

## December 6, 2007 General Meeting

### Dr. James J. Johnson, Jr.

The title for our December 6 program is *Sketches are Timeless - Watercolor from Sketches Without Overworking*. The lecture/demonstration will be presented by Dr. James J. Johnson, Jr., long-time VAST member, who will speak on the relationship of a sketchbook to a watercolor artist. Johnson is a native Texan who graduated from Midland High School in 1953. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Art and Education from West Texas State University in 1957. He holds a Masters degree in Public Secondary School Administration from the University of Texas at El Paso and a doctorate in Art Education from Pennsylvania State University.

Since 1968 Johnson has been intensely involved in community activities such as the Denton Community Theater, The Greater Denton Arts Council, The Denton County Historical Commission, the Denton Chapter #23 Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and VAST, of which he is a charter member and for which he has served as President, Vice-President, and Parliamentarian. His involvement with these organizations and as a person who is concerned with the well-being of his community has enabled him to contribute significantly to the arts in Denton.

Dr. Johnson's art specialty is watercolor and he has participated in many juried exhibitions. His work has been accepted in the *Sun Carnival Art Exhibition*, El Paso Texas; the Texas and Louisiana Watercolor Societies; the Texas Fine Arts Association; and the Southwestern Watercolor Society. His work has been displayed in many galleries and museums throughout Texas, including Denton, where his work may be seen in the permanent collection of the Greater Denton Arts Council and the Denton Water Department. He has received awards not only for his art, but also for his community activities. He was designated a Professor Emeritus of the University of North Texas in 1995 and also served as President of the Greater Denton Arts Council from 1979-1980. In 2004 Dr. Johnson was awarded the CARA, the Community Arts Recognition Award given by the Greater Denton Arts Council, in recognition of his many years of involvement in the community arts. He is married to Dr. Mary Lynn Johnson who collaborates with him on patriotic programs presented at meetings of the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, and other community organizations.

Dr. Johnson is a man of many talents: artist, educator, jurist, consultant, and community activist. He has designed or worked on sets for many theatre productions and has also designed posters and program covers for many plays. He taught drawing and art education for twenty-seven years at the University of North Texas. He is never without a sketchbook where he records and highlights scenes from community art events.

Carmen Underwood



Sketches by Dr. James J. Johnson, Jr., VAST member and December presenter.

### Mark Your Calendar

- December 6** ■ VAST 2008 Calendar Exhibition Reception  
The Chestnut Tree - 4:30 - 6:30 pm
- December 9** ■ GDAC Gala - [www.dentonarts.com](http://www.dentonarts.com)
- December 14** ■ Critique Group - Jo Nash's House, 10am - 1 pm
- December 21** ■ Entry Deadline - VAST 40th Annual Exhibition

### VAST Gala Honoring Dean Mitchell



Dean Mitchell

Ticket sales are underway for the gala honoring Dean Mitchell on January 18, 2008 at the Center for the Visual Arts. The evening will begin at 5:00 pm with a reception and exhibition opening of Dean's work in the East Gallery. This will be followed by a dinner of soul food and a slide lecture and artist discussion by Dean. The evening will culminate with a performance of the Bourbon Street Stompers playing traditional Dixieland jazz from New Orleans.

Tickets are \$45 for VAST members and \$60 for non-members. Patron tables seating 8 are available for \$850; Sponsor tables are \$600. Deadline for ticket purchase is January 11.

Dean Mitchell, recognized as one of the finest painters in America, is known for his figurative, landscape, and still-life paintings. This Florida artist works primarily in watercolor but is equally accomplished in egg tempera, oil, and pastel. Dean holds memberships in numerous national art organizations. His hundreds of awards include the Gold Medal of Honor from the American Watercolor Society and the Grand Prize from the Arts in the Parks Competition.

The exhibition of Dean's work runs through February 29.



Silent Strength, oil on board, 35x40

Jo Williams

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- 40th Annual National Exhibition Update
- Members Doing Great Things
- VAST Artist of the Month

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<i>President</i>	Lynne Cagle Cox	Lynne.Cox@verizon.net 469.648.0114
<i>Vice President</i>	Mary Ann Byerly	pointinglabs@aol.com 817.229.3546
<i>Secretary</i>	Barbara Evans	barbbevans@aol.com 214.673.3322
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	Gloria Anderson	gloriander@charter.net
	Thom Anderson	CRM2193@bn.com
	Robin W. Butt	ptar12a@yahoo.com
	Kerry Goree	kerry.goree.c0w9@statefarm.com
	Becca Hines	rjhines1921@verizon.net
	James R. Kirkpatrick	jim@k-a-studio.com
	Robert Milnes	milnes2@centurytel.net
	Larry Monroe	MagicLightImages@aol.com
	Colby Parsons	colby@colbyvision.com
	Teri Rheault	poodlewrangler@verizon.net
	Carmen Underwood	tjunderwood@texoma.net
	Jorge Urbina	djurbina@texstar.us
	Bobbie Cordes Windle	bobbie.windle@charter.net

### Staff 2007-2008

<i>Executive Director</i>	Jo Williams	texjo@msn.com 940.383.1092
<i>Assistant to Executive Director</i>	Deanna Wood	deanna.wood@verizon.net 940.320.5102
<i>Webmaster</i>	Billie Jean Kam	billiejeankam@hotmail.com 940.367.8946

**Interested in joining?  
Visit us on the web!  
[www.VASStarts.org](http://www.VASStarts.org)**

### November Artist of the Month

- 1st place  
Eloise Sears  
*Memories of Perugia*  
8 1/4" x 12"  
watercolor

"The narrow backstreets of Perugia, with their unexpected twists and turns, mysterious small windows, and winding stairways, provided a memorable Italian experience. I enjoyed capturing the uneven texture, colors, and shadows in watercolor."



- 2nd place  
Mary Wright

### November Door Prize Winners

Voertman's - Evalyn Coulter  
Recycled Books - T.J. Goodrum

### Members Doing Great Things

VAST member artists **Robin Butt, Paula Collins, Jeanne Heartsill, Carin Horn, June Impson, Tonya Littmann, Teri Rheault, Carolyn Riegelman, Ingrid Scobie, Marilyn Smith, Judy Uebelacker, and Jo Williams** donated works of art to the 2007 TAG Auction benefitting GDAC's art-related grants program. Proceeds from this annual event directly benefit VAST programs and events. **Debby Price** received second place for her painting *Where the Wind Blows (All A Flutter)* in the *6th Annual Irving Arts Association Juried Wildlife Art Show* at the Irving Jaycee Center for the Arts. **Jo Williams'** house was part of the December 1 local tour of homes supporting the American Association of University Women (AAUW) annual scholarship fundraiser.

### Important CVA Parking Notice

The Greater Denton Arts Council no longer owns the cottage at the south end of their parking lot. Stanford Automotive is the new owner of the cottage. Due to this change in ownership parking is no longer available for the CVA south of the paved parking area. This area is for use by the business in the cottage and the automotive business. This is very important as the tenants of the cottage are a separate entity and may decide to tow cars parked in their lot. People may still use our entire parking lot, the grassy area close to the railroad tracks, and the lot directly across Mulberry from the Central Fire Station for Center for the Visual Arts events. In the future, please be sure to park only in these areas.

## ■ VAST Financial Report 12/01/2007

### Inwood National Bank

#### Certificate of Deposit

September 27 Balance:	5,669.92
Int. Earned:	24.46
October 27 Balance:	5,694.38
Int. Earned:	25.40
November 27 Balance:	\$5,719.78

#### Money Market Account

October 1 Balance:	2,543.21
Int. Earned:	5.30
November 1 Balance:	\$2,548.51

### Wells Fargo

#### Checking Account

September 30 Balance:	7,933.64
Deposits:	3,254.00
Withdrawals:	(3,203.06)
October 31 Balance:	7,984.58
Deposits:	3,517.55
Withdrawals:	(4,673.64)
November 30 Balance:	6,828.49
Current Balance (12/01/2007)	\$6,828.49

**TOTAL CASH ASSETS (12/01/2007): \$15,096.78**

## ■ DBL Grant Awarded to VAST

VAST received a grant from the Denton Benefit League in the amount of \$1,117.98. Funds will be used to purchase two presentation easels, an all-in-one HP color printer/fax/scanner, a Canon digital camera, and two vertical four-drawer legal file cabinets.

## ■ 40th Annual Exhibition - Deadline Approaching

Friday, December 21, is the deadline for our 2008 national exhibition. VAST members may submit up to three images for a non-refundable fee of \$30. An electronic copy of the prospectus is available on the VAST website: [www.vastarts.org](http://www.vastarts.org). Entries may be submitted via U.S. mail or online via the VAST website. Only one image per person will be selected for the exhibition. For more information on Juror Nic Nicosia, see Lucinda Breeding's column in the December 2, 2007 issue of the *Denton Record-Chronicle*.

## ■ VAST/DPA Collaborative Exhibition Opportunity

VAST and the Denton Poets Assembly will collaborate for a paired works exhibition in celebration of Poetry Month next April. Since this is a partnership event, preparations are already underway. Jo Williams is the VAST coordinator for this exhibition.

Poems will be available for viewing/selection at our December meeting. If you would like to submit artwork so that poets can select works as well, please email images to Lynne Cox ([lyne.cox@verizon.net](mailto:lyne.cox@verizon.net)). You can view some of the submitted works online: [www.vastarts.org/VAST\\_DPA/VAST\\_DPA.htm](http://www.vastarts.org/VAST_DPA/VAST_DPA.htm)

The webpage will be updated as pairing decisions are made.

## Letter From the President

Seasons Greetings!

Last year I wrote about winter being one of my favorite times of the year. Even though my life has changed incredibly this year, my love of this season has remained constant. In addition to looking forward to the birth of our little one, this year Kevin and I are enjoying my M.E. Moses aluminum Christmas tree and color ball together; we have finished most of our Christmas shopping; and we are putting the finishing touches on the decorations around our house. VAST has experienced a number of organizational changes this year as well, yet the quality of our events and programs remains consistently exceptional.

Our VAST holiday season begins with a reception at The Chestnut Tree this Thursday, December 6th from 4:30-6:30. The opening of our *2008 Exhibition: Original Calendar Works* will be a fun time to enjoy good food, friends and fine art. A limited number of VAST calendars signed by our featured artists will also be available for purchase. Just in time for Christmas, these calendars make excellent gifts and stocking stuffers!

The festivities continue in January with Slide/Image Night for our 2008 national exhibition. Please come join the fun January 3rd at 6:00 pm at the CVA. JJ's Pizza will provide pizza for this event; VAST members should bring a salad or dessert to share. Contact Becca Hines with questions.

January also brings our 4th Annual Gala honoring painter Dean Mitchell and featuring a delightful Dixieland jazz performance by the Bourbon Street Stompers. A delectable menu of soul food is planned to round out the evening. See the story on page 1 of this issue of *Vision* or contact Jo Williams for details. January 18th will be a truly spectacular evening and one which you will not want to miss!

One year ago we adopted our new mission statement: *Artists and community connecting to create and celebrate visual arts!* I look forward to seeing you in the weeks ahead as we celebrate arts together during this wonderful winter season.



## 2007-2008 Monthly Programs

September 12, 2007	Stephen Zhang – Watercolor
October 4, 2007	Eric McGehearty – Sculpture
November 1, 2007	Marilyn Waligore – Photography
December 6, 2007	James J. Johnson, Jr. – Sketchbooks
January 3, 2008	James R. Kirkpatrick – Architecture
February 7, 2008	Deanna Wood – Encaustic
March 6, 2008	Lee Atkins – Clay
April 3, 2008	Dave Maxwell – Watercolor
May 1, 2008	Kelly Donahue-Wallace – Art History

Regular meetings are usually held at 7pm at the Center for Visual Arts, 400 East Hickory St., Denton, TX.

P.O. Box 1281  
Denton, TX 76202  
www.VASTarts.org

Dr. James J. Johnson, Jr.  
Watercolor  
December 6, 2007

\$50 Voertman's Door Prize  
Additional mini-show prizes!

Please send information you wish to have included in *Vision* by the 15th of each month to: Caroline Latawiec, deepsrcr@gmail.com.  
*Vision* is published the last Monday before the last Thursday of each month, September through May.

- Center for the Visual Arts**  
Meadows Gallery  
East Gallery  
WATER/COLOR: Rob Erdle  
*Retrospective*  
Works based on "water" theme  
Through December 22
- UNT COVAD Gallery**  
WATER/COLOR: Rob Erdle  
*Retrospective*  
Works based on "color" theme  
Through December 22
- UNT Union Gallery**  
Brian Baugh  
Through December 13
- McKinney Avenue Contemporary**  
Dawn Dedaux  
Through December 15
- Dallas Contemporary**  
Open Doors Expansion  
Through January 12, 2008
- Dallas Museum of Art**  
Domains of Wonder: Selected  
Masterworks of Indian Painting  
Through January 27, 2008
- Kimbell Art Museum**  
Picturing the Bible: The Earliest  
Christian Art  
Through March 30, 2008
- Visual Arts Coalition of Dallas**  
Associated Creative Artists Show  
Through December 31
- Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth**  
Declaring Space  
Through January 6, 2008

- Gulf South Regional Contemporary Art Exhibit**  
Deadline: December 11  
BECA gallery in New Orleans, LA presents the *Gulf South Regional Contemporary Art Exhibit* from Jan. 5-31, 2008. This competition for group exhibition is open to all visual artists residing in Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida working in 2-D and 3-D mediums. For more information:  
becagallery.typpedad.com/my\_weblog/2007/11/beca-gallery-to.html  
Deadline: December 15
- TVAA New Members Show**  
New members of the Texas Visual Arts Association may exhibit their work at the TVAA Downtown Gallery Jan. 3-31, 2008. Contact Duke Horn (Dukehorn59@hotmail.com) for more information. Entry fee is \$5 per artwork.  
Deadline: December 18
- TAG Juried Members**  
The Trinity Arts Guild will host its annual *Juried Members Exhibition*, Dec. 18-Jan. 15. Bring up to three paintings on Dec. 18 from 9 am - 9 pm. Non-members may join at time of entry. For more info see the TAG website: trinityartsguild.com  
Deadline: December 21
- VAST 40th Annual Visual Arts Exhibition**  
Awards: BOS \$1000; \$1,000+ Cash and Merchandise. Juror: Nic Nicosia, photographer. Full-color Catalog. Entry Fee: \$35 non-members, \$30 members; max 3 slides/digital images. Prospectus for entry details: SASE to VAST, PO Box 1281, Denton, TX 76202; online www.VASTarts.org. Media: 2D/3D; no installations. Questions: VASTpresident@verizon.net.

Art Around Town

Calls for Entries