**Watercolor building blocks for beginners. No more intimidation!!**

5-sessions Thursdays, (Sept 26-Oct 24) @ Bozeman Art Museum,

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

2612 W. Main St. Suite B.

Bozeman, MT 59718

Watercolor: it's fun, affordable, and also works much differently from other mediums. Once you have learned these simple skill building activities, you’ll understand how watercolor really works, get comfortable with your paints, and VOILÀ: No more intimidation (or a lot less)!

Each lesson will be a watercolor project with guided instructions and practice.

Here are some of basic techniques we will explore:

* *Papers , Brushes, Pigments*
* *The Wash: Flat Vs Graded*
* *Building Layers with Glazing,*
* *Dry VS Wet*
* *Charging Techniques*
* *Negative Painting*
* *Detailed VS Abstracted*
* *Brush Textures*

Katherine L Wright, a retired architect, paints fine art and illustration in Bozeman.

See her website: www.klwright.com

Katherine L Wright, Watercolor artist, instructor

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

Class day and time: Thursdays, 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Class Location: BAM

Duration: 5 weeks starting Sept 26- and ending Oct 24 2024

**Watercolor building blocks for beginners:**

**Description:** New to watercolor, or tried it and got frustrated? Learn the basics of how watercolors work and start having fun. We will start with introduction as to what are good choices of for paper, paints, and brushes. Then we will move on to the why and how of colors: some color combinations sing. Each lesson will be a watercolor project with guided instructions and practice.

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**Course Outline: (can be adjusted per needs of class)**

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. Create a post card.

Day 2: 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 Landscape with washers

Day 3: Color choices. If you know your colors, it’s gonna be lots more fun. Warm, cool, opaque, transparent, earth tones, granulated, etc. wet in wet mixing via “charging” Create underwater scene

Day 4: Shapes & Negative space: How to shapes the spaces around them work: Create a still life with shapes

Day 5: use concepts of *Detailed VS Abstracted*. Create a simple scene using one, the other, or both.

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

Materials: \*Needed first day

NOTE: some materials will be provided by Katherine (first day only.)

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”
* \*Watercolor Brushes - nothing smaller than a #6 first day
* \*Watercolor Paints – preferably a quality brand
* \*Small Paint Tray Palette
* \*Rigid backing board, waterproof 11” x 14”
* \*Tape: Blue Painters Tape, Multi-Surface Medium Adhesive
* \*Drawing Pencils (2b, 4b, 6b) & eraser (white preferred)
* \*Blow dryer

**Surface to paint on;**

## **Rigid Board;**

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

## Sturdy clipboard

<https://www.michaels.com/product/art-alternatives-artist-tote-board-D246381S>

**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 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&sprefix=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%3Dsr_1_1?crid=3NL3W3VS366AM&keywords=%E2%80%A2+Daniel+Smith+Essentials+Watercolor+5ml+Set%2C+6-Colors&qid=1681236174&sprefix=daniel+smith+essentials+watercolor+5ml+set%2C+6-colors+%2Caps%2C209&sr=8-1)

## or Windsor 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+Windsor+Newton+Winsor+%26+Newton%C2%AE+Cotman%C2%AE+Watercolor+Pocket+PLUS+Set+-+12+Half+Pans&qid=1681236219&sprefix=or+windsor+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%3Dsr_1_3?crid=GZOGMX1VLCUY&keywords=%E2%80%A2+or+Windsor+Newton+Winsor+%26+Newton%C2%AE+Cotman%C2%AE+Watercolor+Pocket+PLUS+Set+-+12+Half+Pans&qid=1681236219&sprefix=or+windsor+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%3Dsr_1_18?keywords=Robert+Simmons+%22white+sable%22&qid=1681239767&sr=8-18)

* If you will 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/B000F0VUVI/ref=sr\_1\_1?crid=23WCEFZI1FP22&keywords=Sceptre%2BGold%2BSable%2FSynthetic%2Bblend&qid=1681239903&sprefix=sceptre%2Bgold%2Bsable%2Fsynthetic%2Bblend%2B%2Caps%2C199&sr=8-1&th=1

##  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&sprefix=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%3Dsr_1_1?crid=3EVYJF94Y5HBJ&keywords=pro+arte+prolene+Prolene+%3A+8-12+Rnd+%26+1%2F2+Flat&qid=1681236104&sprefix=pro+arte+prolene+prolene+8-12+rnd+%26+1%2F2+flat%2Caps%2C200&sr=8-1)

**Paper:** A good quality Cotton or blend Acid Free 140# coldpress 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>

Later in class possibly:

Misc. Other Supplies

## **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