

## Spring 2023

**Fundamentals in watercolors: beginner class - Course to consist of five (5) 2-hour sessions.**

**Instructor:** Katherine L Wright, Watercolor artist, instructor

**Website:** [www.klwright.com](http://www.klwright.com)

### **Beginning: The FUNdamentals of watercolor:**

**Description:** New to watercolor? Tried it and got frustrated? Learn the basics of how watercolors work and start having FUN! We will explore what are good choices of for paper, paints, and brushes. Then move on to the why and how of colors: some color combinations sing; others go to mud.

In each class, we will do an assortment of exercises for you to explore how watercolors perform. You'll learn a variety of techniques, coming away with a solid grasp of how to enjoy watercolors and have fun!

#### **Course Outline:**

Day 1: Intro to the way watercolor works and why. Paper and brush choices. Introduce the 3 basic techniques: washes, wet blending, dry brush. Play around with a variety of materials. Try different textures.

Day 2: Color choices. If you know your colors, it's gonna be lots more fun. Warm, cool, opaque, transparent, earth tones, granulated, etc. Color mixing and color wheels. Create some basic scenes.

Day 3: Layers. How and why layers work. Going from light to dark. What does it mean to save your whites? We will try masking, saving, and lifting. Create scenery with washers

Day 4: Shapes: How to show shapes and shading: hard lines (cubes, etc.) and soft lines (columns, spheres). Create works from still life with shapes

Day 5: Making a real painting: do prelim studies. Review composition basics & color choices. Create a simple scene (follow along)

#### **Course to consist of five (5) 2-hour sessions.**

Materials: \*Needed first day (Note: Some materials will be provided the first day)

Perhaps you've already got some materials: bring them in and we will see if you can make art with them.

- \*Watercolor Paper 9" x 12" (pad or single sheets ok)
- \*Watercolor Paints – preferably a quality brand (first day you only need a yellow, blue, and red)
- \*Watercolor Brushes - nothing smaller than a #6
- \*Small Paint Tray Palette
- \*Rigid backing board, waterproof 11" x 14"
- \*Tape: Scotch brand magic tape & Blue Painters Tape, Multi-Surface Medium Adhesive
- \*Drawing Pencils (2b, 4b, 6b) & eraser (white preferred)
- \*Blow dryer
- Tracing paper 12" x 20
- A set of gray markers

If you find you need some other materials, here are a few I would suggest.

**Paper:** A good quality Cotton or blend Acid Free 140# cold press paper  
9 x 12 Board, Cold press 140lb

#### **Suggestions:**

- Speedball Fluid 100 Watercolor Paper, (lower quality, not cotton, good for beginner) **\$17.99**  
<https://www.michaels.com/product/fluid-cold-press-watercolor-paper-block-D257503S>
- Or Canson Montval Artist Series Watercolor Block (better quality, all cotton) **\$32.99**  
<https://www.michaels.com/product/canson-montval-artist-series-watercolor-block-D246911S>

**Paints:** Professional grade watercolor paints are recommended; however, student grade are fine. Winsor Newton, Artists or Cotman, Daniel Smith, or Schminckle Horadam are all good brands.

**Suggestions:**

- Daniel Smith Essentials Watercolor 5ml TUBE Set, 6-Colors  
[https://www.amazon.com/DANIEL-SMITH-285610005-Essentials-Introductory/dp/B00WT5VRF6/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=3NL3W3VS366AM&keywords=%E2%80%A2+Daniel+Smith+Essentials+Watercolor+5ml+Set%2C+6-Colors&qid=1681236174&srefix=daniel+smith+essentials+watercolor+5ml+set%2C+6-colors+%2Caps%2C209&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/DANIEL-SMITH-285610005-Essentials-Introductory/dp/B00WT5VRF6/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3NL3W3VS366AM&keywords=%E2%80%A2+Daniel+Smith+Essentials+Watercolor+5ml+Set%2C+6-Colors&qid=1681236174&srefix=daniel+smith+essentials+watercolor+5ml+set%2C+6-colors+%2Caps%2C209&sr=8-1)
- or Winsor Newton Winsor & Newton® Cotman® Watercolor Pocket PLUS Set - 12 Half Pans  
[https://www.amazon.com/Winsor-Newton-Cotman-Sketchers-14-Pieces/dp/B00004THXI/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?crid=GZOGMX1VLCUY&keywords=%E2%80%A2+or+Winsor+Newton+Winsor+%26+Newton%C2%AE+Cotman%C2%AE+Watercolor+Pocket+PLUS+Set+-+12+Half+Pans&qid=1681236219&srefix=or+winsor+newton+winsor+%26+newton+cotman+watercolor+pocket+plus+set+-+12+half+pans%2Caps%2C214&sr=8-3](https://www.amazon.com/Winsor-Newton-Cotman-Sketchers-14-Pieces/dp/B00004THXI/ref=sr_1_3?crid=GZOGMX1VLCUY&keywords=%E2%80%A2+or+Winsor+Newton+Winsor+%26+Newton%C2%AE+Cotman%C2%AE+Watercolor+Pocket+PLUS+Set+-+12+Half+Pans&qid=1681236219&srefix=or+winsor+newton+winsor+%26+newton+cotman+watercolor+pocket+plus+set+-+12+half+pans%2Caps%2C214&sr=8-3)

**Brushes:** the larger the better. No brushes smaller than a #6 round will be used the first 4 classes.

**Suggestions:** 1 1/2 " or 2" wash brush, 3/4" or 1" flat, #6, #8, #12 & #30 round, a flat Chinese Hake.

- Robert Simmons "white sable"  
[https://www.amazon.com/Robert-Simmons-Simply-Handle-synthetic/dp/B005NHW34Q/ref=sr\\_1\\_18?keywords=Robert+Simmons+%22white+sable%22&qid=1681239767&sr=8-18](https://www.amazon.com/Robert-Simmons-Simply-Handle-synthetic/dp/B005NHW34Q/ref=sr_1_18?keywords=Robert+Simmons+%22white+sable%22&qid=1681239767&sr=8-18)
- If you have just one brush, try a "Winsor and Newton Sceptre Gold II Brush Round-Short Handle 10"  
[https://www.amazon.com/Winsor-Newton-Sceptre-Round-Short-Handle/dp/B000F0YUVI/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=23WCEFZ11FP22&keywords=Sceptre%2BGold%2BSable%2FSynthetic%2Bblend&qid=1681239903&srefix=sceptre%2Bgold%2Bsable%2Fsynthetic%2Bblend%2B%2Caps%2C199&sr=8-1&th=1](https://www.amazon.com/Winsor-Newton-Sceptre-Round-Short-Handle/dp/B000F0YUVI/ref=sr_1_1?crid=23WCEFZ11FP22&keywords=Sceptre%2BGold%2BSable%2FSynthetic%2Bblend&qid=1681239903&srefix=sceptre%2Bgold%2Bsable%2Fsynthetic%2Bblend%2B%2Caps%2C199&sr=8-1&th=1)
- Princeton Aqua Elite, Series 4850, Synthetic Kolinsky Watercolor Paint Brush, 4 Piece Set  
<https://www.amazon.com/Princeton-Artist-Brush-Elite-Brushes/dp/B01N7YJNX4>
- or Pro Arte : Brush Wallet set – (Prolene : 8-12 and & 1/2 Flat) ,  
[https://www.amazon.com/Pro-Arte-Brush-Wallet-Prolene/dp/B004QXFZ2K/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crid=3EVYJF94Y5HBJ&keywords=pro+arte+prolene+Prolene+%3A+8-12+Rnd+%26+1%2F2+Flat&qid=1681236104&srefix=pro+arte+prolene+prolene+8-12+rnd+%26+1%2F2+flat%2Caps%2C200&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Pro-Arte-Brush-Wallet-Prolene/dp/B004QXFZ2K/ref=sr_1_1?crid=3EVYJF94Y5HBJ&keywords=pro+arte+prolene+Prolene+%3A+8-12+Rnd+%26+1%2F2+Flat&qid=1681236104&srefix=pro+arte+prolene+prolene+8-12+rnd+%26+1%2F2+flat%2Caps%2C200&sr=8-1)

Misc. Other Supplies

**Rigid Board;**

**Suggestions:** 11 x 14 thin waterproof board such as a Plexiglas sheet

- Gator board 3/8" (can be bought and cut to share) (its pricy)
- Sturdy clipboard  
<https://www.michaels.com/product/art-alternatives-artist-tote-board-D246381S>

**Canary tracing paper**

**Suggestions:**

- Canary Tracing Paper 107 12"x20yd  
<https://www.yourartsupplies.com/paper/light-weight-sketch-tracing-and-bond-rolls/n048877000000.html>

**Set of grey markers, 5** from light to dark. No need to get expensive brands

**Suggestions:**

- Concept Dual-Tip Marker Cool Grey Set of 12  
<https://www.yourartsupplies.com/drawing/markers-and-pens/alcohol-based-markers/concept-mkr-12-set-cool-grey.html>