

Hudson River Valley Workshop Attendees!

Our workshop is coming up quickly!. To ensure we make the best use of your time, I'm highly recommending you complete the following items to bring with you to the workshop:

- Prepare at least 3-animal/bird, 3 small portraits (7.5"x 11"), and one larger portrait in advance (more if you paint fast). We will be focusing on animals/birds the first day, portraits on the second and third, and back to animals/birds on the forth day. On the fifth day we will finish up what was started or work on the subject that most interests you. I suggest using an 1/8-sheet for portraits on the first day of portrait painting, and quarter to a half sheet for the second day of portraits (whatever is most convenient for traveling). For animal/ bird painting a quarter to a half- sheet is what I would suggest.
- We will be going out to draw and take reference photos one day, so please bring a sketchbook!
- Please understand that this is a painting class, so please do whatever is necessary to get your drawing on the paper in advance of the class --- use a light box, use gridlines, trace, or free draw if you are comfortable. Also, use the paper you are most comfortable with as long as it is not student grade (same with the colors you intend to bring).
 - When looking for your reference, be sure it has a good light source... including light, mid, and dark tones.
 - I prefer to paint from a black and white print that's as large as my actual painting to best see actual shapes. Again, I recommend you have a good contour drawing already on your paper (see examples)
 - If you don't know how to make your reference the same size as your finished painting, here are a couple of suggestions.
 - If you are a Mac user, download the SplitSprint App, the cost is approximately \$5.
 - For PC users, Split@Print, and I believe this is free.

I'm so looking forward to our time together!

Kim Johnson

2025-26 Watercolor Class Supply List

Following is a complete list of supplies needed for your upcoming class. I encourage you to bring the supplies and colors you are familiar with using.

Watercolor Paper

140 lbs (I use 300 lbs) Arches or Fabriano, are all good ones. You may want to try both the hot press and the cold press to see which you prefer. I do suggest that you stay away from anything less than 140 lbs and papers that come out of a tablet.

Brushes

Brushes are an investment! Sable is considered the best quality for watercolor brushes; however, there are good synthetic and synthetic blends. I use a number Silver Black Velvet 6, 8 10 12, and 16 round. Other brushes that are not expensive are the Simple Simons.

Paint

I suggest you use professional grade paint. The student grade is less expensive, but the colors can vary too much from professional grade.

Colors I Use French Ultramarine or Winsor Blue (red shade) Cobalt Blue Cerulean Blue Alizarin Crimson or Rose Madder Genuine Cadmium Red Light Cobalt Violet light(optional color) Brilliant Orange or Cadmium Orange Primary Yellow (Sennelier)	Raw Sienna and/or Yellow Ochre Burnt Sienna (Winsor Newton) Burnt Umber Serpentine Genuine (Green) Green Gold (DS) Mineral Violet or Winsor Purple Other colors I like to have handy are manganese, Cobalt Teal, and iridescent electric blue.
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Photographs

It is best to paint from your own photos, but if you don't have a photo to work from you can always **Google** for what you want, just be careful because some of these images are subject to copyright. I look for good lights, mid-tones, and darks in any of my potential paintings. **Please do not work with photos from any publications!!** These photos are taken professionally and do not have the right kind of lighting we are looking for! I will also be sharing some photos.

I like to convert my photo to a black and white and I like to make it as large as the painting will be. This is somewhat a substitute for a value study. When your reference is as large as the painting it enables you to see the shapes much better. I use a SplitPrint on my Mac to enlarge my image(the cost is just a few dollars) and Split@Print on a PC-which, I believe is free.

Since our time is limited, please have your drawing on your paper ready to be painted!

Miscellaneous Supplies

- Watercolor palette—John Pike, or a small travel palette is good
- Large water container
- Board (one that push pins will stick into)
- Pushpins
- A rag or paper towels
- Spray Bottle