

South Carolina Watermedia Society



Congratulations to Kathy Caudill, who won Best of Show with her painting above, "Sandstone Falls"!
Caudill won \$1000 from TD Bank Charleston.

Congratulations to all of this year's winners and all of those in this year's exhibit.

35th Annual Exhibition

On View Through September 1, 2012

City Art Gallery, 1224 Lincoln Street, Columbia, SC 29201

803.252.3613 • www.cityartonline.com

To see all of the paintings in this year's exhibit, visit www.scwatermedia.com

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Sumter County Gallery of Art in Sumter, SC, Offers Local Guild Show

The Sumter County Gallery of Art in Sumter, SC, is presenting the *2012 Sumter Artists' Guild Show*, on view through Aug. 31, 2012.

Sumter is home to many talented artists, and has a large, active artists' guild. The Sumter Artists Guild was founded in 1966 by some of Sumter's premiere artists of that time and is comprised of amateur and professional artists and art enthusiasts. Its mission is "to promote, support and foster interest in art and to create an opportunity for our community of artists to engage in cooperative artistic enterprises and to be further active in supporting a variety of activities associated with art education, art instruction and art appreciation in our community."

In August of 1966, the guild held its first exhibition in the basement of the Sumter County Courthouse. The guild was instrumental in founding the Sumter County Gallery of Art, after members having sponsored exhibitions at several locations around town, longed for a permanent space. When artist Elizabeth White died, her house on North Main Street was transformed into the Sumter Gallery of Art in 1979.

There are many Guild activities to take part in. Fun events and interesting meetings that include a variety of speakers, demonstrations by artists and "show and tell" where guild members bring their pieces in for comments and critique. There are many ways to keep up with Guild happenings including an electronic newsletter, an updated website at (www.sumterartists-guild.org), and a Sumter Artists' Guild Face Book page. Guild meetings are the second Wednesday of each month, September through May at 7pm, upstairs at the Sumter County Gallery of Art.

The Guild is a close knit, but welcoming group that gets together and socialize at guild events such as picnics and holiday parties where the conversation inevitably turns to art. The Sumter Artists' Guild also

participates in several community events including The Iris Festival, The Heart of Sumter's "Art in the Park" every October in Memorial Park and "Sip and Stroll", the kickoff event of WineFest, in downtown Sumter. This past Spring many guild members displayed their art at Sterling House for the residents to enjoy.



Work by Patz Fowle, 1st Place Ceramic Sculpture

The annual Sumter Artists' Guild show provides an opportunity in a professional setting for guild members to display their impressive talent in a variety of media: oils, watermedia, sculpture, mixed media, natural material such as gourds, fiber arts and ceramics.

Karen Watson, Director of the Sumter County Gallery of Art states that the Sumter Artists' Guild Show is one of the most popular and well-attended exhibitions the gallery presents. The *2012 Sumter Artists' Guild Show*, like last year's, is on track to be a wonderful show as many "new" artists are joining the guild. This influx of work by new artists, coupled with the high quality work of long time guild artists results in a fresh and diverse *Sumter Artists' Guild Show* – a treat for art lovers in Sumter and surrounding areas. Each artist could enter up to three pieces. The Guild show is a "judged" show, not a juried show (where only a portion of those works entered are accepted for display), so every piece of artwork entered will be displayed. Prize money has also been increased in recent

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years in the hopes of attracting former, as well as new members to join the Guild and enter their art. These prizes are a very effective way of increasing the number and quality of the entries and reward these artists who work so hard. The Sumter Artists' Guild show also offers patrons a great opportunity to purchase high-quality art at reasonable prices.

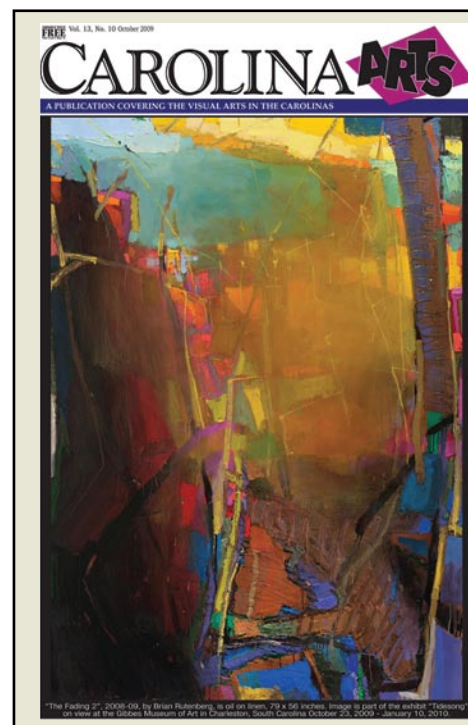
Sadly, this will be the first Guild show without the enthusiastic presence of Roland McCullum, a founding member of the Sumter Artists' Guild who was still actively making art when he passed away in December.

The judge for the 2012 show is Wendyth Thomas Wells. A native of Ann Arbor, MI, Wells received a degree in Political Science from North Park College in Chicago. She has worked in the arts for the past thirty-seven years. She is a painter and has been included in many statewide, local and national juried exhibitions. Wells has been a member of excellence with the South Carolina Watermedia Society since 1981. She has received awards in the SC Artists Guild, Columbia Artists Guild, SC State Fair,

Beaufort Co. Artist Guild, Springs Annual Exhibit, Florence Museum Annual, Oklahoma Watercolor Society, and has been in many other exhibits including the Anderson Annual, SC Arts Commission Annual, Francis Marion University, Columbia Museum of Art, and Columbia College Gallery.

Wells is an owner and gallery director of City Art, in Columbia, SC. She chooses artists to be represented in the Gallery and organizes exhibitions in the Main Gallery. She is a past member of the Cultural Council of Richland and Lexington Counties and a founding member of Sculpture in Public Places sponsored by the Cultural Council. She is on the advisory board of USC's Art Department and is on the Board of Trustus Theatre. Wells seeks out art wherever she travels. She has studied with several instructors including Richard Buckheim, Tom MacPherson, Steve Nevitt, Erica Hoyt, Christopher Schink, Carol Barnes and Alex Powers.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Gallery at 803/775-0543 or visit (<http://www.sumtergallery.org>).



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