



## FEBRUARY 2017 PSSA NEWSLETTER

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**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 7, 2016**  
**at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center**  
(Directions on last page)

**Board Meeting: 10:00 am ♦ Membership Meeting: 11:00 am**

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*Puget Sound  
Sumi Artists*

### **Meeting Location**

Asia Pacific Cultural Center  
4851 South Tacoma Way  
Tacoma, Washington 98409  
253-383-3900

### **Mailing Address**

Postal Mail Box #141  
6824 – 19<sup>th</sup> Street West  
University Place  
Washington  
98466

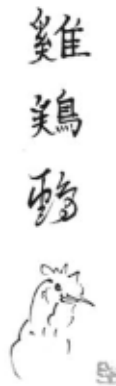
### **Website**

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

### *Message from our President*

Reading our January newsletter over again I am so pleased to see what a smooth transition Nancy and Muriel have made. I know that Muriel credits Nancy with helping her learn how to do this wonderful newsletter. One page in particular caught my attention, the 'teachers, classes, & workshops' page. Going to the new roster I find an even longer list. We have a rich resource right in our membership. Sumi-e, calligraphy and most recently the haiga teachers are available right among us. We have teachers and mentors willing to share themselves and their art or skills and help us all become 'more.' Check them out, try somebody new this spring. Trish

Happy Year of the Rooster to PSSA from  
Charlie Nichols and Voski Sprague



# PSSA News

## PSSA JANUARY 2017 PROGRAM

~Program Chair: Emma Ozaki

Our program for February will feature **Yuming Zhu**. Yuming works out of his studio in Woodinville, Washington and is a member of PSSA. "His work is a unique blend of East meets West artistry. His evolving interests include observations on modern life, a love of music, and an exploration of his unique heritage." Many of us know him through his business *Awesome Art Supply*. PSSA members have also traveled to China with him as their guide where they were able to visit artist studios that would not normally be open to them. He has agreed to demonstrate his energetic and creative painting technique along with a demo on how to do washes.

## EDUCATION

~Chair: Lois Yoshida

Thank you to Sun Watkins for taking on the responsibility as chair of PSSA's booth at the annual Chinese New Year celebration sponsored by the Asia Pacific Cultural Center at the Tacoma Dome. A new PSSA member, she epitomizes the caliber of people we are grateful to have join our organization.

There will be several opportunities in the upcoming months to assist with teaching in schools. We will be teaching all 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Christensen Elementary School in the Franklin Pierce school district and all classes of grades 3 through 6 at Emerald Park Elementary School in Kent. Take advantage of these opportunities to learn what a rewarding experience teaching sumi-e can be. It's always fun and inspiring to work with children. Contact me if you have any questions.

## HOSPITALITY

~Chair: Linda Tatlock

2017 got off to a great start with a buffet provided by the PSSA board members. For February, Laura Chan, Fumiko Kimura, Alice Liou, Selinda Sheridan and Cathy Tashiro have signed up to bring dishes. That is one short of our usual 6, so feel free to contribute even if you are not on the list!

## MEMBERSHIP

~Chair: Muriel Taylor

Apologies to the VP of Exhibits, Barbara Yunker, who is not listed in the Officers List in the Roster. Please correct your copies appropriately, (but with grateful thanks to Barbara Madsen, the ex-VP).

## EXHIBITS

~Chair: Barbara Yunker

Bill Havens, Chair for the November-December 2017 PSSA Exhibit at the Unitarian Church in Tacoma, needs a co-chair for this event. Please volunteer; this will be an excellent mentoring experience as Bill is not only one of our major artists, but also one of our most experienced curators. He proposes "Creating a Mood" as the theme for the show and will be looking to hang 35 paintings. A Prospectus will be provided closer to the event.

## HAIGA ADVENTURE

-Chairs Voski Sprague, Dorothy Matthews

For the next meeting, February 21, at Fircrest CC, the focus is Red

Join us: Bring original haiga, haiku, or an image to share or work on and we will paint/write etigami using those works.

# Sumi Insights

## Castle Grandma

by Norma Jean Byrkett

“Castle Grandma.” Who is she? What does she do? Octogenarian Hiroko Sogo paints etegami (picture letters) at Marugame Castle in her hometown on Shikoku Island, Japan. She has given away approximately **12,000** postcards and pictures for free to visitors from around the world who visit the castle...people from as far away as the United States, France, Norway and even West Africa.

Sogo sketches simple images of seasonal flowers, fruits and vegetables, as well as the castle, while sitting in front of the famous Genkansaki-gomon Gate or by the moat. She fills in the colors using watercolor kits her children once used. Then, she adds thoughtful words or a simple, pithy observation that contains a general truth, like a proverb or a witty saying.

Marugame Castle, built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, has been a continuing theme in Sogo's work. After the death of her doctor husband over 13 years ago, Sogo took up sketching. Sogo became known as “Castle Grandma” due to her frequent painting sessions at the castle. She even held an exhibition of her works at the castle, attracting locals and many Japanese and foreign tourists. An editor at a publishing house saw her folk art and offered to publish them in book form titled “*Oshiro no Obaachan Kokoro no Etegami*” (*Castle grandma's picture letters from the heart*).

It took me some time to track down Sogo's charming book. Once I discovered the ISBN number, I was able to place a special order with Kinokuniya Seattle Book Store, next to Uwajimaya. The book is written in Japanese but there are plenty of beautiful photos for inspiration. If you are stuck for ideas, check out Castle Grandma's book! You can purchase this book by calling the book store and placing a special order.

Kinokuniya Phone number: (206) 587-2477  
ISBN978-4-04-067764-4



NHKで紹介された話題のおばあちゃん!



# Teachers, Classes, & Workshops

## DOROTHY MATTHEWS AND FUMIKO KIMURA

### Haiga Adventure Study

PSSA members interested in Haiga are welcome. Haiga is Haiku poetry with its essence expressed spontaneously in sumi-e. Next meeting: February 21st. Meets monthly on third Tuesdays 12:15 pm – 2:15 pm (right after calligraphy class) Fircrest Community Center Please call or text Dorothy Matthews at 206-910-4514 or contact Fumiko 253-752-3845, [ftkimura@nventure.net](mailto:ftkimura@nventure.net)

## CHARLIE (CHIZUKO) NICHOLAS

### Calligraphy Class

Next meeting: February 21st. Meets monthly on third Tuesdays 10 am – noon Fircrest Community Center For info, call Charlie 253-845-5175

## MONDAY MORNING PAINTING GROUP

Meets most **Mondays** 10:30-1:30 South Bellevue Community Center Call Trish for info 425-644-8512

## LOIS YOSHIDA

### Sumi Painting for Beginning and Continuing Students

May 2 - June 13th (no class May 16th) Tuesdays 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm **South Seattle College** <https://southseattle.augusoft.net> or 206-934-5339

### Sumi Painting for Beginning and Continuing Students

June 3 & 4, 2017 Saturday & Sunday 9:30am-3:30pm **Merlino Art Center** 508 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, Tacoma [www.loisyoshida.com](http://www.loisyoshida.com) [loisyoshida@gmail.com](mailto:loisyoshida@gmail.com)

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January 22 & 29, February 5, 2017 Sundays 10:00am-4:00pm **Frye Art Museum** 704 Terry Ave, Seattle [www.fryemuseum.org](http://www.fryemuseum.org) or 206-622-9250

## SELINDA SHERIDAN

### Sumi Painting

Three 6-week classes **Wednesdays** 9:30 am – 11:30 am **Jan. 11 – Feb. 15, 2017** **March 1 – April 5, 2017** **April 19 – May 24, 2017** Lakewood Senior Activity Center 9112 Lakewood Drive SW Lakewood, WA Call 253-798-4090 for information/ registration

### Collage with Asian Papers:

**One 6-week class** **Fridays** from 1 - 3 pm **Feb. 10 – March 17, 2017** Lakewood Senior Activity Center 9112 Lakewood Drive SW Lakewood, WA Call 253-798-4090 for information/ registration

### Sumi-e

Agape Senior Group 3640 S. Cedar St., Suite U Tacoma WA 98409 **Every other Wednesday at 1pm** Please call 253-212-3957 for information about class fees and registration.

## BILL HAVENS

### Sumi Painting Class

Fridays, 10:30 am – 2:30 pm Salvation Army Sr. Activity Center 4009 9 Street SW, Puyallup No charge for class & free lunch For info, call Bill 253-535-1954



# Haiga Adventure

## ***HOT OFF THE PRESS: FRESH FROM TODAY'S HAIGA SCRATCHES:***

*January 17, 2017*

*Darlene Dihel*

in race position scratching one foot on the  
ground

cock a doodle doo

*I've got my eyes on you! [translated by ed.]*

*Byrkett*

*Melinda Brottem*

pink clouds  
puff across the Winter's Sky  
no chance of snow

*Voski Sprague*

head cocked  
he listened as she read  
the New Year's list

*Dorothy Matthews*

hoar frost and snow dust...  
a busy flock of juncos  
disturb the silence

*Fumiko Kimura*

fury of feeding Before Sunrise  
criss cross before my eyes  
house finch on feeder chickadees on ground





**THINGS TO REMEMBER  
FOR THE JANUARY MEETING**

- Donations for Tone Resource Center or YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter

**THE NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE  
WILL BE JANUARY 15**

**DIRECTIONS TO ASIA PACIFIC CULTURAL CENTER  
4851 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma, Washington  
253-383-3900**

**Heading north on I-5 toward Tacoma**

- At **Exit 130**, take ramp for S 56 St West toward Tacoma Mall Blvd
- Continue on S 56th St to S Tacoma Way
- Turn right onto S Tacoma Way and go .4 mile

**Heading south on I-5 toward Tacoma**

- At **Exit 132A**, take ramp right for S 38 St West toward Tacoma Mall
- Continue on S 38<sup>th</sup> St to S Tacoma Way
- Turn left onto S Tacoma Way and go .7 mile.

**For directions from other locations, go to**

**<http://www.asianapacificculturalcenter.org/contact> and click on**