



PROSPECTUS

“PURELY PASTEL”

2026 Pastel Society of Colorado Members Show

July 11 – July 30, 2026

SHOW LOCATION

Colorado Gallery of the Arts
Arapahoe Community College
5900 South Santa Fe Drive
Littleton, Colorado 80120

Gallery Hours:

Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM; Saturday, 12:00 – 3:00 PM
Closed Sunday, Monday and Friday

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Opens: April 1
Entry Deadline: June 12
Hand delivery of artwork: July 7 and July 8, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Exhibition Opening, Reception, and Awards: July 11, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Exhibit closes: July 30
Pick up artwork: August 1, 10:00 – 3:00 PM

AWARDS JUDGE: Sarah Blumenschein



Sarah Blumenschein makes her home in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Even though creating art was her first passion and first choice of a degree, she ended up earning a bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering. As a result, she spent 14 years working as an engineer before retiring to raise children and start working on her art again, using pastels as a medium.

Initially, Sarah wanted to paint landscapes but found herself more excited about still-life painting due to the variety of colors, shapes, textures, and reflective surfaces possible. She enjoys painting both and often experiments with mixing a still-life with a landscape.

The pastel medium is appealing to Sarah because of the immediacy of the color and the ability to build layers of colors. Her selection of subjects is often based on a desire to find and replicate the way light bounces around a scene or setup. For that reason, glass, china, and other reflective surfaces are often featured in her still life paintings. Flowers are a favorite subject, whether as part of a still life or as found in nature. She enjoys the challenge of capturing a strong sense of light and creating the illusion of three dimensions on a two-dimensional surface. With each painting, Sarah hopes to inspire an emotional reaction of joy or happiness in the viewer.



Pictured: "Apples and Oranges" by Sarah Blumenschein

Sarah entered her first art exhibition in 2003 and was honored to be awarded second place. Since that time she has won many local, national and international art competitions, including first place in the Still Life Category of “Artists Magazine” 2009 Annual Art competition, Grand Prize in “Pastel Journal” 2010 Pastel 100 annual competition, “Best of Show” in the 2014 New Mexico Masterworks competition and the 2015 Pastel Society of New Mexico National Exhibition, “The Pat and Bob Suggs Award for Still Life and Floral” in the 2021 Pastel Society of America “Enduring Brilliance”

Exhibition, and first place in the Open Division of the 2021 International Association of Pastel Societies Web Show. Sarah has also earned Signature status in the Pastel Society of America, Distinguished Pastelist status in the Pastel Society of New Mexico and Pastel Society of the West Coast,

and Master Circle Status in the International Association of Pastel Societies. Her artwork has been featured in “Artists Magazine” and “Pastel Journal.”

ELIGIBILITY

- Open to all soft pastel artists who are current members of the Pastel Society of Colorado and who are 18 years of age or older.
- Work must be original, designed and composed by you using your own reference, and not copied from other artists or published materials. Any reference created by someone else (even with use

permission) as well as AI-generated images are NOT eligible, including any instructor-provided photo, still life setup or model setup.

- Work done under supervision in a class or workshop is not eligible.
- Duplicate paintings are not accepted and will be rejected.
- If used in your painting, collage materials must be created by the artist.
- The artwork's final painted area (whether a vignette or covering the entire surface of the paper) must be at least 80% traditional dry pastel.
- Paintings must have been completed within the last two years and not previously shown in any Pastel Society of Colorado exhibitions. Any painting identified as shown previously in a PSC exhibition will be rejected OR, if discovered after acceptance and hanging of the show, will remain in the exhibition and the artist will be prohibited from entering future PSC-sponsored shows for one year from the date of exhibit opening. The painting will also not be eligible for any awards.
- If artwork entered into the show is not delivered, then the artist will be prohibited from entering future PSC-sponsored shows for one year from the date of exhibit opening.
- When you enter a painting, from that point forward it is not available for you to enter in other shows, nor available for you to sell.
- Shipping can be expensive. If you need to ship a painting in both directions and cannot afford to, then do not enter the show. When accepted paintings are not delivered, it creates a problem for the show.
- *PLEASE carefully read and understand all show rules!*

ENTRY FEES

Members may enter a maximum of 2 paintings. Fee is nonrefundable and must be paid at time of entry.

- \$35 plus 3% PayPal or credit card fee
- Entry deadline is midnight on Friday, June 12, 2026
- All entries will be made through the Pastel Society of Colorado website:
<https://www.pastelsocietyofcolorado.org>

If you are not a member and would like to join in order to enter the show, please follow this link:

<https://www.pastelsocietyofcolorado.org/become-a-member>

HOW TO ENTER THE SHOW

1. Go to PSC's website (<https://www.pastelsocietyofcolorado.org>) and click on "Shows." Scroll down to the Members Show listing.
2. Click on "Register and Pay" at the bottom of the listing.
3. Fill out the Registration form. This form is considered a contract and must be completed with all the requested information. *No changes to the information will be accepted after submitting this form.*
4. Browse to find your images and attach them to the entry form. There is no need to resize your images. Only digital entries will be accepted. Please crop your images to include just the painting itself and not the frame.
5. Submit the form.
6. Enter your payment information. Only PayPal or credit cards will be accepted for payment.

If there are more paintings submitted than the gallery space can accommodate, we may accept only one artwork from some artists, at the discretion of PSC. All accepted entries must be identical to submitted images. No substitutions will be allowed. All paintings must be for sale. This is not a juried show.

NOTE: When filling out your submission information online, verify all information is correct including spelling, title, and pricing of your paintings. Prices may not be changed after entry. No exceptions.

AWARDS

All awards are made at the discretion of our judge. All awards will be final with no exchanges or substitutions. There will be two sections of awards, based on the member's status as either an Associate Member or a Signature/Master Signature member. Additionally, there will be one award for the best painting submitted by a new PSC member (new membership within the last two years, June 2024-June 2026, with no lapse in membership and submitting for the first time to a PSC show). There will be one Best of Show award, which will consider all show entries judged together.

Of the awards mentioned above, only one can be awarded per artist.

REPRODUCTION OF IMAGES

Artists agree to allow the Pastel Society of Colorado and its representatives to use accepted images or likenesses for show publicity and future PSC event promotion without compensation.

NOTIFICATION

The Members' Show is open to all entries; all art is accepted. IT IS NOT A JURIED SHOW. We will send you an email confirming that your entry has been received. That email serves as notification that your work is accepted and is entered into the show, and *we will expect your artwork to be delivered.*

FRAMING AND PRESENTATION

Artwork not meeting these criteria will not be hung in the show and will be returned at the artist's expense:

- All works must be delivered framed, glazed, and ready to hang to gallery quality standards, i.e., frames must be suitable for the work and undamaged, with D-ring hangers and wire installed on the frame. Wires should not be visible when the painting is hung.
- Paintings can be with or without mats. White or neutral-hued mats are preferred, if using.
- Artwork can be floated on black or neutral-hued mats.
- If used, liners or fillets should be no larger than 1 inch and may be colored.
- Attach a tag on the back of each painting with the following information:
 - Artist name, street address, phone number, email address
 - Artist membership category (Associate or Signature/Master Signature)
 - Artwork title and price
 - ***This information cannot be changed.***

SIZE AND REQUIREMENTS

- Artwork submitted cannot be smaller than 6 inches or larger than 40 inches in any dimension (not including mat and frame).
- Accepted paintings must be identical to the digital entries. No substitutions or copies are allowed.
- All work displayed must remain hanging for the duration of the exhibition as listed above.

SALES

- All work submitted must be for sale. Entries marked “Not For Sale” will not be accepted.
- Sales and payments will be handled through Sandy Marvin, show co-chair.
- There will be a 40% commission (35% to the Gallery and 5% to PSC), with 60% to the artist; sales tax will be added to the sale price.

LIABILITY

- The utmost care will be taken in the handling of paintings; the paintings will be insured while on display. However, neither the Pastel Society of Colorado nor the show venue or their agents will be responsible for loss or damage to any entries or paintings in transit when submitted for this exhibition.
- Any shipping insurance on the artwork will be the responsibility of the artist.

DELIVERY OF WORK

- Please pack work carefully and insure adequately. We recommend the use of Airfloat or Masterpak boxes. Please do not use packing peanuts or material; it is difficult to repack.
- Artists will be contacted if work arrives damaged, so arrangements can be made to repair or reframe as needed by a local framing company if time permits. Artists will be responsible for cost of repair/reframing and will be billed directly by the framer.
- For any questions on shipping and handling, please contact one of the Co-Chairs.
- Before shipping your painting, take photos of all the steps you took to pack it, including the final label. If anything should happen to the painting, you will have a good backup documentation for your insurance claim with the courier.
- **NOTE: Artwork CANNOT be shipped directly to the show venue.**

**NOTE: LATE DELIVERIES WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE SHOW.
IF YOUR PAINTING IS NOT RECEIVED, FOR ANY REASON, YOU WILL
BE BARRED FROM ENTERING PSC SHOWS FOR ONE YEAR.**

For Hand Delivery:

Paintings can be **hand-delivered** on Tuesday, July 7, or Wednesday, July 8, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM to:
Colorado Gallery of the Arts
Arapahoe Community College
5900 South Santa Fe Drive
Littleton, CO 80120

For PSC Members on the Western Slope:

- PSC will request volunteers to bring artwork from Grand Junction to Littleton and return it at the end of the show. Volunteers will coordinate the date and place for central pickup and return delivery. Artists will pay \$20 each way for transport.

For Shipping:

- Paintings can be **shipped via FedEx or UPS to the following agent and must be received by July 3, 2026**. Late deliveries will not be included in the show. **Do not ship directly to the show venue.**

Shelly Brown
1057 West Powers Avenue
Littleton, CO 80120
303-880-7177

- **Include a bar-coded, prepaid return shipping label.**

PICK UP ARTWORK

Saturday, August 1, 12:00 – 3:00 PM, at the show location.

Shipped work will be returned promptly, if all required paperwork is included.

QUESTIONS

Please contact the show Co-Chairs:

Christine LaFortune, lafortunecookie@yahoo.com, 720-373-7760
Sandy Marvin, sjmarvinart@yahoo.com, 720-938-6914