



Exploring Watercolor Painting

With Susan Spellman

for beginner and intermediate level

Here is an opportunity to explore the medium of watercolors! This class will cover the basics plus more. Explore the materials and tools (paint, paper, brushes), setting up your palette, and learning to do washes and glazes, wet into wet, and other techniques. Each class will cover a subject or technique and students may bring their own subjects/references or work from the samples provided. A basic knowledge of drawing is very helpful as we will be starting our paintings with a light drawing to compose our subject.

Wednesday Afternoon

1:00pm – 3:30pm

April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, & 30 (there will be no class May 23)

Member \$180, Non-members \$200

Materials: You will need watercolor brushes, (preferably a 3/4” flat brush for washes, and a size 4 and 10 round) a palette in which to mix paint (plastic with paint wells), watercolor paper, (preferably a good quality like Fabriano or Arches 140 lb) and a basic set of watercolor paints in tubes (Burnt Umber, burnt sienna, French Ultramarine, Prussian blue, cobalt blue, opera rose, cad red, aliz crimson, cad yellow, yellow ochre, Payne’s gray). You will also need a pencil and eraser, paper towels and a container for water.

I have done some research to try to find a quality of these items that is not very expensive, but not so cheap as to prevent the student from getting good results and can get you started. The NAA has made arrangements to carry these in the gift shop if you wish to purchase them there.

About the Instructor: Susan Spellman started her art career as a staff illustrator at a filmstrip company after getting a BA in art from Marymount College in NY. She next worked as a freelance illustrator of children’s books and magazines, and has illustrated more than 30 books to date. The majority of her illustrations were created in watercolor and colored pencil, or a combination of the two. While continuing to work as an illustrator and a portrait artist, Susan has been focusing more attention in the last 10 years on her own work as a painter. She works primarily on site, painting “en plein air” in oil paint on either canvas or panels. She has also been focused on creating a body of work with dancers as the subject matter.

Susan has been a member of the Newburyport Art Association since 1996, and a member of the “Newburyport 10” Plein Air Painters. She has a studio in Newburyport and exhibits in galleries and venues throughout the New England area.

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