

Colored Pencil  
Society of America

*Your Invitation to Join*



**W**hether you've just discovered colored pencil as a fine art medium or have been working in it for decades, the Colored Pencil Society of America exists for you.

CPSA exists for its members. The society offers opportunities for education, community, and exposure. Our members cheer each other on, offer advice and support, and genuinely care about one another. You'll see it in lifelong friendships at local district chapter meetings, and the excitement each year when members get together at the CPSA International Exhibition and convention.

*You're invited to join us!*

## How CPSA began

Colored pencil as a fine art medium is relatively new compared to other media. The first book about working in colored pencil was written by Bet Borgeson and published in 1983.

In 1989, artist Vera Curnow wondered if other artists who worked in colored pencil also



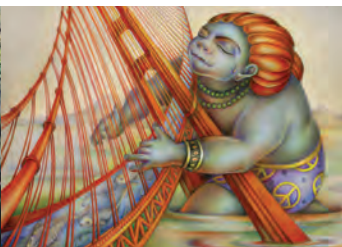
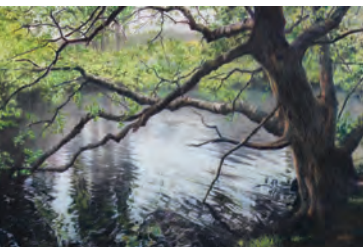


believed a national Colored Pencil Society was overdue. Her letter to the *The Artist's Magazine* unleashed a landslide of responses from artists around the United States. As a result, the first meeting of the new Colored Pencil Society of America was held in the Pacific Northwest in 1990.

Today CPSA welcomes artist members not just from all of America but from around the world.

### What CPSA offers its members

- The opportunity to earn signature status through our two annual juried exhibitions
- An exciting annual CPSA convention held in conjunction with our International Exhibition
- Promotion of member artwork through publications, social media, and online venues
- The option to join or form a local CPSA district chapter
- Links to members' art websites from the CPSA website
- Colored pencil lightfastness testing
- A free lightfastness test results workbook
- Twice-yearly issues of our full-color magazine, *To The Point*, filled with images and information about and for artists who work in colored pencil
- A networking directory for members, listed by state and country





## What our members say about CPSA

*“Through its activities CPSA provides an ongoing vehicle for all of us to develop our own artistic vision. It nudges, encourages, and motivates us to become involved in its competitions, art events, conventions, and local chapters. It does this every day for every one of us—and we are so much the better artists for it!”*

—Bet Borgeson (CA)

*“Colored pencil has greatly advanced because of CPSA. I’m hooked on the medium and this organization!”*

—Amy Lindenberger, CPSA, CPX (OH)

*“I am so thankful for its existence and proud to be a charter and signature member of such a vital and energetic organization.”*

—Kay Dewar, CPSA (WA)

*“Today with all the work of Vera and the Colored Pencil Society of America we are a respected force in international art.”*

—Phillip Wilson, CPSA (OH)

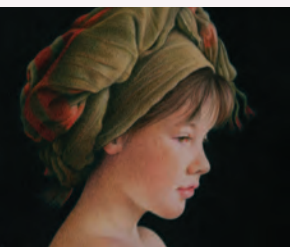
*“The most valuable benefit of membership has been the friends I’ve made, the recognition we artists receive, and the increased quality and lightfastness of this medium.”*

—Bobbie Bradford, CPSA (CA)

### Artwork credits

**Top:** *Timeless*, Barbara Rogers, CPSA (CA); *What Is It?*, Denise Howard, CPSA, CPX (CA); *Begonia*, Jerriann Ross (IA); *Sun Kissed*, Aura Skugariene, CPX (CA); *The Paradox of Life and Death*, Po Yiu Cheung (China); *Planes in the Attic*, Glinda Pennock, CPSA (FL); *BFFs—Save the Elephants*, Gemma Gylling, CPSA (CA).

**Bottom:** *Life is Like a Flame*, Cecile Baird, CPSA (OH); *Potable Autumn*, Maryanne DellaRocco (MD); *Tango Tree*, Pat Averill CPSA (OR); *Prelude*, Tereze Strautmane (Saudi Arabia); *Green Turban*, Katalin Studlik (ON, Canada); *Abstract Puddle*, Susie Hood (GA).







*Sidewalk Chop Shop, Anda Chance, CPSA, CPX (FL)*

## Product Research: Lightfastness

At its inception, CPSA realized that quality lightfast products would be crucial in gaining recognition for colored pencil as a fine art medium. Since 1991 CPSA has conducted its own ongoing colored pencil lightfastness testing. Results from these tests are made available as a benefit to members of the society.

When ASTM Standards (formerly American Society for Testing and Materials) began to develop a standard for colored pencils in 1993, our representative was there. The standard was completed in 2003 with the introduction of *ASTM D6901 Standard Specification for Artists' Colored Pencils*.

Today, colored pencils that comply with the ASTM standard are marked with Lightfastness Symbols LFI and LFII.

Joining CPSA in this project were Bruynzeel/Royal Talens, Derwent, Prismacolor, the National Gallery of Art, and the Canadian Art Institute, as well as museum conservators, art product manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers, collectors, and consumers.

With the standard in place, artists, collectors, and museum conservators can all rest assured that art produced using lightfast pencils will neither fade nor lose value over time. And lightfast artwork can command prices comparable to other media.

The CPSA product research director continues to attend ASTM meetings on behalf of CPSA and colored pencil artists. CPSA actively supports advancements in the medium of colored pencil and shares news and product information with its members.



*Uprooted, Judith Shepelak, CPSA (IL)*

*Cover (Detail): Deconstructing Oz, Jeffrey Smart Baisden, CPSA (FL)*

## Become a Member of CPSA

CPSA welcomes any artist or art lover who is 18 years of age or older. The CPSA membership year begins each November 1 and ends October 31 of the following calendar year; however, you may join anytime during the membership year.

Join and pay online from the CPSA website ([www.cpsa.org](http://www.cpsa.org)) or request a mail-in form from the membership director at:

[membership@cpsa.org](mailto:membership@cpsa.org)

*Founded by Vera Curnow, the Colored Pencil Society of America is a nonprofit organization dedicated to artists who work with colored pencil. CPSA is managed by a governing board of artists and professionals who volunteer their service to ensure benefits to the membership and the future success of the organization.*

*Since 1990*

**CPSA**

Colored Pencil Society of America

[www.cpsa.org](http://www.cpsa.org)

