

Watchung Hills Regional High School

Hall of Fame



David Bareford

Class of 1965

Perhaps there is something in the Watchung Hills water that inspires great art, as David Bareford is the second artist to have been inducted into the WHRHS Hall of Fame in as many years. Or, in David's case, perhaps it has to do with water and the beautiful color in the Watchung Hills, as David initially made his professional name as an artist specializing in water colors.

David Bareford spent only his senior year at Watchung Hills Regional High (1964-1965), but during that year he found a synergy with art teacher, Mr. Larry Von Beidel. David had talent; Mr. Von Beidel recognized it and nurtured it until the passion for art become a force in David. By the end of his senior year, David Bareford had won two awards in a local art show.

As David pursued his education, his passion for art continued, but his medium changed. After a shift in locale, David graduated with a degree in Fine Arts from the University of Montana in 1970.

David was very successful as a water colorist early in his career, participating in shows hosted by Allied Artists of America, the American Watercolor Society and the National Academy of Design. But David wanted to grow as an artist and started the transition into oil painting. It is in oil painting, especially subjects related to New England sailing and rowing scenes, that David Bareford really found his niche.

Mr. Bareford's works have been exhibited throughout the country, winning many awards. In addition to the professional connections listed above, David is also a member of the Rockport Art Association and the Copley Society of Boston.

Whether it was the Watchung Hills water or the fall colors, something clicked for David Bareford. We are pleased to welcome him to the WHRHS Hall of Fame.