

## Pat Dews AWS D.F., NWS - *Abstracting Nature*

### Two-Day Workshop at the Elliott Museum – January 26 & 27, 2019

#### Day 1

- Design talk review of Pat's paintings.
- 2 painting starts - morning - shape making, over lapping shapes (15" x 15") sheet afternoon - Demo - I use masks as an understructure design - full painting
- Texture, color, composition, masking, spraying and pouring covered
- Demo using watercolors, inks and acrylics
- Students paint their own starts - all unique - no clones - non-objective or realistic elements included - abstracted flowers, birches, seascapes
- Daily positive critiques as I circulate - all based on design elements

#### Day 2

- Use a view finder to find good design images or use images I provide that are the design - full sheet painting
- Demo and then students paint their own unique paintings - no clones
- All view finder starts are seen on an easel - construction paper and my collage pieces used to make next step suggestions
- Afternoon - I demo finishing techniques - using acrylic paints - line work, scumbling, transfers, sgraffito (scraping through the top layer to reveal the underpainting), texturing with newspapers, wax paper transfers, plastic wrap transfers, gesso special effects - using rubbing alcohol, cropping
- Students paint - positive critiques as I circulate

Students are encouraged to bring their own photo references of abstract shapes, as well. Look for extreme close ups of interesting shapes - think junk yards, boat yards, plant life, rusty pieces, parts of buildings that have interesting shapes, angles and rock walls. Some paintings may be finished, others in different stages of completion. A 2 day workshop is a jump start. It is important to try new ideas and get a lot of work going. Finishing pieces and finishing touches can come later in the studio, as the student works quietly on her/his own. Students will leave with many new ideas and new excitement. Many students write later, saying how their work has grown and that they will never work the same again.