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Introduction to Painting with Soft Pastel

Whispering Woodlands

Saturday, June 9, 2012 9-4:30

Pastels are fun to use, colorful, versatile, and expressive! In this workshop, you will be using soft pastels, not oil pastels or Craypas. Be sure the product you buy or bring is the "chalk-like" type of pastel. Pastels can be expensive, but they last a long time and don't dry out like other painting mediums. Buy the largest set of pastels you can afford (please see list below for brands). It is a frustrating experience to be hampered in your art-making by having a very limited palette. **I require you to have at least 24 different colors of pastels for this introductory class—but more is definitely better.** I usually have some sets of Nupastels (24 and 36 count) on hand and would be happy to sell you a set at my cost. Please contact me directly and let me know as soon as possible if you would like a set and I will reserve one for you if any are available. I will also have some individual sticks of Nupastels and Rembrandts available for purchase at my cost. I will be providing all of the paper you will be using for this introductory class, as well as having some easels and drawing boards on hand. The other required materials are available at many art and craft supply stores or online at Jerry's Artarama, Dick Blick, or Daniel Smith. To reserve a set of Nupastels, or for any questions, please feel free to contact me. ~Kay

Supply List

Required:

- 1) Set of pastels --24 minimum (*see recommended brands below). Do NOT bring any of these: oil pastels, Craypas, Alphacolor, SMI, Heritage, or Loew Cornell brand pastels, or iridescent soft pastels
- 2) Workable Fixative spray (Krylon, Blair) Make sure the can reads "workable."
- 3) Masking tape
- 4) Small tray to hold your pastels while working (old cake pan, ice cream bucket lid, etc.)
- 5) Small clean rag or washcloth in a zip-lock bag for finger clean up.

Optional:

Additional soft pastels in hard, medium or soft density—bring more than the minimum 24 if you have them.
Pastel pencils and X-Acto knife or emery board (nail file) for sharpening them
Odorless turpentine (not regular smelly kind). Do not bring Natural Turpenoid (a citrus-based product) because it will not work for the process. The product I buy is Weber Odorless Turpenoid in the blue and white can.
Cheap ½" to 1" paint brush
Freestanding floor or table easel that is easily transported that holds a board completely vertical
An assortment of your own photographs (no copyrighted material like magazine or calendar images, please)

These are some of the brand names to look for in pastel products:

Please **do not** bring cheap, dusty, student-grade Alphacolor, SMI, Heritage or Loew Cornell pastels which are not true pastels

Soft Pastels - Hard to Medium density: Nupastels by Prismacolor (NOT Neopastels), Van Gogh, Holbein, Cretacolor, Pastels Girault, Richardson Semi-Hard. Richardson Semi-hard and Nupastels are great values!

Soft Pastels - Soft to Extra-Soft density: Rembrandt, Great American Art Works, Art Spectrum, Daler-Rowney, Unison, Windsor and Newton, Schmincke, Sennelier, Gallery, Unison

Pastel Pencils: Conte, Carb-Othello (Schwan-Stabilo), Van Gogh, Faber-Castell, Derwent, Cretacolor

Pastel/Charcoal Papers (not needed for this class, but you may want to pick some up for later):

Strathmore 500 Charcoal, Canson Mi-Tientes, Amalfi, Fabriano Tiziano, Fabriano Ingres, Sennelier La Carte, Hahnemuhle Ingres, Art Spectrum Colourfix, Larroque, velour papers, U-Art sanded paper, True Grit, Wallis