



BALTIMORE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1885

A Mid-Atlantic Organization of Watermedia Artists

Sharon P. Morell, President
Lois Wolford, Vice President
Deborah Cohan, Recording Secretary
Gaye Holcomb, Treasurer

www.baltimorewatercolorsociety.org

Enclosed is the information you will need to present your paintings for the Baltimore Watercolor Society's semi-annual screening for Signature Artist membership.

There are two ways to present your work for jurying (check deadlines on BWS Website):

1. **Register online** and bring your paintings to Howard County Center for the Arts on the jurying date.
2. **Register online** and upload four digital images of your paintings on the registration form.

Instructions for presenting your work in person.

Please bring the following:

1. Four (4) watermedia paintings on paper:

- *completed within the past two years*
- *suitably matted (white or cream colored mat) and framed under glass/plexiglass.*
- *place opaque tape over the artist's signature – number the paintings 1,2,3,4 on the tape (make note of how they were numbered – information is sent after the jurying that may include details corresponding to a particular painting).*

Drop-off time: **Between 12:30 and 1:00 PM on jurying date** (check deadlines on BWS Website)

Location: **Howard County Center for the Arts**

8510 High Ridge Road

Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Pick-up time: **No earlier than 3:00 PM but no later than 3:30 PM**

Instructions for submitting your work digitally:

1. Upload four images of your work at the bottom of the online registration form.

2. Digital entries must be received by the date listed on the BWS website

- *completed within the past two years*
- *of professional quality: high resolution (300 dpi), jpeg, 1950 pixels (6.5") on the longest side*
- *RGB*
- *show only the painted image*
- *file name labeled with correct file extension (.jpg) with the word jury + 1, 2, 3, or 4, artist last name, artistfirstname, and painting title,*
- *example:*

Jury1-Doe-Jane-Frogpond

Jury2-Doe-Jane-portrait

Jury3-Doe-Jane-landscape

Jury4-Doe-Jane-Abstract

Thank you for your interest in the Baltimore Watercolor Society and we look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please write to the above address or email BWS.Signaturejurying@gmail.com or call Stacy at 410-446-2714.

BALTIMORE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
SEMI-ANNUAL SIGNATURE ARTIST MEMBERSHIP JURYING GUIDELINES

All work submitted must be original watermedia on paper.

All work submitted must be original in concept and execution, and not copied or derived from a student class or workshop, nor copies or likenesses of other artists' work, and be free from any copyright infringement.

Compositions based on photographs must use photos taken by the artist or be the sole property of the artist.

Screening is done twice a year -- in March and in October at a time and place designated.

Prospective members will be notified of their status by mail within two weeks of the screening.

No formal critique of submitted art works (paintings or digital images) is given.

All artist members are encouraged to participate in at least one exhibition during each year.

Applicants may submit art works for review more than once.

PAINTINGS WILL BE EVALUATED USING THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:
(FOR DETAILS SEE THE "SIGNATURE MEMBER JURYING CRITERIA" SHEET INCLUDED)

ARTISTIC MERIT

Demonstrates working knowledge of basic elements of design, *e.g.*: line, color, value, texture, shape, etc.; pleasing in design, sensitivity and composition

ORIGINALITY

Original in concept and execution (not copied or derived from a student class or workshop) Only the artist's original photos should be used as source material.

TECHNIQUE

Overall handling and control of the medium

CONSISTENCY IN QUALITY AND STYLE

All four paintings are of good quality

OVERALL PRESENTATION

Well-selected and well-cut Mats, with framing or cellophane OR digital images, are of professional quality

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR ARTISTS SEEKING SIGNATURE ARTIST MEMBERSHIP IN THE BALTIMORE WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

To help you decide whether your skills and experiences have prepared you for Signature Artist membership in the Baltimore Watercolor Society, you may wish to consider the self-assessment list below of characteristics successful Signature Artists bring to the Society. Please keep in mind that the mission of BWS is to encourage, educate, and promote *professional excellence* in the creation and development of original works of art executed in water-based media. The galleries in which we exhibit expect no less. While we welcome all artists who are eager to share the joy of watermedia painting and the camaraderie of fellow painters, Signature Artist members are expected to demonstrate a level of proficiency that is commensurate with their education and experience.

The list below is NOT a BWS list of requirements, but merely food for thought as you prepare your entry for possible BWS Signature Artist membership.

EDUCATION

Does your art education include:

- Enrollment in watercolor classes three or more years?
- Enrollment in classes or workshops with various instructors?
- Knowledge about watermedia materials and methods?
- A degree in studio art or art education?

Do you:

- Read/study/purchase books/periodicals on painting?
- Participate in BWS events (trips, workshops, paint-outs, social events, etc.)
- Have the recommendation of a BWS Board member or BWS instructor-member?

PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS HAVE:

- Ten or more works of art that have been framed and displayed
- Exhibitions or published work (not student exhibitions)
- Been accepted into juried shows
- Successfully sold art works
- Taught or are presently teaching watermedia classes
- Business cards available and/or an artist website
- Signature Artist membership in other watermedia societies

(This self-assessment is for your use only and is not to be included with your entry application.)

BWS SIGNATURE MEMBER JURYPING CRITERIA

The Board of the Baltimore Watercolor Society would like to thank you for your interest in becoming an Artist Member of the Society. Although the Society is unable to offer Artist membership to you at this time, the Board is providing the following list of elements that are considered as each artist's work is reviewed. The elements(s) checked are those upon which the Board feels you might focus. The notes are suggestions which will help you to understand why our decision was made concerning your work and may give you direction as you apply for Artist membership in the future.

Concept:

Some paintings should be considered "high concept" and communicate bold ideas, reflections of the human condition or a particular world view, while others attempt to evoke a mood, capture a subtle feeling, or tell a story. Is each painting successful in communicating the conceptual intent of the artist?

Originality:

Is the subject, the treatment, the composition, or the overall approach of the paintings fresh and original? Any photographic source material must be the artist's original photos, due to copyright issues.

Composition:

Do the paintings make effective use of the **elements of design** and employ the **principles of design** to create effective compositions which work to achieve the conceptual objectives of the artist? Not all elements and principles are equally important in any particular painting. These elements and principles are discussed in many basic Composition books.

Elements of Design include:

Line
Shape
Texture
Color
Value
Form
Space

Principles of Design include:

Balance
Unity
Emphasis
Variety
Pattern
Proportion
Rhythm
Movement
Gradation

Technique:

Do the paintings demonstrate adequate mastery of technical components to accomplish the goals of the artist? (Not all technical aspects are equally important in any particular painting.) Some important **technical aspects** include:

Paint application and brushwork
Drawing
Linear and arial perspective
Color mixing
Treatment of edges

Consistency:

Do all the paintings submitted for consideration demonstrate a consistent style and quality?

Presentation:

Is the presentation of the painting or image of professional quality? Is the mat unblemished and crisply cut (using white or cream mat board)? If framed, is it of professional quality? Is the cellophane envelope pristine? The painting or image should be as "exhibition ready" as if they were being hung directly in a show or sent to an exhibit juror.

Suggested criteria for consideration while critiquing "Abstract Paintings or Images":

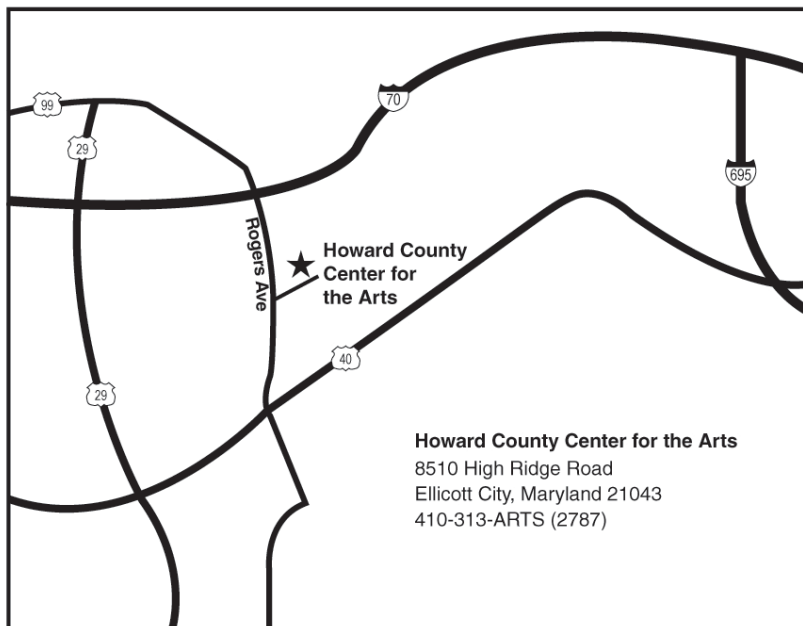
Gray to rest the eye	Balance	Weighting	Areas of visual excitement and area of paucity
Form and eye control	Gradation	Vibration	Mastery of color

Criteria by Rob Talbert.

Abstract Painting Criteria from Robert Genn's weekly newsletter

Notes from the Jurying Critique:

Directions to Howard County Center for the Arts



From Columbia And Points South:

Take Rt. 29 North to Rt. 40 East. Take your first left onto Rogers Avenue (Rt. 99) after exiting. Take your second right onto High Ridge Road. The Center is on the left.

From Baltimore And Points North:

Take 695 to Rt. 70 West towards Frederick. Exit onto Rt. 29 North to Rt. 99. Right on Rt. 99. Travel 1.5 miles and turn left onto High Ridge Road. The Center is on the left.