








# Second practice: Physician-turned-watercolorist to showcase works in storied Kansas art center

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Apr 24, 2025 Updated Apr 24, 2025  0



Mark Grosserode

**Mark Grosserode** had no idea art would become such a central part of his life until he was well into his 20s.

“There were early influences,” Grosserode says. “My mother had studied art in college and, despite having seven kids, she continued her practice as time would allow.” Grosserode was also developing his artistic vision and preferences as he grew up in a small, eastern Nebraska town.

After starting medical school in 1982, Grosserode realized he needed a creative outlet. He started drawing. He spent the next 15 years sketching at “every possible moment.”

“I started an intense study of art, reading about art and visiting art museums,” he says. As a result, he has developed a wide range of influences including the most famous watercolorists: Edward Hopper, Andrew Wyeth and Winslow Homer. Over time he has also gained an ever-increasing appreciation for abstraction.

Photography is an important part of Grosserode’s practice. He received a camera in 1986 and began his study of photography. After a medical mission and photographic journey to India in 1990, he came to understand the power of the medium. His advancements in photography have positively impacted his art.








Grosserode took up watercolor painting in the late 1990s, and after an early retirement from medicine in 2012, he started to paint full time. He was self-trained to that point but shortly after retirement he met fellow watercolorists Anke Dodson and Monte Toon.

“They helped me correct deficiencies and became fast friends,” says Grosserode, who continues to live in Tulsa with his wife, **Ruth**, and his cat, Sam. He has participated in local and international shows. Award-winning shows have included Tulsa Mayfest, Independence Kansas Art Center, Artists of Northwest Arkansas and Watercolor USA, where he was awarded the Robert E. Goodier Award for Traditional Transparent Watercolor in 2022 for his painting “Image and Apparition.” He is also a signature member of the Watercolor Honor Society.

Grosserode also is working toward attaining signature membership in the American Watercolor Society, an international art society founded in 1866 whose members include the famous watercolorists noted above. In 2019 Grosserode’s watercolor “American Ciphers” was accepted by AWS and was exhibited in New York City at the Salmagundi Club. A second painting, “From the High Line,” was accepted by AWS in 2023.

A collection of Grosserode’s work will be on exhibit this summer at the Birger Sandzen Memorial Gallery in Lindsborg, Kansas. The show, “Meditations in Watercolor,” will include more than 40 pieces, many for sale and in all price ranges. The show will run from May 4-July 20, 2025. The opening is from 2-4 p.m., May 4, and Grosserode will be showing in the Lofgren and Wallin Rooms.

Learn more at [grosserodefineart.com](https://grosserodefineart.com).

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