



IPAT Newsletter

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Top of the morning to you....

Hopefully where you are the weather is starting to warm, and things are starting to green up. Signs of spring are always an inspiration for life and art!

Some of our readers sent in paintings inspired by spring for us to enjoy.

Our IRAP Program is another source of inspiration. You can see photos from our first session on page 5. There is still time to be involved in the next session. Contact the IPAT office to enroll. We have information on future IRAP sessions on page 6.

Sometimes, food inspired myths. The ancient Greeks believed that they had six months of winter versus summer because Persephone ate six pomegranate seeds while visiting the Underworld. Her return there for six months every year caused her mother grief that changed the seasons. Anna Skonieczny shares a pomegranate study with us on page 8.

We are inspired and humbled by the heroes honored on our Wall of Military Gratitude. You can see some of the art honoring them on page 11.

The IPAT Museum has some pretty inspiring news as it prepares to host an exciting exhibition this summer. Speaking of the museum, have you ever been to visit? Meet the IPAT Museum staff on pages 13-14. We look forward to your visit.

Hopefully between now and August you will find inspiration for your entry in the 2026 IPAT Online Competition. Full details are on page 15.

Happy Painting everyone!

Did You Know?

There are multiple types of IPAT Memberships for your convenience Choose online or hard copy. Renew for 1 or 2 years.



Scan for IPAT Resident Artist Program Info

Spring Inspirations



Audny Thuestad





Angela Wisler



Rita Moore

Update



We had a last-minute addition to the schedule with a new location: IRAP East in Georgia. Nancy Benedetti and Birgit Porter took over both studios at, At Home with Suzanne. Enjoy a sampling of the good times had by all who attended. It isn't too late for you to attend the next Grapevine, Texas session in a couple of weeks with Paola Bari!



Why you should always look beyond your own calendar.

We couldn't figure out why no one had signed up for Rosemari Borges' class. Then our museum manager went to a meeting where they were talking about the FIFA World Cup and how it will be like the "Big Game" coming to the area--for nine games. And that was when the penny dropped it was right in the middle of Rosemari's seminar, and all the hotels were booked. We are sorry. We are looking to get her rescheduled at a better time.

IPAT

IPAT Resident Artist Program

Join us at the IPAT Museum Carriage House Studio in Grapevine, TX for our exciting new workshop series! Each workshop is \$400 and includes firing and light lunches.

Paola Bari
March 10-13, 2026

Choice of "Happy Fish" or "Obsession"

Check out ipatinc.org/workshops for more information or to register for a class.

Jane Wright

April 20-23, 2026

Choice of one of three studies

SABRINA PEDRON

May 5-8, 2026

Choice of one of three portraits



Take one class, get \$25 off the next.

Did you know that each artist is also doing beginner classes? Check out those under Museum classes on our website.

Mariapaola Marchetti

Choice of one of these studies

Nov 17-20, 2026



IRAP Registration Form

All IPAT Resident Artist Program sessions will be held at the IPAT Museum of Porcelain Art Carriage House Studio located at 204 E Franklin St Grapevine, TX 76051

Each session is \$400 and includes firing and a light lunch.

Name: _____ IPAT #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Known food allergies: _____

I am registering for:

	Paola Bari March 10-13, 2026		Rosemari Borges June 24-27, 2026 Being rescheduled
	Jane Wright April 20-23, 2026		Mariapaola Marchetti November 17-20, 2026
	Sabrina Pedron May 5-8, 2026		

Total Due: _____

Checks may be made payable to IPAT and mailed to PO Box 1807, Grapevine, TX 76099. You may also pay online (ipat-inc.square.site or scan the QR code), by PayPal (@ipattx), or via credit card by calling the office at 1.817.251.1185.



Supply lists will be emailed prior to class. Need something? Contact Maryland China at least two weeks prior to your session and it will be shipped to the classroom for free, and waiting for you when you arrive.

Session maximums are ten students; there must be five students enrolled for a session to proceed. Sessions will run from 9 am to 4 pm. For four-day sessions, the final day is a half day; no lunch will be included that day. For more information about a specific session, you may check our website, ipatinc.org/workshops, or contact the office at office@ipatinc.org.

Pomegranate Study

Anna Marie Skonieczny

Paint Colors:

Mixing Yellow,
Yellow Brown,
Yellow Brown II,
Yellow Red or a good
Orange, Blood Red,
Purple, Chartreuse Green
or a Light Green,
a Yellow Green color,
Antique Green or
Autumn Green,
Grass Green, Black Green,
Gray

Tools:

Square Shader 4/6/8,
liner, wipe out tool



First Fire:

Because the outside of pomegranate is so thick and hard, you must remember to leave a very large, pronounced highlight on them.

Start with the large pomegranate. Paint it with Yellow Red or Orange, leaving two large highlights. Paint the green pomegranate with Chartreuse. Remember to leave a large highlight.

Paint the leaves with Chartreuse and Grass Green or Antique Green. Change the colors of your green on each leaf so that you can find the leaves on the second fire and show which leaf is behind. The back leaf is where you would use the Antique Green with the Chartreuse. Leaves up front you can leave just Chartreuse or add Grass Green to the Chartreuse.

Paint the flower with Yellow Red or Orange leaving a lot of highlights on the petals of the flower, however enough paint so that you can find the petals.

Paint stems in with Gray leaving a highlight down the center.

Fire at cone 018 or 017.

Second Fire:

Paint Blood Red over the red pomegranate (Remember to leave the large, highlighted areas). On the blossom end use Orange or Yellow Red; keeping the six-pointed areas of the blossom end. Leaving the large highlights. Paint Antique Green or Autumn Green over the shadow and darker areas on the green pomegranate, keeping the highlights. On the green pomegranate you will see four spikes on the blossom end.

The leaves that are in the light or on top paint with Grass Green in areas to give them some character. Do not paint all the leaves to look the same. The leaves that are in shadow paint in the shadow area with Autumn Green or Antique Green. You can add some Red to the leaves around the red pomegranate as a reflection of color. One painting rule is: what colors are in the foreground need to be in the background. The pomegranates are the foreground, and the leaves are the background.

Paint Blood Red over the Yellow Red on the flower. Keep the flower petal highlights. Paint the center of the flower Mixing Yellow.

Reinforce the stems with Gray. Keep the highlight down the center of the stems.

Fire at cone 018 or 017.

Third fire:

The shadow on the red pomegranate paint with Purple. The lower part of the red pomegranate paint a wash of light pink to include the highlights, blend with the Purple edges. The shadow on the green pomegranate paint with Antique Green or a middle value green, you can mix it with a little Black Green if you need the contrast. Wash a Yellow or Yellow Green over the highlight on the green pomegranate.

Spruce up the leaves if they need it. Make sure that each leaf looks a little different.

On the stem, paint a darker Gray along the edges very thin. This will make the stem look round.

Fire at cone 018 or 017.

Fourth Fire:

On the highlight of the red pomegranate paint a wash of Blood Red to knock back the starkness of the highlight if needed. Check the shadow areas of both pomegranates and reinforce if needed. If the green pomegranate shadows needs reinforcement use Black Green.

Check the shadows areas on the leaves and reinforce if needed.

Fire at cone 018 or 017.



IPAT Museum Updates

Thank you for your Holiday donations

We couldn't have done it without you. You helped us have a great year with our Museum store. Your ornaments, mugs, and other items were big hits.

Please keep them coming for this year!



Commedia dell'Arte Exhibition

It was between us and another museum and we were chosen. This summer, for the first time in the US, and only the second place currently in the world, all sixteen Commedia dell'Arte figures produced by Nymphenburg factory and designed by Franz Anton Bustelli in the late 1700s, will be on display. This is a wonderful opportunity for our IPAT Museum.



In addition to loaning us the sixteen figures, the owner also has several blank Commedia dell'Arte figurines that will be donated to IPAT and painted by artists. We are so excited! The exhibit will coincide with the FIFA World Cup in the Dallas area giving more people the opportunity to see these figurines.

Not sure what Commedia dell'Arte is? Started in Italy in the 1500s, and known as an actor's theater, each actor became an expert at their character and then improved the play based on audience suggestions. It was the first troupe to allow women. With the development of the stock characters and improv techniques, Commedia is the grandfather of everything from Romeo & Juliet to Second City to the Muppet Show and Frazier Crane. If you are able to travel to Texas this summer, you must come and see these figures!

Meet Your Museum Staff

You talk to them when you call. You hear their voice in social media posts and in the magazine and newsletter, but do you know the Museum staff? You will meet them on the next two pages!

Meet Your Museum Staff



Janice Williams

Office Manager

FAMILY

Married Dann

Two children, Jason & Faith
(both still live at home)

One Cat, Oreo*

*his sister, Chocolate "CC" Chip belongs to Faith

EDUCATION

BA, History from Old Dominion University, Magna Cum Laude

Some Grad School

EXPERIENCE

Former teacher: Graduate teaching assistant for two years and over 10 years at an elementary school

Cemetery Manager

Living History Interpreter

Various retail jobs from clerk to collections

I have often held two jobs at a time and worked for about 30 years as a bookkeeper

When did you start working for IPAT? October 2022

When did you start china painting? Late 2024

What do you like best about working for IPAT?

It is never a dull moment. Every day is totally different.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

I am a Virginia native who married her college sweetheart/co-worker. We realized around the time that we got married that we probably should have met about 20 times before we ever did, starting with the fact that our parents went to school together. My husband's job moved us to Texas around 2020. Before that, I had never lived more than fifteen miles from the hospital where I was born. While I had never lived far from home, I do love to travel and have done a fair bit. I am down to only five US states I need to visit--I have a plan to knock them out in a weekend. I have also been to half of the Canadian States/Provinces. My next goal will be to visit a country on every continent.

I have always considered myself more crafty than artsy. From a young age, I was always making things and doing something, but it has only been recently that I have started embracing more of an artistic side and not just crafts. My husband was a semi-professional photographer for a while, so I think that impacted how I look at art. I am also an animal lover and allergy sufferer, so those impact my art as well preferring fuzzy faces over flowers.

HOBBIES

GENEALOGY

SEWING

TECH GEEK

GEOCACHING

READING

JAM MAKING

Some things I made for my daughter including a cat quilt where each fabric symbolizes something in her life, and 3D printed room decorations including a bust of her.



Meet Your Museum Staff



Robin Carter Museum Assistant

Family

My brother Shawn
Mom and Dad
My golden doodle Aidoneus
My boyfriend Keenan and
his son Lucas
Our snake Xena

Experience

- 8 years of ceramics
- Three years of Culinary School
- UX Designer
- Volunteer Medic

When did you start working for IPAT? October 2025
When did you start China Painting? Mid 2023
What do you like best about working at IPAT?
 Learning the life stories of each painter

Tell Us About Yourself

I was born in Kileen, Texas in 2004, but raised in Fort Worth, Texas my whole life. I started drawing/painting at age three and my parents supported every artist whim I had since childhood. I lived in a semi-rural area until two years ago, so any competition my parents drove an hour or two just to get me there. My mom and dad are my cheerleaders in everything I do. I call myself a jack of all trades just because I don't do one media. If you need something in oil paints, charcoal, wood burnt, whittled, I'm your guy.

I got into porcelain painting accidentally. I was in physical therapy and was showing one of the doctors my art when she squealed and told me I had to meet her aunt, Stella Shilling. When I got to her house it genuinely looked like a museum. She has been teaching me how to paint for three years now and is one of my biggest inspirations.

I'm thrilled for the opportunities the museum has brought me and hope to meet more artists through porcelain!

Hobbies

SEWING

BAKING

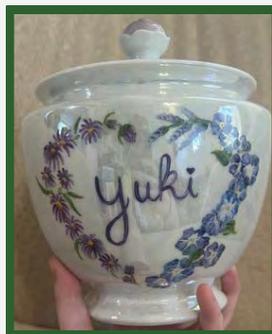
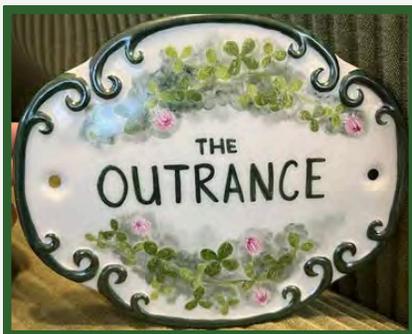
VULTURE CULTURE

GARDENING

VOLUNTEER WORK

READING

ARTWORK



2026 IPAT ONLINE COMPETITION

IPAT's competition dates back to 1960 with its first convention. Rather than comparing one work to another, each piece is judged on its own merit. Score totals determine the award category. Each person competes against their toughest competitor--themselves for a chance at Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

Judging Criteria	Considerations	Score
COMPOSITION/ DESIGN	How the elements and principles of art are used to fit the subject matter and piece.	25
OVERALL UNITY	How the entire finished piece is unified through repetition of color, or value, or line, etc.	25
CLARITY OF EXPRESSION	How the elements and principles of art are used for expressive purposes (mood, emotion, etc.)	25
COMPLEXITY	Designs which contain more work, time, thought, planning or expertise.	25
91-100 – Gold; 81-90 – Silver; 71-80 - Bronze		100

\$30
USD per
entry

Awards are determined by total score
GOLD, SILVER, and BRONZE Digital Award Certificates
Opportunity to be featured in IPAT's publications and media

PRIZE FOR TOP 5 SCORERS : Free Virtual Magazine Membership for 2027

Things to know....

Categories:

- Porcelain Painting (PP)--Artist's choice on style and theme
- Mixed Media (MM)--hand built porcelain, or a porcelain piece that also incorporates another product/substance; such as, glass, wood, metal, paper or anything else; however, the piece must be mostly porcelain.

Important Dates:

- August 1-15, 2026 - Submit photos and pay by PayPal or credit card on the IPAT website
- Sept 30, 2026 – Results released to participants

Rules:

- Members only
- IPAT's decisions are final.
- Original artwork only - Paint from your imagination or your camera, NO COPYING or HOMAGES.
- NO class work, NO nudity art and NO decals or purchased understructure or guidelines.
- Only Mixed Media Category allows glued pieces or attached or unfired materials.
- All entries must be painted by the submitting artist.
- No limit on the number of entries.
- Artworks must not have been entered in any IPAT contest, or publication.
- All entries are subject to legal use by IPAT in publications and media.

Requirements on Images

- Use solid non-textured plain background
- NO flash, no frame, with or without glass, no digital date markings
- Take one picture per side of artwork if it is multi-sided
- .jpg of the highest quality setting; Resolution 300+ dpi/ppi or higher (A4)
- Name the .jpg with your name, membership number, category and artwork name e.g.,: Judy Smith-11260-PP-Happy Memory



For more information,
scan the QR code.

IPAT NEWSLETTER

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

WE NEED YOUR INPUT, PROJECTS, & PHOTOS

EMAIL YOUR SUBMISSIONS TODAY!

office@ipatinc.org

Our next issue will go out the end of May. We would love to include your works!

Send your photos, tips, studies or even ideas for articles to office@ipatinc.org.

Remember, we just assemble the newsletter - you are the ones who write it!

REMEMBER!

You must be an IPAT member to be published in our newsletter.

We ask that you only submit photos and projects that have not been published elsewhere.



PORCELAIN ART MUSEUM
WORLD ORGANIZATION OF CHINA PAINTERS
 2700 N. Portland Ave.
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

WOCGP Presents
A "Mad Hatter Tea Party"
and "Alice in Wonderland"

Save the Dates! October 15 to 18, 2026

We are all mad here...mad about porcelain painting!

"Embrace the Madness" with Dee Ann Blevins



"Get Real" with Joanna Burch



"Bring the Beauty" with Patricia Ritter



- **October 15, 2026 - TEA PARTY**
- **October 16th to the 18th** - painting begins with some crazy-talented artists!
- Painted tea sets or cups to buy, and beautiful displays of "Tea Vignettes" to enjoy the artwork.
- Drink tea and enjoy scones in a wonderland of a museum in Oklahoma City, OK, USA!
- Mad Hatter hats to wear and make.

Contact: Nancy Bergman - nancybergman@comcast.net

When there is no logic, come have some nonsense with us!

