

3 Day Pastel Workshop with Dawn Emerson

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This workshop will focus on the dynamic quality of the pastel medium.

Both a drawing and a painting medium, pastel is immediate, gestural, and rich in textural potential. Dawn will demonstrate her creative approaches to painting and drawing with pastel--using pastel both wet and dry, and combining pastel with mixed media. The topics of composition, underpainting, and finishing will be covered with animal, landscape, and figurative subjects. How to see, capture, and maintain the gestural and energetic qualities of any subject will be emphasized. Understanding value, and strong design will be also be stressed. Students should come prepared to draw, paint, and literally dance their way to new experiences with pastel! Students new to pastel are most welcome.

Materials list:

Vine charcoal
Black Conte crayon and/or 2B Generals charcoal stick
Kneaded eraser
Soft paper towels
Baby wipes
Digital camera
Portable and sturdy floor easel
Backing board 18 x 24" (gatorboard, foam core, or wood)
1 roll masking tape
Yardstick

Pastels:

Soft and hard pastel assortment (100-300 colors, including white and black)*
*please arrange pastels by color or value, cut in half, with wrappers OFF in an easy to access way.

Brushes: assorted sizes and kinds

Scissors or xacto knife
Fat edge razor blade

Paper:

1 rough newsprint pad, 18 x 24"
6-8 neutral color sheets of Canson mi tientes paper (mid-tone greyish and/white) OR 6-8 sheets Rives BFK (white and grey). You may also bring your favorite surfaces, but please include a few sheets of the Canson or Rives as well.

Reference Images: Please bring an assortment of photo references of landscapes and animals (include the entire animal and make sure the images have decent contrast and size) and photos of interesting people's faces.

Reference Sculpture: 1-3 small-ish figurines of bronze, carved or molded animals; they do not have to be "precise or anatomical The sculpture should not be delicate or at risk of breaking-- what we want is sculpture that is loose, energetic feeling, even a little stylized). If you see a feeling of movement in the sculpture, that's what we're looking for!