



The Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia

John Withers Scholarship Program for emerging artists

presents

The Mysteries of Pastel Workshop

a 2-day Pastel Workshop
Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 August 2026



Lyn Mellady



Walter Withers



Linda Finch

When	Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 August 2026 9am- 4.30pm
Where	Ferntree Gully Community Arts Centre 1010 Burwood Hwy, Ferntree Gully VIC 3156
Tutors	<p>Meet Your Tutors</p> <p>Lyn Mellady PSVA, awarded Master Pastelist status in 2024, is an accomplished Australian artist with over four decades of experience exhibiting in Oils and Pastels. Her evocative landscapes, especially waves and shorelines, have earned her national acclaim, including representation in five city government collections across Australia and Japan, and even Parliament House in Canberra. Lyn brings a deep understanding of the pastel medium and a passion for expressive, nature-inspired art.</p> <p>Linda Finch PSVA combines a strong design background with a warm and accessible teaching style. A former Studio Manager in one of Melbourne's top design studios, she now devotes her creativity to pastel painting and teaching. Linda is a Master Pastelist with the PSVA, a Fellow of the Australian Guild of Realist Artists (AGRAF) and has been a PSVA committee member for over 10 years. Her goal is to help artists feel confident and creative, no matter their skill level.</p>

About the workshop	<p>In 2022, John Withers and the Withers family generously pledged a perpetual donation to the Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia (PSVA), with a heartfelt vision: to support and nurture emerging artists. Today, we are proud to see that vision come to life through <i>the John Withers Scholarship Program</i>.</p> <p>We warmly invite all pastel artists—whether starting out or emerging—to join us for this inspiring workshop, alongside the four talented recipients of the 2026 John Withers Scholarship Program.</p> <p>This hands-on Workshop offers a unique opportunity to deepen your skills and expand your creativity in the luminous medium of soft pastel. Paint alongside our expert Tutors (both awarded PSVA Master Pastellist status) as they guide you through essential techniques and topics, including the history of pastels, colour theory, pastel types and surfaces, mark making, underpainting, and more.</p> <p>Spots are limited, so be sure to book early and secure your place on this exciting artistic journey.</p>
Cost:	<p>The fee for PSVA Members is \$240 and for Non-members is \$270 for the two-day Workshop. This Workshop is free to attend for the JWSP awardees for 2026/27.</p> <p>Payment to be made via the Pastel Society of Victoria, Australia's Workshops webpage at https://vicpastel.com.au/workshops/</p>
To Book	<p>Booking is a 2-Step process. Your place in this workshop will only be secured once both the Registration Form & Payment have been made.</p> <p>Step 1. Register : Go to our Workshops webpage & fill out the online Registration Form & Submit the form online.</p> <p>Step 2. Pay Online : Go to our Workshops webpage & proceed with the online payment.</p> <p>It is expected that this will be a very popular workshop limited to only 14 participants, so to avoid disappointed it is recommended that you book in early.</p> <p><i>When enrolling in a PSVA Workshop we require full payment. Please note that \$50.00 of the Workshop fee is non-refundable. The balance of the fee will be refunded if you cancel at least 7 days prior to the Workshop, but only if your place is filled. The Workshop Coordinator, in consultation with the President and/or Treasurer, has the discretion to alter the above Policy should extenuating circumstances apply.</i></p>
Contact:	<p>JWSP Coordinator Ros Chiarotto Email jwsp@vicpastel.com.au</p> <p>Workshop Coordinator Kerrie Carter Mobile 0477 696 076 Email workshop@vicpastel.com.au</p> <p>Our website vicpastel.com.au</p>
Morning tea and Lunch	<p>Morning tea will be provided. Please bring your own mug and lunch.</p>
Further information	<p>A material list will be provided to registered participants closer to the date. Please bring your own easel (floor or table) if you have one. Tables will be available.</p>

For more information on the John Withers Emerging Pastel Scholarship Artist Program
www.vicpastel.com.au/programs



What is the John Withers Scholarship Program for emerging artists?

In 2022, John Withers and the Withers family proposed a perpetual donation to the Pastel Society Victoria, Aust. Inc (PSVA) with the vision of providing support to emerging pastel artists. This vision has become a reality and it is with great pride that we offer four emerging artists an opportunity to indulge in the beautiful pastel medium with support. We are also offering approximately 8 artists to also undertake the workshop with the scholarship winners so that you can have the opportunity to get back to basics and learn the foundations of the pastel medium and learn from our top Victorian Pastel Tutors.

Check out our website for more information at
vicpastel.com.au/john-withers-scholarship-program