



BRUSHSTROKES

Green Country Watercolor Society

Next Meeting: **September 11, 2025**

10:00 AM

at Arts@302

302 South Main St., Broken Arrow.

Green Country Watercolor Society

PO Box 33435

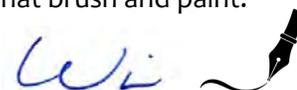
Tulsa, OK 74153

Win Noren—[Contact](#)

From the President

If your summer has been anything like mine, it has been busy and the various GCWS events have been a part of that including our annual member show and our national artist workshop featuring Richard Stephens. I hope you were able to join us at the evening program and were able to benefit from the visit by this nationally recognized artist.

This fall we have three big events still to come: Sherry Peters and Jim Buchan member-led workshops and Arts in the Square. We will also be electing a new secretary at the November meeting so please consider if serving in this role is something you would be willing to do. In the meantime, don't forget to go pick up that brush and paint!



FREE EVENING SEMINAR WITH RICHARD STEPHENS

A HUMONGOUS SUCCESS!!

ATMOSPHERE IN WATERCOLOR

Richard gave a demo to 52 people Thursday evening of how to create atmosphere in a painting. He showed various examples of his own work and discussed the importance of atmosphere in a composition, as well as how we may achieve it.

Fox 23 was there to interview Richard and to give everyone a sneak peek into Green Country Watercolor Society. It was a great opportunity to gain recognition and another new member.

We all went away with a highlighted love of watercolor, the most difficult of mediums according to Richard.



“Lighten Up, Loosen Up”

August 20-21-22, 2025
Workshop with Richard Stephens

Mary Lee met Richard Stephens at the Eureka Springs School for the Arts (<https://essa-art.org/>) over 10 years ago and this is probably the 6th “Lighten Up – Loosen Up” workshop that she has attended. Why? He’s an excellent watercolor teacher and artist. Teachers can paint, but Richard can clearly communicate elements of design (Shape, Size, Line, Direction, Texture, Color and Value) along with Principles of Design (Balance, Harmony, Gradation, Alteration, Variation, Contrast and Unity) with humor, examples, consultation and make it fun! Then, he has several repetitive “one liners” that stick in the brain, such as, “Color gets the attention but Value is the Star of the Show.” Color appeals to the emotions and without emotion, often one is not attracted to a painting. However, value can be seen across the room and one can be immediately attracted to it. She always enjoys the last day with the timed painting exercises. Truly, it helps the student “loosen up” and have fun. Here are a few of the other valuable things he wanted us to remember:

- Do value sketches!
- Think shapes – not things
- Paint large shapes to small shapes.
- Use the largest brush as long as you can.
- Get a Holbein spray bottle- it sprays – it does not drop or spit!
- Hold the paint brush on an angle - not like a pencil.
- Don’t render...interpret... create the mood and atmosphere.



Trust the water, pigment, paper and brush and get out of the way!
Stackie (stacking) is tacky!
Have fun! Pulling the tape away from the painting is the most fun!
Paint, Paint, and Paint!

Tim Emmert also attended and had this to say, “Richard Stephen's watercolor workshop was fantastic! I was impressed by Richard’s expertise and patient teaching.

“He arrived prepared, gave a clear overview, and guided us step-by-step through techniques each morning.

“His personalized feedback was invaluable. Especially regarding painting composition and the use of Value Studies.

“I left with new skills and several paintings I’m proud of. Highly recommend his workshop!”



August 14th meeting

OUR ZOOM PRESENTATION BY M. GRAHAM WATERCOLOR REPS WAS INFORMATIVE!

Their watercolor is made with Northwest Blackberry Honey. This traditional base creates willing watercolors ready for your brush and yielding even, fluid washes. Honey also allows for stronger, truer colors. With a complete range of pleasing pigments—from delicate tints to dark, concentrated colors—you'll discover more color possibilities with M.Graham watercolors.

We learned that it is important to use a porcelain pan rather than plastic as it allows for better mixing.

Another important note: Gouache should be used straight from the tube. It is not easily refreshed with water as watercolor is.

See below M. Graham's new colors —

Indigo & Quinacridone Magenta



Contains 1 ea of the following .5oz tubes:

- Maroon Perylene
 - Permanent Green Light
 - Anthraquinone Blue
 - Cobalt Teal
 - Hansa Yellow
- Available Now

Discontinued —
**Cobalt Violet and
Quinacridone Rust.**

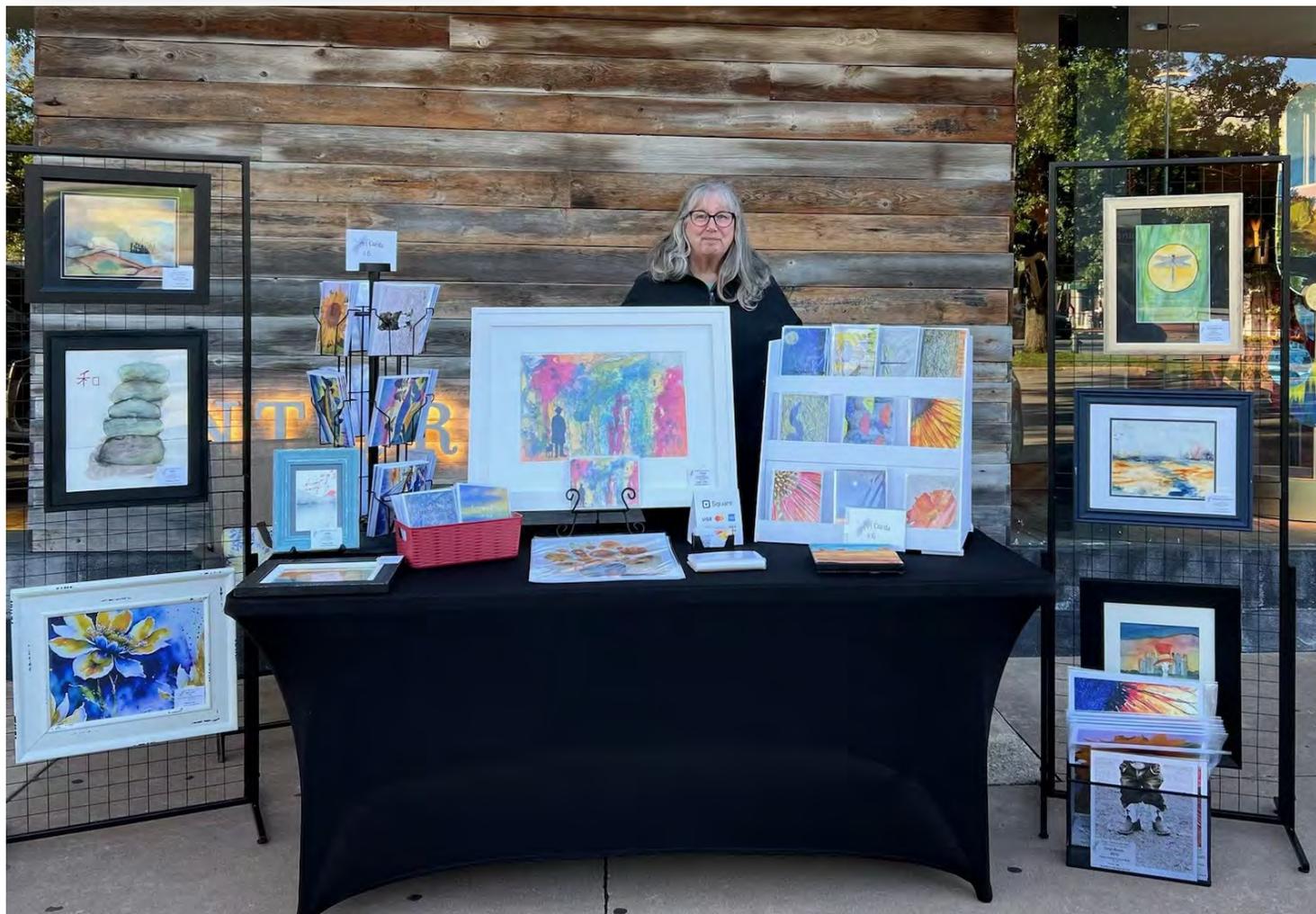
Cancellation Policy for Member-led Workshops: Your spot is reserved with payment of \$20. If you are unable to attend, you may transfer your spot to another GCWS member or opt for a 50% refund if cancellation notice is received by the Workshop Coordinator 48 hours before the start of the workshop. **Becky Brady: bradybecky01@gmail.com**

September 11th Program

Sage Hancock

Marketing & Selling Your Artwork

Sage is a Tulsa area watercolor artist who will share with us approaches to marketing and selling artwork. You can find her at Tulsa art events such as Art in the Square at Utica Square every October and on Instagram.



JO LYNCH'S

JULY 25TH

MEMBER LED WORKSHOP

& WHAT PEOPLE SAID!



Jo focused on a solution to a common problem - lack of depth caused by having very little variation in value range in our paintings.

Plus she introduced a new tool (the bark Inktense pencil) to help push our dark values quickly and easily. Jo said, "After demonstrating the basic handling of the pencil to pop our dark/light contrast, it was very interesting to see everyone jump into using the pencil with individual variations, resulting in an amazing and exciting array of different results."



Carolyn Morningstar said, "We were all very surprised and pleased at what could be done with the bark Inktense pencil. It was very interesting how the darks and shadows just popped, and that made the painting look three dimensional."

Judy Block said, "Jo's workshop was fun and added a new technique for me to try to master. I'm going to need a lot of practice using my bark pencil. Thank you, Jo, for showing us this new way to add darks." (see Judy's pic below and to the right.)



Palett Picks

by Carolyn
Morningstar

Expressive Watercolor Portraits DVD by Janet Rogers

Be inspired by her intuitive approach in creating fresh and expressive portraits. Her special love of painting people and deep passion for watercolor is evident as she shares her unique and exciting application of paint letting the watercolor dance around the paper having its own life. Janet, a national watercolor instructor, encourages you to watch the poetry as the painting develops.



Painting Portraits and Figures in Watercolor by Mary Whyte

Mary guides the beginner and intermediate watercolorists through the entire painting process, from selecting materials to fundamental techniques to working with models. She helps new artists to capture not just the model's likeness, but their unique personality and spirit.

Secrets to Painting Realistic Faces in Watercolor by Carrie Stuart Parks & Rick Parks

Carrie and Rick have 30 years of experience as artists and instructors. This book and DVD helps you avoid common water missteps (and learn to fix the ones you couldn't help) by following advice for those oops moments.

Face Parts by Simon Jennings

The human face and the art of portraiture is a classic subject-beautiful and challenging. This source book shows many ways of seeing the face and offers instruction and advice. Simon's topics include: in the portrait studio, behind the face, a library of expressions, and art directions. This book will help you to shape your own approach and individual style, and allow you to better understand and portray the human face.

Painting Watercolor Portraits that Glow by Jan Kunz

This is a your complete guide to painting colorful portraits in watercolor. Jan will provide you with the confidence you need to capture the personality and uniqueness of your subject. You'll learn: the laws of light, the keys to brilliant color; the 40% rule, a sure-fire guide to accurate values; how to capture character; plus the stop and think approach to sketching and composing your portraits.

Each of these books and DVDs also provide information and step-by-step instructions for selecting materials and supplies, watercolor basics, values, shading, seeing light & color, and mixing skin tones. You'll learn the importance of getting to know your subject and the things you must see before you start to paint.

*You can also put everything you learn to practice by going to the **Whiteside Portrait Studio** at the Whiteside Community Center, 4009 South Pittsburg Ave, Tulsa, OK (it is located on 41st between Yale and Harvard) we paint every Tuesday 10:00-1:00. A \$5.00 fee is collected from each artist to pay the model.*

- ◆ Returns should be placed in the box.
- ◆ Very important to place your name on a sticky and place inside the book or video.



Open positions

- We need one or more volunteers to chair the **SHOW AWARDS**.
- We also need a **SECRETARY** (as Jane is stepping down at the end of the year).



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

10:00AM TO 5:00PM

ART IN THE SQUARE

Join your fellow artists in showcasing and selling your amazing watercolor art at Tulsa's premier one-day art show. GCWS will have prime booth space and we invite you to take advantage of this opportunity to sell you art.

- No cost to participate, set your own prices!
- Watercolor art of all sizes are welcome.
- Pieces may be Framed, Matted, or Unmatted.
- No to merchandise (like mugs or totes) but Yes to prints such as greeting cards.
- All art must be in proper protective sleeves. Unmatted art should also have a piece of card stock to protect the art from being bent.
- All art must have a price tag on the back in the upper right corner along with the member's name.
- Artists who contribute art will be expected to volunteer in the preparation, setup, or manning of the booth.
- GCWS will facilitate the sales and will take checks, cash, and credit cards. A 15% agent's fee will be charged on all sales.
- Art will be collected the week before the event.
- Art must be picked up at the end of the event.

Contact Janet Weldeghebriel or Brenda Liekhus to sign up for your art to be exhibited and volunteer.

Meet GCWS member – Jim Grisham



Jim Grisham is a native Tulsan, and according to the "Outsiders movie" is considered a greaser. He and his wife, Donna, both graduated from Will Rogers HS. Jim graduated from Tulsa Univ. with a degree in Commercial Art.



During his college years he was a sign painter. He started his career with Safeway Stores working in the mailroom and as a paste up artist in their Advertising Department. In 1972 he became Division Advertising Manager for the Oklahoma City Division of Safeway. This ended his career as an artist and began his management life. After 14 years he left corporate life and began a varied career in advertising and marketing.

Among his more interesting jobs he was General Manager of a radio station and owner of a billboard company in Tulsa. In 1989 a career move brought his family back to Tulsa.



In his final position selling trade show exhibits he was able to use his art talent sketching exhibits for clients. During that period he met Jerry Wade through a client and Jerry introduced Jim to a small watercolor group meeting at Jerry's church. His interest in watercolor grew and he became a member of GCWS.



Jim only had one college course in watercolor and didn't pick up a brush again until about 2018. He still considers himself a beginner but loves the challenge that watercolor provides. Jim credits Jim Buchan as mentor and friend at GCWS for continuing his education.

Programs – If you have suggestions or want to boldly volunteer to conduct a program, contact **Becky Brady: bradybecky01@gmail.com**

Newsletter – Please send information and news items for the newsletter to **Jeanette Hooks: j-jhooks@cox.net**

Facebook and Website – Please send items for the GCWS Facebook page and website to **Becky Brady: bradybecky01@gmail.com**

Upcoming Events

- ◆ September 11 —Monthly meeting
- ◆ September 19 —Sherry Peters—Workshop—Wet into Wet
- ◆ September 24 —Painting Studio
- ◆ October 4 —Art in the Square!
- ◆ November 5 —Jim Buchan—Christmas Cards Workshop



Want to get to know your fellow members better? Just want to have a good cup of coffee or a pastry with artsy friends? Gather at 9:00 on Thursday, September 11th (before the September meeting) at **Laurannae**, located at **112 West Commercial Street, Broken Arrow**. You can park behind the Arts@302 building and walk north one block through the alley and be at the front door. Hope to see you there!

Painting Studio September 24 - 9:00 AM to Noon

A come and go open studio where you can bring projects to work on and get input from others.

paint · draw · visit · observe · learn · ask questions · show-and-tell · have fun

St. Pius X Church Activity Center
1727 S 75th East Ave. Tulsa

Carolyn Morningstar sent this picture and reported that Jo Lynch helped everyone finished up their 5X5 for donations to Arts@302. We learned all the little tips and tricks. It was very generous of Jo's time and talent to help us. We were all impressed with how much the 3 dimensions added to a painting!



SEPTEMBER MEMBER LED WORKSHOP

with
Sherry Peters

September 19th

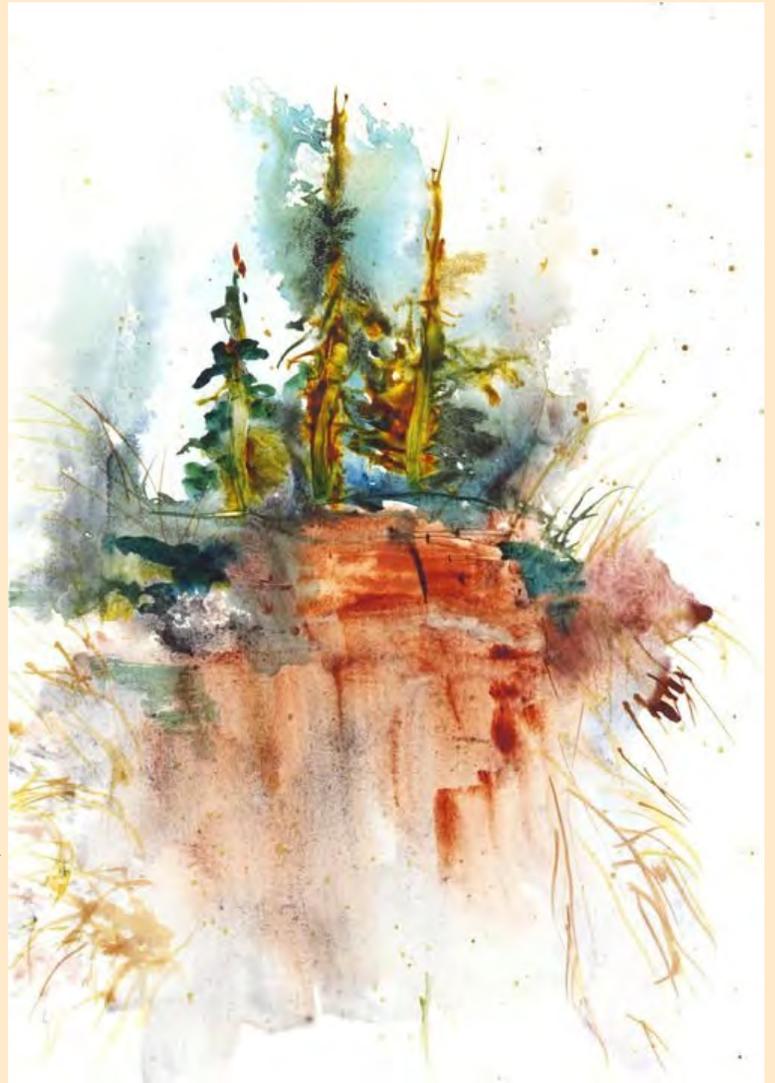
Noon to 4PM

**At the auditorium
at Hardesty Library**

You won't want to miss this Member-Led Workshop by our own, award-winning member Sherry Peters, so be sure you register without delay. Sherry most recently had this piece, *Tangle*, juried into the Texas Watercolor Society's show where it won the *Lynda and Stephen Cushing Award*.

Look for an email later this week!

Workshop is only \$20 (cash/check, or \$21 by credit card)



Bartlesville Gouache Workshop with **James Oliver**

September 3-5 in Bartlesville — offers a comprehensive learning experience, with applications that transcend gouache to encompass a broad range of artistic mediums. Contact Bartlesville Art Association with question or to enroll.

Ziegler's Events — **Robert Freeman** — Open Watercolor Studio
Wednesdays 1:00 to 4:00 PM weekly \$20 fee

Mary Lee Weaver will be teaching a watercolor class every Tuesday from September 16 to October 21, from 12:30 to 2:30pm at First Church Tulsa (709 S Boston). The class will create greeting cards with a stained-glass window as inspiration. The fee for the class is \$20. Contact First Church to register: 918-301-1019.

Submission's to the Green Country Art Beat can be made to
Jeanette Hooks— j-jhooks@cox.net
OR Win Noren— WinNoren@gmail.com

If you are attending my September Workshop, I will be demoing these brushes so you might want to add one of them to your toolkit.

Now For a Totally New Brush Type by Sherry Peters

Those of you who know me know that I am constantly trying new tools and pigments. As I have been working in my new studio and finding homes for this or that art supply, I ran across a couple of brushes that came as part of sets. I decided to see what use I could put them to in my paintings. These brushes are FAN brushes. I have owned one of them for over ten years and the other for five or so. I have to tell you, I wish I had given them a whirl long before this writing.

Oldest

It's part of a set of 'technique' brushes by Derwent. I used the rigger and long dagger from the set, and I wasn't overly impressed with them—primarily because I have natural hair brushes in similar styles which hold more paint and perform far better. However, the set is only \$16.70 on Amazon <https://a.co/d/b4MUNdp>, so with this set a painter could try a long dagger and rigger plus the fan brush.

Notice the splayed-out nature of this brush with longer fibers protruding from the shorter base fibers. This provided a lacier edge to strokes done with the brush.



Second Brush

This brush was part of a set of Dynasty Water Lily brushes similar to this set. The second photo shows the 3 sizes available from The Brush Guys, a highly recommended shopping site for watercolor brushes. The set brush is a size 6. I added a size 2 to my collection. These Tiger Lily fans are a complete fan with no breaks between clumps of the fibers. The strokes from these brushes are not as lacy.

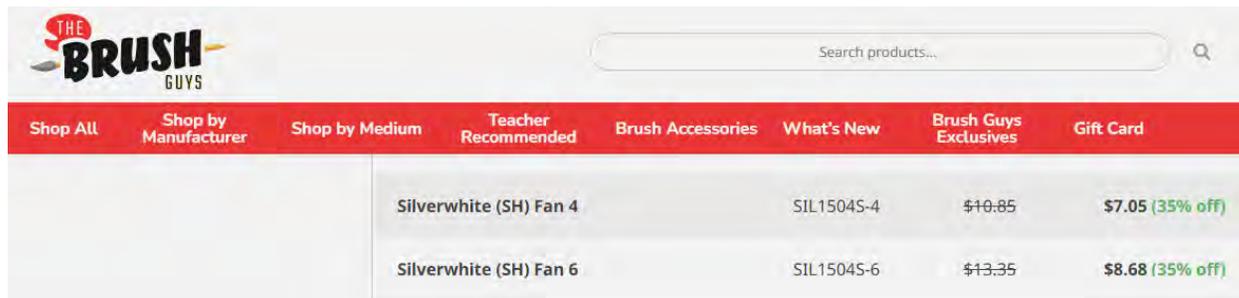


Shop All	Shop by Manufacturer	Shop by Medium	Teacher Recommended	Brush Accessories	What's New	Brush Guys Exclusives	Gift Card
			Water Lily Dagger 5/8		DYN28161	\$9.99	\$4.16 (40% off)
			Water Lily Fan 2		DYN28165	\$7.56	\$4.54 (40% off)
			Water Lily Fan 4		DYN28166	\$8.82	\$5.29 (40% off)
			Water Lily Fan 6		DYN28167	\$10.40	\$6.24 (40% off)

Additional Choices

I was having so much fun with my original choices; I set out to see if I could add fan brushes with different characteristics from the ones I had to add to my experiments. So first I added the Size 2 Tiger Lily Fan shown in the Brush Guys list. I was looking for longer fibers in a fan brush, so I bought the Silverwhite 4 and 6 from the Brush Guys when I added the Tiger Lily Size 4 fan. These Silverwhite brushes are available from Silverwhite.com, however they are twice the price there. In the photo of the brush, it appears that the fan is solid, but, after the first wetting, it does separate into even clusters, and the fibers are a consistent rather than staggered length.

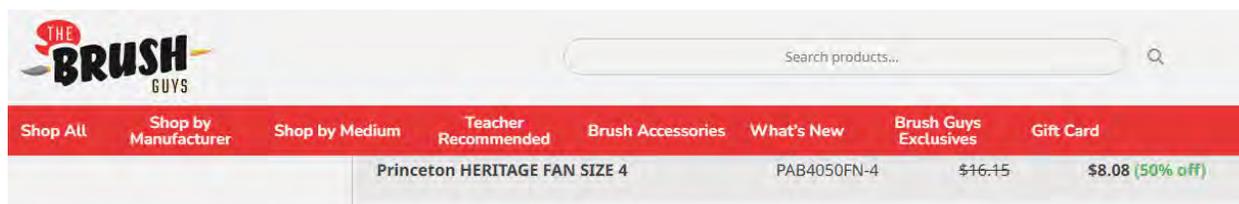
Note: All my fan brushes are photographed together for your comparison later in this document.



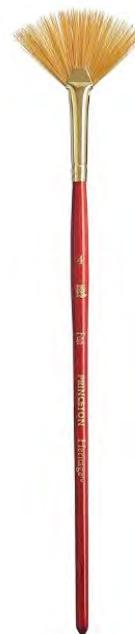
Shop All	Shop by Manufacturer	Shop by Medium	Teacher Recommended	Brush Accessories	What's New	Brush Guys Exclusives	Gift Card
			Silverwhite (SH) Fan 4		SIL1504S-4	\$10.85	\$7.05 (35% off)
			Silverwhite (SH) Fan 6		SIL1504S-6	\$13.35	\$8.68 (35% off)



My final addition to my fan brushes was a Princeton Heritage Size 4 fan, also purchased from Brush Guys.



Shop All	Shop by Manufacturer	Shop by Medium	Teacher Recommended	Brush Accessories	What's New	Brush Guys Exclusives	Gift Card
			Princeton HERITAGE FAN SIZE 4		PAB4050FN-4	\$16.15	\$8.08 (50% off)



My Fan Brushes

Top To Bottom

- Princeton Heritage Size 4 (Red handle)
- Silverwhite Size 4 (Silver handle)
- Silverwhite Size 6 (Silver handle)
- Tiger Lily Size 2 (Pink Handle)
- Tiger Lily Size 6 (Pink Handle)
- Derwent no size (Black Handle)



Recommendation

If you want to try fan brushes. My recommendation is to buy the Derwent Set and the Tiger Lily set. The Tiger Lily set's other brushes are useful, especially if you have never tried a Cat's Tongue type of brush. The Derwent set would let you try a long dagger and a plain rigger. If you want to try more, this would be my overall suggestion for utility in the remaining four in descending order.

Tiger Lily Size 2 because it gives you both the smallest size and a complete unsplit stroke.

Silverwhite Size 6 because it is the largest and has a nice serrated lacy edge.

Princeton Heritage Size 4 for its size and delicacy.

Silverwhite Size 4 for its size and edge.

Samples of Fan Brushwork



Sample 1 (above)

The foliage in these trees was painted with fan brushes. It was done in WET layers of several different yellows and Azo Green. The initial layer was MILK consistency, while subsequent layers were MILK and COFFEE strengths with the first layers being Milk and then followed by Coffee.

The crowns of the tree canopy are Cadmium Lemon Yellow and Turner's Yellow to indicate sunlight. Further down in the foliage those colors were mixed with Yellow Ocher, Aureolin, and Azo Green. The trunks were scraped out of the Black Tourmaline Genuine at the base of the rock.

The grasses in the foreground were also done with a fan. The paint was a mix of Transparent Brown Oxide and Black Tourmaline genuine with a slight bias towards the brown. It was MILK consistency.

Throughout the painting, I held the various fan brushes loosely about midway down the handles with the brush parallel to the paper using my forefinger to "stamp press" the wet pigment onto the paper.

Sample 2 (on the right)

In this desert themed abstract, I used fan brushes to paint the spiky vegetation.

The top "flower" shape was done with MILK consistency Quin Rust and a touch of Indigo to gray it down. The spiky leaf shape is TEA consistency Indigo with a hint of Quin Rust.



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Board Meeting

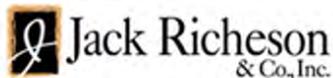
October 27 — 1:00 to
3:00 PM
at Trinity Woods

HOLBEIN

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BLICK
art materials



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