

Hutchinson Art Center Spring 2019 Workshops

Instructor: Nancy Sliker

Workshop: Introduction to Watercolor Painting

Start Date: February 2nd, 2019

End Date: April 13th, 2019

****NO CLASSES ON MARCH 30TH****

Meeting Time: Saturday morning, 8:00-10:00 am

Instructor Contact Information: sliknl@yahoo.com

Watercolor Workshop Course Syllabus

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce the basic elements of watercolor painting to students with little or no previous experience. Students will work with water-color and will explore the many ways it can be handled. Instruction will be given on preparation of materials and specific exercises will be given so that students will explore color, light, texture, transparency and composition. Exercises become more complex as students work from initial sketches or photographs to more developed pieces. While working to attain an understanding of the medium, the student is challenged to translate concepts into visual images that work. Demonstrations of different techniques will be given. At each class students will be helped and critiqued on an individual basis. It is understood what students may work at different paces in completing their work.

Course Outcomes:

On completion of this course, students should:

- Have improved their understanding of the methodologies of watercolor.
- Have mastered a basic understanding of how to paint with watercolor.
- Have improved their ability to assess their own work and to learn from looking at the work of artists in museums and galleries.

Materials provided:

9" x 12" watercolor pad, 130# or 140# paper

Beginners watercolor paint set (Prang, 16 colors)

Paint Palettes for mixing

Suggested supplies (per person)

Mounting Surface (board of some sort)

Painters Tape (to mount paper)

3- soft bristle paint brushes (1 large round, 1 small round, 1 flat,)

1-stiff fan brush (ex: kind used in acrylic paint)

1 - #2 pencil

1-ballpoint pen (either red or green)

1-white Stadtler eraser

1-small mixing pan

1-small notebook (take notes)

1-12" ruler

2-manila envelopes

1-pkg gray transfer paper ("Trace It")

1-single-edge razor blade (or an exacto knife)

1-old terry washcloth

Week 1: Introduction to Watercolor

Course Outline: Introduction and explanation of syllabus, show and discuss art supplies. This includes the fugitive qualities of watercolor paint, some guidelines in handling watercolor, cleaning and maintaining brushes, what primary, secondary and tertiary colors as terms or reference, color perception, why quality material can cost more.

Week 2: Project #1 - "The Rabbit"

Getting started with watercolor media. It covers five basic skills:

- Sketching the subject.
- How to do a simple wash.
- Color mixing (the primary colors to make brown).
- Layering transparent watercolor paint.
- Light and shadows to create dimensional perception.
- Enhancing the “world” of the subject by providing a natural context.
- Texturizing through spatter work or fan brushing.
- Finishing with some details to enhance realism.

Week 3: Project #2 - "The Sunflower"

Practicing the skills in Project #1, enhancing ease with media, and introducing decision-making when there are possible choices:

- Choice: Background wash? More than one? How to handle?
- What kind of sunflower is this? (Lots of varieties)
- Layering paint to create shadow effects.
- Avoiding the “one stamp fits all” in the petal arrangement.
- Heavy texturing in the seed pods.
- Where is reflected light?
- How to get “white” areas.
- Finishing: What sort of details?

Week 4: Project #3 - "The Tree"

How to handle a common subject in the world around us:

- Choice: Select the variety of tree to be painting (an assortment will be available).
- Discuss how to tackle the project, according to the variety of tree.
- Sketch of leaf areas in groups and convey the leaf types. Tree truck/bark?
- Where is the light? Where are the shadows? How to mix colors?
- Enhancing the “world” of the tree by providing a natural context.
- Finishing with some details to enhance realism.

Week 5: Project #4 - "Bowl of Fruit" (or vegetables)

Emphasis is on textures:

- Choice: Arrange fruit/vegs on cloth (each viewer’s angle is different).
- Discuss how to tackle the project, according to the variety/type of subject.
- Sketch the subjects according the angle of each viewer.
- Choices: Where is the light? Where are the shadows? How to mix colors?
- Enhancing the unique textures of each of the subjects.
- Finishing with some details to enhance realism.

Week 6-7: Project #5 - “The Squirrel & the Acorns”

This is a problem in composition and perspective. The student will be given a picture of a squirrel and a picture of an acorn. Their perspectives and sizes do not match. Student can manipulate these images in any way they want to in order to create a pleasing image. It may usually take 2 weeks to complete.

- Choice: How to make them realistic in relation to each other?
- Choice: What might be the time of year or day? Colors? Light? Shadow?
- Choice: What sort of world is around them?
- Choice: How many squirrels? Acorns?

Week 8-9: Project #7 - “Personal Choice - The Creative Voice”

Each student is totally free to choose their subject and approach to it.

- Encourage personal interests.
- Provide feedback as needed.
- The final piece should be matted and framed.

Week 10: Project #8 - “Classroom Exhibition”

Students should bring in all their projects and display them around the classroom:

- How did they start out?
- Have they evolved in some way(s)? How?
- What might they want to do next?
- What new interests might they have as a result of taking the class?
- Class critique.

JUNE 20TH THIRD THURSDAY- All Workshop Students will be able to display and sell their work in the Main Gallery during Junes Third Thursday –The work must be delivered on June 15th or 16th during 1-5pm. If you are not able to drop off your work during those times, please make prior arrangements with the HAC. The HAC will provide music and refreshments during the event. If you are wanting to help volunteer and or provide a dish for the event, please contact the HAC at 620-663-1081 or email us at – hutchartcenter@gmail.com