FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Writers of Southern Nevada Launches PAINTED STORIES Local Writers Group Partners with Local Artists for New Reading Series

Las Vegas, NV: Local non-profit Writers of Southern Nevada (WSN) is collaborating with award winning artist Mike Davies for the first in a new mixed media series called PAINTED STORIES. To foster talented writers in Las Vegas, four to five writers will be chosen to read 10-15 minute narratives, short stories or excerpts from longer published work while the artist uses their words as inspiration to paint a picture behind them as they read. The first PAINTED STORIES event will take place Sunday, February 8, 2015 in the Vegas Room of the Bootlegger Bistro from 2-4PM. Admission is free for WSN members and \$10 for the general public. Doors will open at 1PM so guests can arrive early to enjoy lunch at the landmark restaurant. Mr. Davies' paintings will be available for sale after the event, as will books by the featured authors.

"WSN has been around for four years, but we just recently became a membership-based organization," says new WSN President Eric Miller. "This is our first public event since our two day fiction writing conference in October 2013 and we're really excited to host an afternoon of art inspired by words. We look forward to hosting a series of mixed media events like PAINTED STORIES and partner with other artists, dancers, improvisational actors and writers this year."

Mike Davies works in various media, including acrylics, colored pencil, Lino block printing, mural art and sculpture. In October 2014 he won the State of Nevada Recycled Art Contest for his piece Trumpeteer. Mike's subject matter has included surfing, landscapes and abstracts, but overwhelmingly he has found portraiture, both human and animal, to be his favorite subject matter in all his different media. He is a member of the Summerlin Art Group where he gives both private and group classes in drawing, Lino block printing and colored pencil. He is also a special effects and lighting tech with "Mystere" by Cirque du Soleil. For more information about our first featured artist, visit: <u>http://slomotionarts.artspan.com</u>

About WSN: Writers of Southern Nevada (WSN) is a 501c(3) non-profit dedicated to working with other literary organizations to co-sponsor and promote literary events in and around Las Vegas. WSN sponsored local writing conferences from 2011-2013 before becoming a membership-based organization in late 2014. Now dedicated to year-round programming, aside from launching PAINTED STORIES, in the coming months WSN will present various craft and career workshops, host an events page and speaker's bureau and organize a writers retreat. Membership is \$45/year and new members and new ideas for programming are always welcome.