

Elements of Watercolor Painting (6 week)

This six week session will explore various elements that make up a successful and interesting watercolor painting. Each week Auburn artist Tom Hussey will provide a demonstration and information on a focus topic such as mixing colors, rendering reflections, and creating dramatic interest in a painting. The focus of instruction will be in representational still lifes and landscapes. Hands on experience will include simple studies, as well as finished paintings, with plenty of opportunity for individual feedback and instruction. This course is suitable for beginning to intermediate watercolorists.

SUPPLIES

Paper, masking (or drafting) tape and a rigid board (16x20" or larger, wood, plexiglass, etc.). Recommended paper is Arches, Winsor Newton or Fabriano 140# Cold Press. Best value is in full 22x30" sheets.

A mixing palette is needed. A plastic version with individual paint wells and a top work best (John Pike and Tom Lynch versions are popular). A porcelain butcher tray may also be used. You will also need a couple plastic containers (coffee can size is ideal), a small pump sprayer, a soft pencil, eraser and rags/ paper towel.

Brushes: A variety of brushes is nice, but the basic 3/4" flat, #10-12 finger size round and #6-8 pencil size round is enough. Sables are best, but the synthetic sabeline and golden taklons are a good value. Look for a brush with some spring that will hold its form. Winsor Newton and Robert Simmons are good labels to look for.

Paint: a warm and cool version of each primary color is a basic palette. Recommended colors include the following (or similar):

Hansa or cadmium yellow light (lemon) cool
Aureolin, cadmium yellow medium warm
Cadmium light. or medium, scarlet, carmine red warm
Quinacridone crimson/magenta, alizarin crimson red cool
Cobalt and/or Antwerp blue warm
Ultramarine blue cool

Additional

Earth tones:

Burnt sienna

Yellow ochre

Quinacridone gold (optional)

Winsor Newton is the standard in watercolor paints, although there are plenty of other good brands, such as Holbein (my preference).

If you can invest in good quality paint and brushes, you will be rewarded with a more satisfying experience. There is no need to go out and spend a fortune for this class. Please bring the underlined items and whatever supplies you have to the first session. Materials and color choices will be discussed and you can wait until the second week if you wish. There will be some basic supplies available at the first session. Participants will be expected to furnish their own supplies after that. **Nash's at 12 State St., Auburn** is a good source for supplies.