Beginning Watercolor Painting

Instructor: Mary Cottle Smeallie Course Description:

Do you pale at the sight of a clean sheet of watercolor paper? Do you mix colors and wonder why it looks like mud? This class will demystify the somewhat intimidating medium of watercolor. We'll start from scratch. We'll discuss types of paper, pigments, color mixing, glazing, as well as tricks and techniques. Work from subject matter such as still life, landscape, florals, abstraction, and any other subject matter that inspires you. This class is for beginners to intermediate. There will be demonstrations, critiques, and plenty of one-on-one to benefit the learning process. Please bring a spirit of experimentation and play. Leave your fears of making a mistake at home! By the end of the class you’ll have a newly found appreciation for serendipity.

You will need to bring:

Watercolor pad or block @ least 140 lb. (cold press)

Either 16” x 20” or 11” x 14”

Tube watercolors/ Student grade are fine...just don’t shop for them at Oceanstate, please.

Alizarin Crimson
Cobalt Blue
Naples Yellow
French Ultramarine
Cadmium Red Light
New Gamboge (yellow)
Cadmium Yellow Light
Antwerp Blue
Burnt Sienna
Brown Madder
Raw Sienna
Indigo (blue/purple)

Plastic palette with cover

Painter's tape (like frog tape)

Variety of brushes

1” flat, wash brush
variety of round brushes (#8, #10, #12)
2 plastic containers for water (the size of large yogurt containers; one for cleaning brushes, one for loading brushes)

Paper towels

Liquid frisket or masking fluid - make sure it says “removable” on the bottle.

Extras as you see fit: wax crayons for resist, oil pastels, a tube of white gouache, colored pencils or watercolor pencils, etc. You can also use natural sponges, scratching tools, or spray bottle for spritzing water, salt — the list goes on.