

Pressing the Point

April 2025

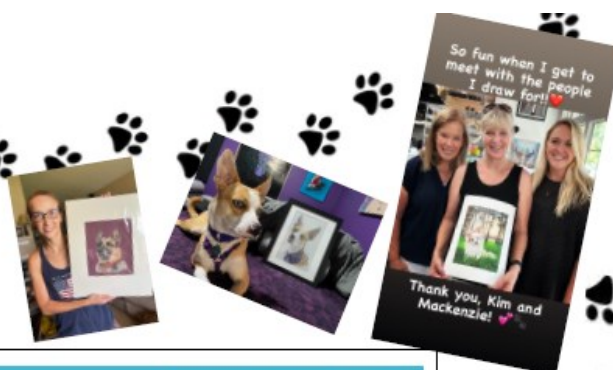
CPA
Colored Pencil Society of America

District Chapter 117 | Palm Coast FL



We meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 1:00 PM (except July & August).
Please check the website for any scheduling changes. www.cpsa117.org

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Pet Portrait Commissions

A New Artist's Perspective



Sunday, April 13, 2025*
1PM Eastern on Zoom

*Our April meeting date is earlier than usual due to the holiday.

Our speaker for our April meeting is **Linda Metzger**, an artist and a member of our chapter. Linda is going to share a great program on doing pet portrait commissions. She is going to tell her story - how she got started in commissions - and talk about the important things you should think about if you are considering this path. She will dive into pricing, marketing, shipping the finished portrait, and enjoyment of the process, the pets, and the people. Come join us to learn more about doing commissions as a colored pencil artist.

Membership renewals go to:

cpsa117.org

Membership page

cpsa117.org/membership

Welcome Back ~

We missed you!

Beth Harper

Sharon Shailer

Save these Dates !

CPSA117 Annual Show

Sep 21 - Nov 1, 2025

20th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

Oct 18-19, 2025

Join us for a workshop and luncheon

[April Meeting](#)

[March Meeting](#)

[CPSA-125 Possibilities](#)

[Classes](#)

April ~ Let it Rain!

“Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.” — Anthony J. D’Angelo

“Rainy days hold a special kind of beauty that is often overlooked. The way the raindrops cling to leaves and petals, the shimmering reflections in puddles, and the soft diffused light that bathes everything in a gentle glow ~ these are the little details that make rainy days truly magical.” — Agbeze Ireke Kalu Onuma, AI-KO , Lagos, Nigeria

Why does April make me think of rain? Maybe it starts with the old quote “April showers bring May flowers.” But it’s more than that. Raindrops sound out one big message ~ **Life!** Rain displays the many facets of life ~ from blooming plants, raging rivers, majestic clouds, foggy mountains, lapping waves, dripping leaves, muddy puddles. And not to forget the intangible qualities ~ emotions ranging from ethereal dancing sprites to the weighty life forces of Earth.

All these visions are waiting to leap to life with graphite and color. They are waiting patiently for your eyes, hands, and heart!

- ♦ **Program** ~ **Linda Metzger**, a highly successful pet portrait artist, is returning to share her “secrets” with her program **“Pet Portrait Commissions.”** Linda will tell her story how she got started with commissions and how you might consider this path. But there is a lot to consider (pricing, marketing, customer relations, shipping), but Linda so generously will invite you into her world. **Remember** ~ Linda now has a **blog** on Ann Kullberg’s website at <https://annkullberg.com/blogs/ann-muses/keep-your-face-to-the-sunshine>.
- ♦ **Talent Search** ~ We continue our appeal for members to step up and share your talents with the Chapter. Areas include programs (planning or presenting), newsletter, website, publicity, special events (like the K-9 portraits), or any new idea that you may have that would enhance the experience for the membership.
- ♦ **Facebook** ~ We would love to have you join us on Facebook. This is a great forum to share your works in progress. It is an opportunity to share your insights as well as pick up a few tips. We hope to see you there!

We look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting !!

March 2025 Chapter Meeting

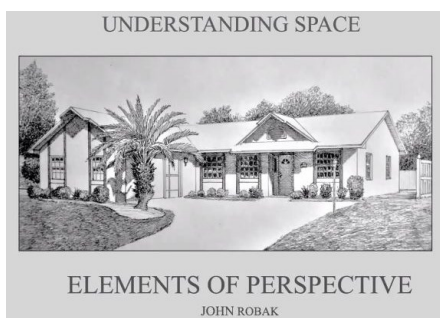
Judy Madigan, President, opened the meeting with a welcome to all. Judy also mentioned that 2025 is the Chapter's 20th anniversary with some events being planned and asked for volunteers to help with the planning. A chapter display for the convention was also mentioned.

AJ introduced **John Robak**. John taught as an art instructor at the high school for 30 years, teaching courses in drawing, painting, cartooning, photography, crafts, film and art history. John also taught drawing and painting in adult education programs and as a college adjunct. His free-lance work includes architectural renderings of historic sites, commercial illustrations, gallery sales, public murals, and commissions. John's favorite mediums are colored pencil, acrylics and pen and ink.



John has the further honor of a mural depicting early Florida and is displayed in the Government Services Building in Bunnell. Additionally, he was one of ten Florida artists selected by a Jacksonville environmental law group to update and reinterpret historic engravings of indigenous Florida tribes, a huge honor.

As an illustrator, John did *Daniel Doan's Fitness Program for Hikers and Cross-Country Skiers* and has also published a book, *Easy Lessons in Graphic Arts*, was published by J. Weston Walsh (and available on Amazon!). John is a member of the Colored Pencil Society of America, and has written eight articles that have been published in their magazine, *To the Point*.



John's presentation was quite extensive, comprised of over 80 slides. Yet, each topic discussed was fascinating and moved along so smoothly. We were a bit disappointed when it ended!

Here are some highlights of John's presentation with a few select slides included.

Spatial depth often involves one, two, and three-point perspective. But we must also consider ellipses, foreshortening, and contour lines to create a believable sense of space.

There are many components of perspective, which can be used individually or in tandem to create spatial depth:

- * Linear perspective: 1, 2, and 3 point
- * The ellipse
- * Foreshortening
- * Contour lines
- * Position in the picture frame
- * Overlapping planes
- * Converging diagonals
- * Diminishing details

As artists who are attempting to create three-dimensional space on a two-dimensional surface, we occasionally rely on the illusion of linear perspective.

Attributed to Filippo Brunelleschi of the Renaissance, **perspective consists of a horizon line, vanishing points, and converging diagonals.**



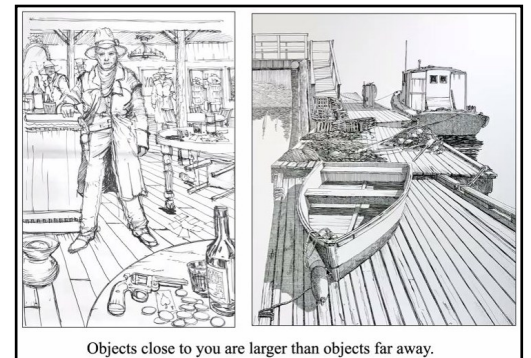
The School of Athens Raphael 1509-1511

Knowing the basic principles of linear perspective is helpful, but the system is not perfect because it is a mathematical system imposed on the natural world.

Therefore, it doesn't always work, and it takes practice and patience to understand its limitations.

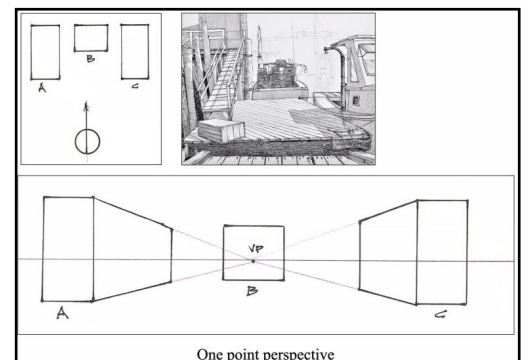
Linear perspective can often be complex. However, its principles can be summarized in a few simple statements.

1. **Rule Number One** ~ Objects close to you are larger than objects farther away.
2. The horizon line is determined by your position in relation to the scene.
3. Vanishing points are arbitrary locations at which diagonal lines of recession appear to merge.



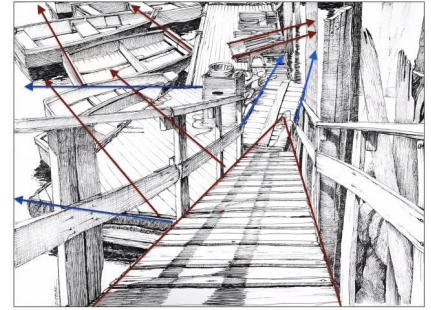
Objects close to you are larger than objects far away.

One-point perspective assumes the viewer is at a right angle to a surface, plane, or object. Vanishing points are arbitrary points that represent the focus of the viewer. They are valuable when aligning repeated shapes in space. **Vanishing points** do not always create realistic space.

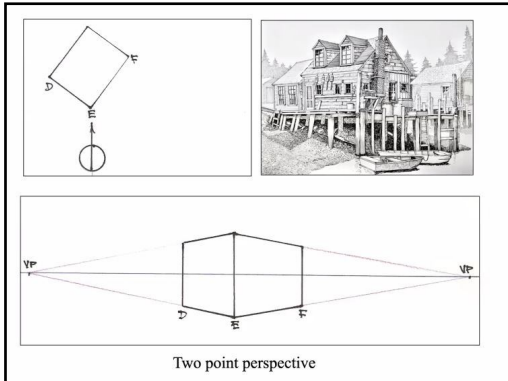


Renaissance artists certainly understood and used perspective. But not all followed the rules; some chose to approximate the illusion of perspective rather than to strictly adhere to it.

When drawing on location, I check perspective by holding a **pencil** against the angle and then transferring the angle to the drawing paper. The technique is as old as art itself.



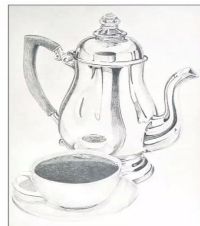
Vanishing Points



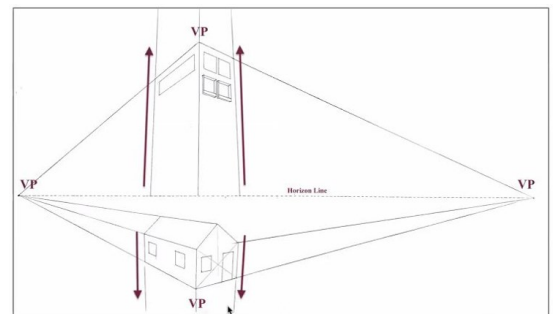
Two-point perspective assumes the viewer is at an oblique angle to and exterior or interior corner or edge. The viewer is neither parallel or at right angles to them.

The rectangle or square is the building block of any perspective drawing. The rectangle is the key to creating a circle in space, the ellipse. Remember that circles in perspective (which are now ellipses)

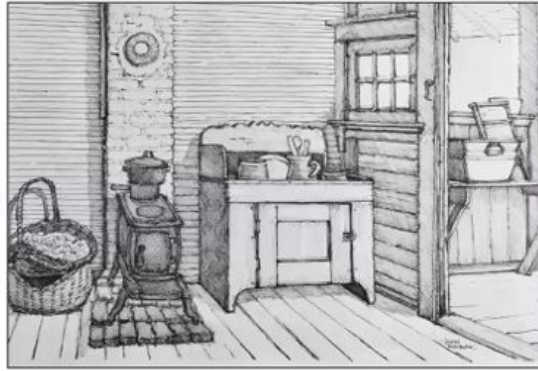
also are aligned relative to a horizon line. Imagining internal ellipses can help when drawing rounded objects in space ~ because what is **not** visible is as important as what is. So, draw through obstructing shapes to ensure the ellipse is correct.



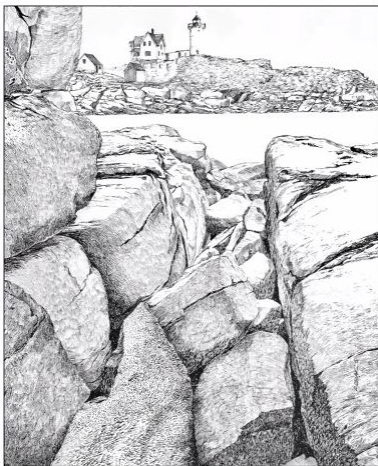
Three-point perspective is used when the viewer is above the subject or below. However, the location of the third point is arbitrary and based on the intent of the artist. Three-point perspective is often used for dramatic impact.



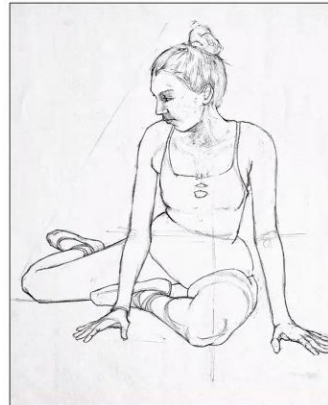
Photographs are also flawed because of lens distortions. So, be skeptical when using photos as a reference. Telephoto lenses compact space and create a false sense of depth. Always question the perspective when working from photographs. Look for angles and shapes that do not make sense.



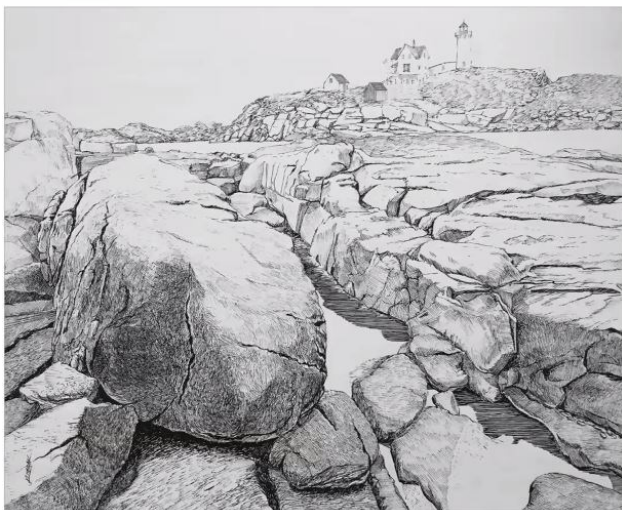
Foreshortening is a fundamental part of linear perspective, and it involves the projection of form to create depth. Foreshortening also applies to shallow space. Line thickness aids the illusion of foreshortening.



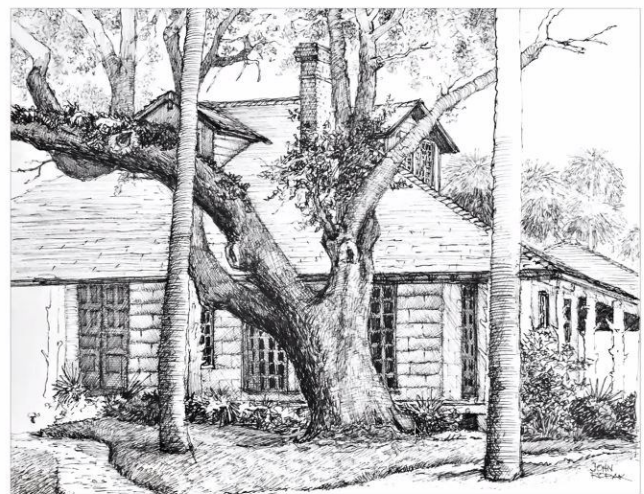
Contour lines also add dimension; they create depth and establish form and texture.



In addition to linear perspective and foreshortening, there are other ways to create a three-dimensional effect.



Position in the picture plane.

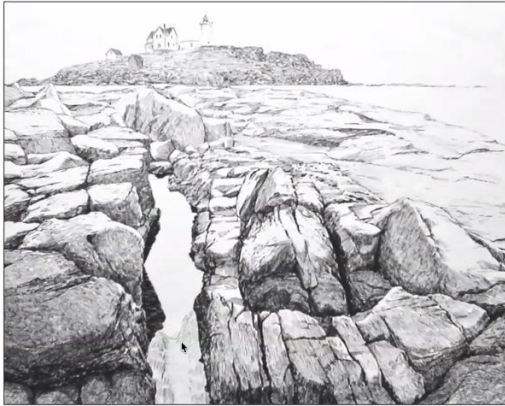


Overlapping planes

Repetition of shapes



Converging diagonals



Diminishing details.



...also known as *atmospheric perspective*, wherein details diminish and colors lose intensity.

Books and slide shows can help you with the basics, but you need to **train your eyes to see surfaces and angles**. Once you seek those imaginary horizon lines and vanishing points, you will begin to judge angles of recession accurately. Create imaginary scenes, observe the common objects in your environment and note how they exist in space. The more you draw, the more you learn.

To review: Perspective is how you, the artist, sees the world. Understanding linear perspective is helpful, but it has limits which can distort reality.

Trust your eyes. Even when you are not drawing, look around you. Visualize drawing the things in your environment and imagine a horizon line and vanishing points to establish them in space. Think about foreshortening, ellipses, and contour lines. Question your photographs.

We draw with our eyes before we reach for a pencil. Picture objects in perspective, and your understanding will increase. But, remember that learning only comes with practice. **Do that. Practice.**

Last, regardless of the complexity of your subject, always refer to rule number one.

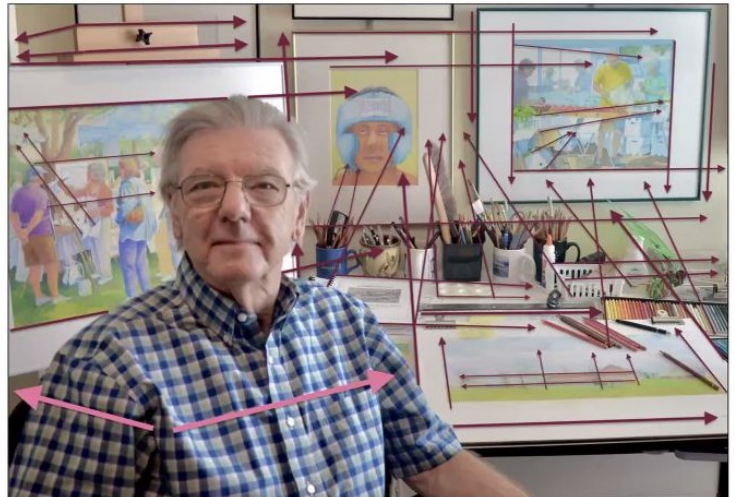
Rule Number One: Objects close to you are larger than objects farther away.



Always.

Last, if you have some idle time,
check out my website and blog at

johnrobak.com



Remember, whatever your subject, try to keep everything in perspective.

Thank you, John! For your incredible presentation!





Colored Pencil Society of America

District Chapter 125
Winston-Salem NC

Ask
questions
and interact
with **Master
Instructors**

Learn with
others at the
Watch Party

Workshop
recording to
all registrants

"Possibilities"

Painting with Colored Pencils

2025 Workshop Series hosted by CPSA DC 125 – Winston-Salem/Western NC

For more info and to register, go to cpsa125.org/workshops



John Middick – LIVE in Lewisville
April 25, 2025 – 5:30pm – 8:30pm ET - \$75
"Fundamentals of Portraits in Colored Pencil"

April 26, 2025 – 9am – 4pm ET - \$150
"Precision Portraits in Colored Pencil"



Barbara Dahlstedt – LIVE via Zoom
May 17, 2025 – 1 pm – 5 pm ET - \$85
"Cloudscape on Drafting Film"
"Watch Party" starts at 12:45pm



Amy Lindenberger - LIVE via Zoom
June 21, 2025 – 9 am – 4 pm ET - \$110
"Basic Botanicals – Lily Magnolia"
"Watch Party" starts at 8:45 am



Scott Krohn - LIVE via Zoom
Aug 23, 2025, 9 am – 4 pm ET - \$140
"Watery Dance"
"Watch Party" starts at 8:45 am



Gemma Gylling
LIVE via Zoom
2-Day Workshop

Sept 26 & 27, 2025
10 am – 5 pm ET - \$230
"Maine Coon Cat"

*"Watch Party" starts at
9:45 am*



Bonny Snowdon
LIVE via Zoom
Oct 18, 2025
9 am – 4 pm ET - \$190

"White Horse"
*"Watch Party" starts
at 8:45 am*



Classes Offered by Members

Pat Lentine

Colored Pencil and Pastel Artists - online Zoom classes: Each student brings to class a project they want to start. Individual input on each project. Class limited to 10 students. Tuesdays 7:00 - 9:00 pm and Wednesdays 1:00 - 3:00 Eastern. Register at my website www.patlentine.com/ or contact Pat at: pat@patlentine.com and 407-758-4437

Mixed Media Painting & Drawing: The Artists' Workshop of New Smyrna Beach, Mondays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM. This class is for students of all levels who want to improve their skills in colored pencil, pastel, acrylic, and watercolor. Pat will help you figure out how to start, make decisions, solve problems, and give finishing touches to your projects. Contact: pat@patlentine.com and 407-758-4437

Kathie Miranda

Songbirds in Graphite Pencil, Songbirds in Color and Songbirds Nests

Registration Open Now: 3 Thursdays ~ **Apr 24, May 1, May 8, 2025**,
Zoom, 10 am-1 pm EST.

Working from your own photographs of a favorite songbird, we will closely examine the bird's anatomy: skeleton, topography, and feathers. Understanding bird posture, proportions and balance is key to create a realistic drawing.

Beginning with bones, we'll study a generalized bird skeleton to learn bird structure and silhouette.

Next, the bird will come to life - from its beak to its feet - with an examination of its form and center of balance.

Lastly, we'll add the wonderful details - with particular emphasis on eyes, facial features and how feathers grow following the topography of the bird's body.

* **Please note** this is Class One of a series of three. It may be taken on its own, or as a preparation for the next class, "**Songbirds in Color**" coming this summer. "**Birds Nests**" is coming this fall. *

Email me for more information and to register: kathiemiranda@me.com



"Stone Still"

If you are offering instruction, please let us know so your information can be included in future issues.

Our Board Members

CPSA-DC 117

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Judy Madigan

Vice President:

Pat Lentine

Secretary:

Priscilla Humay

Treasurer:

Kathi Darby

Membership:

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Newsletter/Website:

AJ Barr

Historian:

Kathy Viehe

Publicity:

Jo Ann Eurell

President Emeritus:

Hanneke Jevons

Membership Information

Chapter Membership Benefits:

- Networking with other colored pencil artists
- Participation in sketch groups
- Member discount rate for local workshops
- Chapter newsletter
- Opportunities for exhibits and event participation

A member of the local CPSA DC117 St. Augustine Chapter must also be a member of the Colored Pencil Society of America.

The benefits of CPSA membership are worth it:

- A national newsletter, To The Point, twice yearly.
- Product research, pigment identification, lightfast information
- Lower entry fee for annual CPSA exhibitions
- Lower rate for workshops at CPSA Convention
- International membership networking directory
- District Chapters for local and regional networking
- Free link to your website
- Ability to earn Signature status
- NOTE: Only CPSA members who have attained Signature Status may use the initials CPSA or CPX after their name.

CPSA remains firmly dedicated to the fundamental principles of inclusion and diversity, and to racial justice as an inalienable human right.

Newsletter Contact Info:

For submissions and requests to be profiled, please contact either AJ or Linda.

AJ 386-283-2433

cpsa117palmcoast@gmail.com

Linda 386-295-0486

lindadoup@att.net



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

☐ Check if you have paid CPSA National

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP CODE: _____

EMAIL: (Please print) _____

PHONE(s): _____ (Home) _____ (Cell)

- Annual chapter dues are **\$20**.
- Membership year runs from November 1st to October 31st.
- Applications for CPSA National can be obtained through the website: www.cpsa.org

GO TO THE WEBSITE cpsa117.org/membership to complete the online form.

Then to the Store page to complete the payment. Thank you!