commission (i.e. Collier), please pay them the commission and state that you have done so on your sales report form. The breakdown of commissions to be paid are listed below. Not all possible commissions are listed. Refer to show prospectuses for commissions, as well.

Sales for locations that are not Guild-sponsored shows can also go through MAG books, if you wish, **as long as it is in a location where we have a sales tax license**. There is a \$2.00 Fee for this service. Currently MAG is licensed in Lakewood (7.5%) and Wheat Ridge (8%).

**MOUNTAINSIDE ART GUILD**

**SALES REPORT FORM (Send with check)**

Send to: Susan Hommel  
807 Nevermore Lane  
Evergreen, CO 80439

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ARTIST'S NAME & ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE & EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SHOWPLACE & LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

PAINTING TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_ PRICE: \_\_\_\_\_

SALES TAX (\_\_\_\_\_%): \_\_\_\_\_ + MAG COMMISSION \_\_\_\_\_ = Total: \_\_\_\_\_

\$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -  
For Treasurer's Use Only

Date paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Sales Tax:

Wheat Ridge – 8%

- Colliers Hospice
- Wheat Ridge Center for the Arts (WRCMA)

Lakewood – 7.5%

- Lakewood Post-Acute Rehabilitation (LPAR – formerly ProMedica)
- Lakewood Arts Center (LAC)

Commissions:

- Sales at Collier – 10% directly to Collier, 5% to Mountainside Art Guild
- Sales at WRCMA – 15% to Mountainside Art Guild
- Sales at LPAR – 15% to Mountainside Art Guild