

Prospectus and Call for Entries

Explorations in Colored Pencil XII (ECP XII)

Colored Pencil Society of America - District Chapter 210 San Jose (DC210 San Jose)

Dougherty Station Community Arts Center Art Gallery

17011 Bollinger Canyon Rd., San Ramon, CA 94582

August 5 – August 31, 2026

About ECP XII

ECP XII is an open show with cash awards. Submissions must be at least 80% colored pencil. All submissions will be judged to determine awards.

About CPSA and DC210 San Jose

The Colored Pencil Society of America was founded in 1990 to establish a nonprofit organization for colored pencil enthusiasts working to promote colored pencil as a fine art medium. CPSA comprises over 1,800 individual member artists and corporate members in the United States and around the world.

CPSA DC210 was founded in 1996 to support colored pencil artists in Northern California. The chapter has approximately 40 members from California, Arizona, and Colorado.

Judge – Catherine Watters

Catherine is an internationally exhibited botanical artist and educator whose work has been shown at leading institutions including Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Parc de Bagatelle, Sydney Royal Botanic Gardens, Villa Bardini in Florence, and prominent gardens across California and New York. Her paintings are held in private collections as well as permanent institutional collections such as the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, and the Museum of Natural History, Paris.

Her work is featured in numerous international florilegia, including those of the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Filoli, the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Kauai, and the Château de Brécy in France, and has been published in books such as the American Society of Botanical Artists' *Botanical Art Techniques*.

A dedicated educator for over 27 years, Catherine co-developed the Botanical Art Certificate Program at Filoli, where she taught for two decades. She continues to teach workshops and lecture throughout the United States and France.

Catherine co-founded the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden Florilegium, the Alcatraz Florilegium, and the Château de Brécy Florilegium. She serves on the boards of the American Society of Botanical Artists and the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden. She holds a B.A. and Teaching Credential from University of California, Davis, where she studied French and Art.

Eligibility

This show is open to all living artists 18 years or older at the submission deadline. Due to complexities of international shipping, we are unable to accept submissions from outside the United States.

Venue and Reception

The Dougherty Station Community Arts Center Art Gallery is in San Ramon, CA. The gallery is open to the public daily 8:30am – 5pm. The show reception and awards presentation is Saturday, August 8, 2026, 1:00pm – 3:00pm.

Submissions, Deadline, and Fees

Submissions open June 12, 2026

Submission deadline is 11:59pm (PDT), July 12, 2026.

Submission Fee is \$35 for CPSA members and \$45 for non CPSA members. The fee covers up to three (3) entries. Registration and payment of fees are at <https://cpsa210.com/26-explorations-in-cp-xii>

Artwork Drop Off

August 4, 2026 (PDT) 9:30am – 12:30pm

All artwork is to be hand delivered to the Dougherty Station Community Arts Center Art Gallery. Artwork must be labeled on the back with the artist's name, title of artwork, price, and email address.

- If you wish to ship your artwork, please contact us at cpsa210shows@gmail.com for options.

Artwork Pick Up

August 31, 2026 (PDT) 9:00am – 12:30pm

Explorations in Colored Pencil XII CPSA DC210 San Jose Artwork Specifications

IMPORTANT: Read ALL specifications thoroughly

Ideation

- Artwork must be solely the original concept and design of the submitting artist.
- Work in which the primary subject has been copied directly from someone else's photograph unless you have written permission, is not permitted. Work in which the primary subject has been copied from someone else's artwork, is not permitted.
- Work resulting from workshops, tutorials, or instructor-staged still life, is not permitted.
- Artwork of your own design which was worked on in a class or critiqued by others, if you are the primary creative force, is permitted.

Execution

- Entries must be at least 80% colored pencil. Acceptable colored pencil products can be found at <https://cpsa.org/exhibitions/acceptable-products/>.
- Entries must have been completed in 2023 or later. Artwork that has been exhibited in three previous ECP shows is not eligible. Artwork that has received an award in any previous ECP show is not eligible.
- No reproductions, such as prints or giclées of artwork, may be entered.

<https://cpsa210.com/26-explorations-in-cp-xii>
cpsa210shows@gmail.com

Framing

- Artwork must be delivered gallery ready, which means clean, free of dust, damage, and meeting all framing requirements.
- Artwork must have framing wire properly secured and not visible above the top of the frame when hanging. D-rings are required on wood frames. Screw eyes, sawtooth hangers, clip on hangers, etc. are not permitted.
- Artwork larger than 16" x 20" must use acrylic (plexiglass) in place of glass. Polycarbonate may not be used.
- Artwork must be labeled on the back with the artist's name, title of artwork, price, and email address.

Digital Image Requirements

Each entered work also requires a digital image be provided NO LATER THAN the submission deadline of July 12, 2026. Any entry not providing a digital image by the submission deadline will be disqualified from awards judging.

- Dimensions: 1920px (long edge) at 72 – 300 DPI
- File Size: Under 5MB
- Format: JPG, using the highest quality setting in your editor
- Color Profile: sRGB
- File name must be artist's first and last name and title of artwork, e.g., "MaryDoe Sunset.jpg"
- Files must either accompany the registration form or can be sent separately to cpsa210shows@gmail.com

Artwork Display and Sales

- Artwork must remain in the gallery until close of the show.
- The City of San Ramon will refer requests to purchase artwork on display to the chapter contact who will pass it on to the artists. The City of San Ramon will receive a 20% commission from the artist(s) on all sales that occur during the exhibit or as a result of the exhibit.

Awards and Notification

Awards are First Place \$450, Second Place \$350, and Third Place \$250, and four Awards of Merit Ribbons.