



*Chris Sommerfelt*

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## *Artist Statement*

I am a watercolor artist. I believe no medium works better than watercolor for expressing the beauty of the natural world. It's transparency and the way that pigment mixes and moves in the water gives the medium its own voice in addition to the intent of the artist. Nature is my primary subject matter, be it a landscape, wildflowers or an intimate close-up of the natural world. It is from nature that my creative energy flows. My hope is that viewers of my art feel my connection to nature when they see my art.

## *Artist Biography*

Artist and graphic designer, Chris Sommerfelt discovered watercolor at an adult evening class in the early 1980s and has since been intrigued with what happens when you mix pigment and water. Chris has since studied with Bridget Austin, Win Jones, Joye Moon, Tom Francesconi, Sharon Crosbie, Ann Miotke and Alice Struck. All of these artists have influenced Chris along her artistic journey, and she thanks them.

Chris has work in private collections as well as twelve pieces in the corporate collection of Northwestern Mutual Life.

Chris currently teaches watercolor at the Hart Park Senior Center and through the Wauwatosa Recreation Department. She has taught classes at the UW-Waukesha extension and through "Wet Your Art Palette" in North Lake, WI. In addition, Chris teaches a week-long watercolor workshop at The Clearing in Door County as well as two-day workshops. Chris has been asked to conduct critiques, demos, and judge exhibits for local art groups. She is member of the League of Milwaukee Artists, past exhibition chair for Wisconsin Watercolor Society, and mentor for the Wauwatosa Artist's Workshop. Chris has received numerous merit awards at Wauwatosa Artist Workshop art exhibits in southeastern Wisconsin. She was an award winner in the statewide 2016 "Watercolor Wisconsin" exhibit at the Wustum Museum in Racine, and the statewide 2014 "Alive in the Arts" exhibit at the Plymouth Art Center.

In addition to her watercolors, Chris is an accomplished fiber artist who has received local and national recognition for her art quilts and has had two solo exhibits featuring those quilts.

For a list of juried, small group and solo exhibitions, see the other side of this sheet.

## Chris Sommerfelt – Solo, Small Group, and Juried Exhibits

- Watercolor Wisconsin 2017  
Wustum Museum, Racine, WI
- Artisan 179, 2017  
Pewaukee, WI
- Iconic Wisconsin 2017  
Cedarburg Art Museum, Cedarburg, WI
- Artisan 179 (solo) 2017  
Pewaukee, WI
- Alive in the Arts 2017  
Plymouth Arts Center, Plymouth, WI
- Gallery at The Blue, Fine Art Montage,  
2017, Milwaukee, WI
- Watercolor Wisconsin 2016 – Award Winner  
Wustum Museum, Racine, WI
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2016  
(small group) Milwaukee, WI
- Pyramax Bank Gallery (Third Ward) Fall 2016  
Milwaukee, WI (small group)
- Boerner Garden House (solo) July 2016
- Waukesha Civic Theater (small group) Summer 2016
- Arts Mill, Fine Art Montage, 2016  
Grafton, WI
- Waukesha Civic Theater, Fine Art Montage, Summer 2016  
Waukesha, WI (5 artists)
- Boerner Garden House, Summer 2016  
(solo) Milwaukee, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists, Summer 2016  
Rahr West Art Museum, Manitowoc, WI
- Alive in the Arts 2016  
Plymouth Arts Center, Plymouth, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists, Spring 2016  
Villa Terrace, Milwaukee, WI
- Watercolor Wisconsin 2015  
Wustum Museum, Racine, WI
- Interfaith Lifetime Art Competition 2015; Various venues, SE WI
- Pyramax Bank Gallery (Third Ward) 2015  
Milwaukee, WI (3 artists)
- Watercolor Wisconsin 2014  
Wustum Museum, Racine, WI
- Bridgetown Art Gallery, Fine Art Montage, Fall 2014  
Wauwatosa, WI (5 artists)
- Alive in the Arts 2014, Award Winner  
Plymouth Arts Center, Plymouth, WI
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2014  
(solo) Milwaukee, WI
- Gallery Night Milwaukee Jan. 2013  
(solo), The Red Elephant, Milwaukee
- Alive in the Arts 2012  
Gallery 110, Plymouth, WI
- Guest Artist, Purloin Studio  
April, May 2012, Menomonee Falls, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists, 2012  
Schauer Art Center, Hartford
- Open Door Gallery 2011/2012 (solo)  
United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay, WI
- Waukesha Civic Theater Gallery, 2011  
(solo), Waukesha, WI
- Guest Artist, April/May 2011  
Purloin Studio, Menomonee Falls, WI
- Alive in the Arts 2011, Gallery 110, Plymouth, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2011  
Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts, Brookfield, WI
- Unitarian Universalist Church 2011  
(small group exhibit), Brookfield, WI
- Purloin Gallery Guest Artist, April/May 2011  
Menomonee Falls, WI
- Wauwatosa Public Library January 2011  
(solo) Wauwatosa, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2010  
Gallery 110, Plymouth, WI
- C'est la Vie Salon August 2010  
(solo) West Allis, WI
- Interfaith Artists (one of ten) August 2010  
Reuss Federal Building, Milwaukee
- Interfaith Lifetime Art Competition 2010; Various venues, SE WI
- Artists' Exhibition, April-May 2010  
The Art Bar, Milwaukee
- Alive in the Arts, 2010  
Gallery 110, Plymouth, WI
- Alfons Gallery February, 2010  
"Watercolor Quartet" (four artists)
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2009  
Anderson Arts Center, Kenosha, WI
- Interfaith Lifetime Art Competition 2009,  
Various venues, SE WI
- Alive in the Arts, 2009  
Gallery 110, Plymouth, WI
- St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2009, (solo) Milwaukee, WI
- Watercolor Wisconsin 2008  
Wustum Museum, Racine, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists, 2008  
Schauer Arts Center, Hartford, WI
- Alive in the Arts 2008  
Gallery 110, Plymouth, WI
- August Weber Haus 2008  
(solo) Cedarburg, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2008  
Museum of Wisconsin Art, West Bend
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2008  
Wisconsin Arts Board, Madison
- Wildscapes 2007  
sponsored by the Franklin Cultural Center, Franklin, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2007  
Uihlein Peters Gallery, St. John's on the Lake, Milwaukee
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2007  
Cedarburg Cultural Center, Cedarburg, WI
- Wildscapes 2006  
sponsored by the Franklin Cultural Center, Franklin, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2006,  
Mount Mary College, Milwaukee, WI
- League of Milwaukee Artists 2005  
Gallery 110, Plymouth, WI
- Midwest Winter 2005  
Center for Visual Arts, Wausau, WI
- Friendship Village 2004 (solo), Brown Deer, WI
- Business Art Connection 2002, Alfons Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
- Unitarian Universalist Church 2002 (solo), Brookfield, WI