

**Central Texas Pastel Society  
General Meeting March 15, 2025**

President Alora Johns made several announcements:

- Holly Reed will be the IAPS representative this year.
- She encouraged people to sign up for the new critique groups. See Cynthia Bsaiibes for details.
- Papi's Pie's Exhibit:
  - Deliver paintings March 31 at 10:00
  - Reception: April 17, 2025
  - Pick Up: May 5, 2025 , time will be announced
  
- April's Meeting will be a plein aire activity
  - Jan Frazier will guide us and share her knowledge.
  - We may meet at 9:00, to have better light.
  
- Library Exhibit for 2026
  - Jan would like some more paintings to add to the application.
  
- May 3, 2025 We have an opportunity to paint at the Antique Emporium with the Austin Pastel Society.
  - We will have to leave at 7:00 a.m.
  - Details to follow.
  
- Treasurer's Report
- Jane's report will be attached to the minutes

**Our visiting artist was Julia Fletcher. She was a very informative and entertaining speaker.**

**Below is a list of things she shared with us.**

- She likes Uart 320. It is grittier.
- She brought samples of Canson Mi Tientes Touch.
- She encouraged us to paint everyday and to paint our environment. Ordinary everyday things are great subjects to paint.
- Best time to paint outside is 10:00 to 12:00
- Sunrise and sunset is when you get the best cast shadows
- Plein Aire Round Rock Group is a good group to join.
- Pearl of wisdom from Charlie Hunter: He says we are attracted to what we don't paint.
- She uses Slik easel - tripod. Legs are adjustable and it is easy to set up and take down.
- Book recommendations: The Book of Clouds by John A. Day, and Drawing Nature by Stanley Maltzman
- She tones paper in the mid value range.

- Blocks in with graphite pencils. It is water soluble. Move it around with a paint brush, and the set with a fixative. Now your value road map is established.
- Recommends Mt. Vision gray set. The set is called Thunderstorm.
- Shadows are cool.
- If painting isn't working, increase the contrast.
- She has noticed that Russian pastel artists soften their edges as they move toward the edge of the painting.
- Phthalo blue is a good sky color.
- You can make your own toner with pastel you don't use.
  - Grind them up and pour water on them. Keep in a jar. This can be used to tone paper.
- Stand farther away from your easel for looser strokes.
- Do a few quick, small paintings before you start your daily painting.
- She likes Derwents Inktense Ink Blocks.
- She is influenced by Japanese prints.
- She buys plein air frames from Jerry's Artarama.
- Cardinali frames 4 for \$160.
- She also uses Ambiance Gallery frames.
- She doesn't use a mat when she uses plein air frames.
- Dust cover trimmer is a handy tool. (Hobby Lobby)
- Julia shared this link for the felt bags she used to transport her paintings.
- <https://www.bhphotovideo.com/c/search?Ntt=itoya%20art%20portfolio&N=0&InitialSearch=yes&c3api=4680%2C%2Citoya%20art%20portfolio%2Cp&msclkid=7fd18f80847e1fc6df66e860eda18e7b>
- She buys clear display bags from Clear Bags. The ones she used were 9 ¼ by 12 ¼ inches
- She does not make giclee prints of her paintings.