

Intro to Watercolor

Course will be conducted with introduction and progression of watercolor skills. Emphasis will be low- pressure, fun atmosphere and learning basic skills to create artwork. I will share tips that I have learned and get input from the students as to what their skill level is, and what they hope to get from the class.

Class 1 – Intro to materials, including paper, paint, brushes, and palette styles; creation of a watercolor wash as familiarization with how watercolors blend and flow, how to plan a picture with watercolor's little foibles. I will demonstrate water/paint ratios and watercolor wash, then have students practice same.

Class 2 – Discuss creative sparks such as nature, memories, photos, colors, events, famous paintings and artists. Learn about the color wheel, complementary colors, use of cool and warm colors to achieve effects. Have students experiment same. I will show same painting done two different ways

Class 3 – Composition, how to draw the viewer's eyes to a focal point, rule of thirds, keeping it interesting. Use of a simple view finder and squinting to determine best composition. Use of "artistic license" when determining what to include or remove in a picture

Class 4 – Color values, darks, lights, use of a viewfinder , squinting, and black and white photo or copy for determination. Discuss adequate contrast to make a picture interesting and show examples. Students will experiment with color values and mixing colors.

Class 5- Review, have students work on a watercolor painting vs. doing an exercise