

Kay Brathol-Hostvet Art Workshops

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Plein Air Painting in Soft Pastel

Sunday, June 14, 2020 9:00-4:00

Whispering Woodlands

Pastel is perfect for depicting the various textures and colors of the landscape and is a very portable medium so it is ideal for *plein air* painting—working directly from nature. Previous experience in soft (chalk-like) pastel is highly recommended, but beginners with good drawing skills are welcome. We will meet in the classroom first, and then head outside to work directly from nature, on-site and probably off-site, too. I will demonstrate techniques that are helpful for outdoor work. Painting outside can be very rewarding, but a little more challenging because of changing light conditions, weather, etc. ***Be sure to bring a hat or visor, a water bottle, insect repellent, and weather-appropriate clothing.** If we get nasty weather, we'll work in the classroom from photographs or a nature-inspired still life.

This class will be using soft pastels, not oil pastels or Craypas. Buy the largest set of pastels you can afford. It is a frustrating experience to be hampered in your art-making by having a very limited palette. **I require you to have a set of at least 36 different colors of pastels for this class, plus some specific colors if they aren't in your set.** I will be providing all of the paper you use for this class* as well as having some drawing boards and miscellaneous supplies on hand. *Feel free to email me with any questions.* I am looking forward to a *perfectly lovely* day with you at Whispering Woodlands!

Supply List

Required:

- 1) Set of pastels—hard, medium and/or soft density (36 minimum—more is better). Do not bring oil pastels, iridescent soft pastels, or cheap, dusty school-grade pastels like Alphacolor, Heritage, SMI, Artists Loft, or Loew-Cornell. Recommended brands are at the end of this supply list. These colors are spring landscape necessities (they may or may not be in your set already): cool and warm yellows, cerulean (sky) blue, several shades of olive/leaf greens, dark greens (Nupastel Bottle Green #298 is great!) violet, lavender, pinks.
- 2) Workable Fixative spray (Krylon, Blair, others). Make sure it is *workable*—check can front label.
- 3) Masking tape, ordinary beige
- 4) A pastel “palette”—any *small* flat box, pan, or basket to contain the colors you are using at the time
- 5) A plein air-type field easel (French) or lightweight floor easel (that can hold a drawing board upright)
OR folding camp stool or chair and TV tray to hold your supplies
- 6) Rag or washcloth in a zip-lock bag for finger clean-up
- 7) Bag, knapsack, portfolio, or tool or tackle box to carry your supplies outside.

*NOTE: Advanced plein air painters may bring their own papers or panels to work on if they wish.

Optional/recommended:

- 1) Small sketchbook and pencil
- 2) Paper towels or small rag
- 3) Additional soft pastels beyond the minimum
- 4) Small drawing board
- 5) Digital camera

These are specific products you can look for:

Soft Pastels - Hard to Medium density: Nupastels by Prismacolor (NOT NEOPASTELS), Van Gogh, Holbein, Cretacolor, Pastels Girault, Jack Richeson Semi-Hard

Soft Pastels - Soft to Extra-Soft density: Rembrandt, Great American Art Works, Art Spectrum, Daler-Rowney, Unison, Schmincke, Sennelier, Art Spectrum, Gallery Soft, Terry Ludwig, Diane Townsend

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