

Maryann McGraw, PAPNM Signature Member
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Maryann McGraw has developed a unique relationship with nature and art. She has spent her entire adult life living in the West and in Placitas, NM since 1993. In 2001, Maryann began to paint en plein air in pastel, concentrating on New Mexico's scenic vistas and how time and seasonal changes affect those places. She also paints intimate vignettes of streams, washes, rock formations, and grasslands. Maryann has a treasured connection to the sea and paints the Pacific Coast of California and in Hawaii annually. She also has a passion for wilderness and paints on wilderness canoe trips to the Boundary Waters Wilderness in Northern Minnesota. Her painting passion also includes cloudscapes, nocturnes and twilight. Her goal is to convey color to the viewer beyond what is captured by a mere glance, but rather looking deeply and thoughtfully into the view.

Her pastel paintings have been on the cover of the Quivira Coalition's Conference Proceedings for four years and her plein air painting of the Gila Wilderness was the 2009 Conference cover in honor of the 100th anniversary of Aldo Leopold's birth. Her pastel landscape paintings of the Jemez Mountains were displayed at the Jemez Pueblo Visitor's Center Museum. She was featured in a 4-person show in May 2009 at the Abiquiu Inn in Abiquiu, New Mexico. Her paintings were exhibited at the Plein Air Gallery in Old Town, Albuquerque. She had one of her paintings "Sublime," displayed at the Colorado State Capital Building in Denver, Colorado the summer of 2018.

In 2005 she won an award for her painting "Just for Love" from the Santa Fe Botanical Gardens. In 2011 she won second place Quick Draw and an exhibition award at the PAPNM Socorro Paint Out. In 2012 she won second place Quick Draw at the Rio Ruidoso and the Las Vegas Paint Outs, and in 2013 she won Honorable Mention at the PAPNM Annual Juried Exhibition at the Millicent Rogers Museum in Taos, NM. In 2014, Maryann won the Award of Excellence at the PAPNM Santa Fe Paint Out for her painting "Virga and Vellum." In 2016 she won the Enchanted Skies Second Place Award at the PAPNM Santa Fe Paint Out. She was selected as People's Choice at the Plein Air Artists Colorado National Show in Grande Lake, Colorado in 2019. Maryann received the Award of Excellence for dry media at the 2019 PAPNM 11th Juried Members Show and in 2020 she won the Enchanted Sky Award for her painting "Mid-Morning, Waiting for Rain," at the Plein Air Painters of New Mexico Santa Fe Plein Air Fiesta.

She was the 2007 Treasurer and the Program Chair of the Pastel Society of New Mexico for five years, and she is presently a signature member of Chicago Pastel Painters, Pastel Society of New Mexico, and Plein Air Painters of New Mexico, and member of Plein Air Artists Colorado, Pastel Society of Colorado, and AIS.



"Old Monastery Tree"
Plein Air Pastel
Pecos, NM



"Water's Edge"
Extreme Plein Air Pastel
Boundary Waters Wilderness
Northern Minnesota



"Cloudstory #5"
Plein Air Pastel
Santo Domingo Pueblo