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Soft Pastel Exploration: Intermediate to Advanced Levels

Monday, March 26, 2012 9-4:30

Whispering Woodlands

Challenge yourself to take the next step in pastel! This one-day workshop is geared toward those who have already taken numerous introductory pastel workshops, are fairly accomplished and comfortable with the medium, and have competent drawing skills. Work toward increasing your artistry through technique and learn to consider design and content in developing your images. You are required to have an assortment of both hard and soft pastels for this workshop (see recommended brands list). (*Please do not bring: oil pastels, Craypas, cheap and dusty child/student-grade pastels like Alphacolor, SMI, Heritage or Loew-Cornell brands*). I am also asking you to bring specific papers. I will try to bring extra paper to sell at my cost in case you have trouble with this. I usually have some individual sticks of Rembrandts and Nupastels on hand, as well. Feel free to email me or give me a call if you have any questions. I look forward to spending a lovely, colorful and creative day with you at Whispering Woodlands!

~Kay Brathol-Hostvet

Supply List**Required:**

- 1) **Hard pastel sticks**, 36 different colors minimum; bring more if you have them.
- 2) **Soft pastels**, 24 different colors minimum; bring more if you have them.
- 3) **Workable Fixative Spray** (Krylon, Lascaux, or Blair).
- 4) **Masking tape**
- 5) **Small tray** to hold your chosen palette of colors while working (old cake pan, ice cream bucket lid, etc)
- 6) **Clean rag or washcloth** in a zip-lock bag for finger clean-up
- 7) **Pencil and small sketchbook** or a few sheets of plain paper
- 8) **Small drawing board** (13 x 17, 15 x 16, 16 x 20" etc). A smooth hardboard or plywood panel cut to size is an inexpensive alternative to ready-made boards. Whispering Woodlands has several of these on hand if you don't have it. Several layers of newsprint padding is a good idea.
- 9) **Sanded paper** in a neutral color (white, buff, tan, cream, light gray). One full-size sheet of 18 x 24 or larger (preferred) or four 9 x 12 sheets. Any of these brands will be fine: Wallis, U-Art, True Grit, Ampersand, Richeson sanded, Art Spectrum Colourfix
- 10) **Newspapers** (three or four ordinary newspapers)
- 11) Your own **photographic references and/or sketches** in a variety of subjects (I will bring extras in case you have trouble with this). Please do not bring copyrighted materials (note cards, calendars, magazine images).
- 12) **Several examples of 2D artwork** (other than your own) that you connect with emotionally (in books, prints, originals, from online, etc). The images do not have to be pastels. Note why you like them.

Highly Recommended:

- 1) Table or floor easel that will hold your board upright (vertical) that you can easily transport. There will be some tripod table easels on hand if you don't have your own.
- 2) Odorless turpentine and a cheap ½" to 1" paint brush. I use Weber Turpenoid—do not buy "Natural Turpenoid" as it isn't compatible with soft pastels
- 3) Additional pastels of different densities, pastel pencils, etc.
- 4) Sharp utility knife

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

Soft Pastels - Hard to Medium density: Nupastels by Prismacolor (NOT Neopastels), Van Gogh, Holbein, Cretacolor, Pastels Girault. Avoid sets that cost less than \$15 for 24 colors as they are usually junk (sorry!)

Soft Pastels – Medium Soft to Extra-Soft density: Rembrandt, Great American Art Works, Art Spectrum, Daler-Rowney, Unison, Winsor and Newton, Schmincke, Sennelier, Gallery, Unison, Diane Townsend

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

Pastel/Charcoal Papers (sanded paper needed for this workshop):

Traditional: Strathmore 500 Charcoal, Canson Mi-Tientes, Canson Ingres, Amalfi, Fabriano Tiziano, Fabriano Ingres, Sennelier La Carte, Hahnemuhle Ingres, velour papers

Sanded: U-Art, Wallis, True Grit, Richeson, Ampersand pastelboard, Art Spectrum Colourfix