

Supply List – updated 5/10
Build a Better Painting
Pat Fiorello

This workshop is designed for students who have done some painting before (primarily watercolor- but the course is open to students of other mediums as well since design principles apply across mediums).

Please bring **2 or 3 of your past paintings** that you may have been disappointed in or think could be improved. If you have any references you used (like photo's or sketches) to create those paintings that would be extremely helpful as well. On one of the days we may critique those paintings and then you can pick one that you'd like to do over to improve based on the critique. You may also want to bring a few other photo's to possibly design and paint from.

There are not any special painting supplies that you need. Just bring your favorite paints, brushes and other tools that you typically use. I do always recommend using a good quality paper (e.g. Arches, Fabriano individual sheets or blocks) as the paper quality has a definite effect on your results (in other words, stay away from Strathmore, Cotman etc.. in those notebook style pads). Use at least 140lb paper and I generally find cold press is the easiest to work with.

If you happen to have tracing paper, bring some, it might come in handy- but it's not mandatory. Do bring something to sketch on and pencils. Also a regular kitchen sponge (cellulose) is a good idea to have to keep brushes from holding too much excess water. Also bring some scraps of watercolor paper if we want to test out colors etc..

If you need some more specifics on supplies, **below is my general supply list** that works for most courses.

These items are suggested, not mandatory.

If you already have other supplies you like to use, feel free to bring those. **All you really need to are the basics- paper, paints, brushes, something to mix on and cups for water.**

- **Watercolor Paper-** Paper quality does make a big difference in watercolor. If there is one place not to cut corners it's on paper. Some of the cheaper papers just don't absorb the paint the way the better papers do, so using better paper will give you better results and will be easier to work with. **140lb cold press - Arches brand** preferable. I find the **blocks** are easy to use .I suggest Arches 12 x 16 or 10 x 14 or 7 x 10. If you prefer to use loose sheets and have a board to attach them to, then that is fine too. Arches or Fabriano papers are fine. Please avoid Cotman, Canson, Strathmore or any less expensive pads- they don't accept the paint as consistently as the other brands and from experience students get frustrated with the results.
- **Palette** – any plastic palette suitable for watercolors (w/cover) [John Pike or Robert Wood are great options]- if you're just starting out- a simple white china/plastic plate or inexpensive palette is okay- *just make sure it has quite a bit of room to mix colors on.*
- **Paints** – Here are some suggested colors (Holbein, Daniel Smith, Sennelier or Winsor-Newton brands preferable, but other brands fine unless noted). Artist's quality paints will get you much better results than student grade- but either will work.(avoid accidentally purchasing Gouache- tubes look alike and it's easy to pick up by mistake) Again these are just suggestions there's nothing you absolutely have to have. Also, if just starting out, it's fine to buy the smaller size tubes to keep the cost down. **At an absolute minimum you'll need a red, yellow, blue and burnt sienna, and thalo or winsor green but if you can get a broader range of paints, these are very useful colors to have:**
 - Lemon Yellow or Aureolin

- New Gamboge or Indian Yellow*
- Cadmium Orange
- Raw Sienna or Yellow Ochre* or Quinacridone Gold
- Burnt Sienna*
- Burnt Umber* or Sepia
- Permanent Rose or Quinacridone Red*
- Alizarin Crimson
- Sap Green
- Winsor or Thalo Green*(preferable to viridian or hookers green)
- Winsor or Thalo Blue
- Cerulean Blue(
- Ultramarine Blue*
- Cobalt Blue*

*Indicates *suggested* minimum palette

Miscellaneous Tools

- 2 **plastic containers** for water
- **#2 Pencil, sharpener, eraser**
- **Sketchbook or just some blank unlined paper is okay**(anything to draw quick sketches on)(8x 10 or 5 x 7 size okay- don't need to get anything too large- will use for thumbnail sketches)
- **Brushes** – round (size 6, 10 or 12), flat (½”, 1” or 2” for washes), rigger .Synthetics or blends are fine. No need to spend extra for sable. If you want to start out with just a couple of brushes get a #10 round and an ½ inch flat
- Masking tape
- Spray bottle for water
- Tissues/Paper towels
- A cut up credit card

It is important to bring some photo's of subjects you'd like to paint as reference. Keep an envelope with a few favorite photo's so that you have options to choose from Feel free to contact me before you buy supplies if you are new to watercolor or have any questions. Pat Fiorello(404-531-4160 or patfiorello@aol.com)

Look forward to painting with you soon! Pat