

New Mexico Watercolor Society Prospectus – Addendum

How to Enter the *Alternative Presentation* Category

In order to allow artists to present their watermedia paintings in a more contemporary fashion, NMWS is pleased to include an *Alternative Presentation* category in the Fall 2013 exhibition. If you would like to enter any of your paintings in this category, please check the “Alternative Presentation” box on the entry form.

This category is for water *insoluble* paintings presented *not* behind plexiglass. The following guidelines are *in addition* to the guidelines in the main Fall 2013 Prospectus document:

Eligible Supports

Artists may paint directly on watermedia canvas or Aquabord™, or approved paper (see below) may be mounted to wood panels. Supports may be prepared with products such as gesso, Golden Absorbent Ground, Daniel Smith Watercolor Ground, and similar products that are designed to aid watercolor artists to paint on canvas or board.

Deep Supports (“ready to hang”) are eligible without any other framing requirements. Deep supports include:

- Gallery Wrap canvas (1” – 2.5” deep); sides must be painted or collaged. (wikipedia.org/wiki/Gallery_wrap).
- Deep cradled panels (1” – 2.5” deep); sides must be clean or painted/varnished/polyurethaned. (*Examples of cradled panels include Ampersand’s Aquabord, Encaustibord, Hardbord, Claybord, and similar hardwood panels.*)

Shallow Supports include canvas less than 1” deep; flat panels/board (usually 3/8” deep); approved paper mounted to flat panels (including masonite, MDF board and other rigid panels); commercially produced watercolor board such as Arches Watercolor Art Boards or Crescent #115 WC Board. These must be presented either:

- Framed inside a “floater” frame (black, white, or natural wood only).
- Presented with a regular frame (see the framing rules in the main Prospectus document) but without plexiglass *provided your painting is water insoluble* (i.e., acrylic varnish on top of watercolor). Linen mats are optional.

Floated & Framed presentation is also acceptable; defined as watercolor (or other collaged papers) floated in a frame with plexiglas only (no matte). This presentation can be used to show off the ragged edges of the paper or collage.

Approved paper may be mounted on deep cradled board or shallow supports. Approved paper is defined as cotton rag paper, Yupo, Tyvek, and Oriental papers. Collage is acceptable using plain white papers painted with water-based media. Collage papers may extend around the sides of a gallery wrap canvas or cradled board. **Acceptable aqueous materials are the same as those defined in the main Prospectus document (see page 2).**

If mounting paper to wood, it is recommended that the paper be protected from the acids in the wood. Golden recommends two coats of GAC-100 to seal bare wood; more information is available on their website. Be sure to use suitable glue to mount the paper to the board so it is both archival and secure.

Surface Considerations

If your artwork uses watermedia that is water soluble, the surface *must be made water insoluble* using acrylic varnishes in order to be presented without plexiglass for protection. There are many ways to accomplish this using products from Golden, Liquitex, Krylon, Dorland’s Wax, and others. We recommend you also apply a UV-resistant final coat.

It is outside the scope of this document to advise on recommended protective finishes, so we’ll refer you to the following:

- Goldenpaints.com > Research > Technical Info (goldenpaints.com/technicaldata/techsheets.php)
- Ampersandart.com > Technical Info (ampersandart.com/tips/tipsindex.html)
- Krylon.com > [Choosing a Clear Coating](#)

Please note that this is not an “anything goes/experimental category” – the existing rules are simply being expanded to remove the requirement for paintings to be both matted and behind plexiglass. To clarify, impasto acrylic, collage with commercial papers, or sculptural paintings remain ineligible. If in doubt, check first!