

# Painting: Watercolor & Plants

Ruby Red Workshop  
Thursdays, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm  
September 25 – October 16, 2025  
Educator: Mindy Bray, [mindybray@gmail.com](mailto:mindybray@gmail.com)

## CLASS DESCRIPTION

In this course, students will explore both expressive and representational techniques in watercolor. Using seasonal, botanical subjects such as branches and flowers, students will complete drawings that incorporate texture, color, and depth. Students will learn a variety of water media techniques including mixing colors, creating washes, and building transparent vs. opaque layers. Through instruction and gallery visits, students will connect to works in the DAM's Arts of Asia Collection and look at contemporary uses of watercolor in the DAM's Modern and Contemporary Collection, including drawings by Los Carpinteros and Laura Ball.

### Pricing:

Museum Friend: \$130/ Member: \$135 / Student: \$135 / Non-Member: \$160

*\*Students will purchase their own materials and should expect to spend \$80-100.*

### Refund and Class Cancellation Policy:

The Denver Art Museum adheres to a no-refund, no-exchange policy. If you are unable to attend, please consider your payment a tax-deductible donation.

If a class or workshop is cancelled by the Denver Art Museum due to inclement weather or teacher illness, a make-up day will be scheduled on a FRIDAY or SATURDAY as the educator's schedule allows.

### Accessibility Statement:

To request large print materials, a sign language interpreter, CART or any other accessibility service, please email [Access@DenverArtMuseum.org](mailto:Access@DenverArtMuseum.org) at least ten (10) business days in advance of the program. We will make every effort to provide accommodation for requests made outside of that window of time.

Please see further information about accessibility, parking, and directions to the DAM here: <https://www.denverartmuseum.org/en/accessibility>

### **Materials:**

Students must purchase their own materials and bring them to each class session. The anticipated materials spend is \$80-100.

The DAM partners with Denver-based [Meininger Art Material](#) to create class materials kits that can be ordered online and picked up or shipped locally. Students must pre-buy the kits online via the [Meininger's website](#) before the first day of class.

Item	Quantity	Suggested Link
Watercolor tubes	1 set of 10	<a href="#">Winsor &amp; Newton Cotman Watercolors – set of 10, 5 ml tubes</a>
Watercolor brushes	1 set	<a href="#">Winsor &amp; Newton Cotman Watercolor Brush Set of 5</a>
Watercolor pad	1	<a href="#">Canson XL Watercolor Pad – 9" x 12"</a>
White gouache tube	1	<a href="#">Winsor &amp; Newton Designers Gouache – Permanent White, 14 ml tube</a>
2" bristle brush	1	<a href="#">Blick Mega Gesso Brush – 2"</a>
Watercolor palette	1	<a href="#">Richeson 9-Well Slant Mixing Tray</a>
Hard graphite pencils – H, 2H, and 4H	1 each	<a href="#">Staedtler Lumograph Drawing and Sketching Pencil</a>
Artgum eraser	1	<a href="#">Prismacolor Artgum Eraser</a>

### **What to Expect:**

This class welcomes both beginners and students who have some drawing or painting experience. Students will visit the galleries together to discuss water media work in the DAM's collections and then spend time learning new

techniques in small studies in the classroom. They will then use these new approaches in a larger, finished drawing from observation of botanical subjects. Students will have the option to work outdoors from life in the Sensory Garden or focus indoors on seasonal flowers, branches and leaves.

### Timeline:

#### Week 1

- Gallery visit to the Arts of Asia Collection
- Watercolor terms
- Color and color mixing

#### Week 2

- View Contemporary Watercolors from the DAM Collection
- Mark making exercise
- Creating expressive washes and pours

#### Week 3

- Layering washes to create value
- Opacity vs. transparency with gouache

#### Week 4

- Studio time to work on larger drawing
- Reflection and conversation

### Educator:

Mindy Bray is a painter and muralist based in Denver, CO. Her work investigates the intersection of natural and built environments through pattern, reduction, and physical space. Bray earned her Master of Fine Arts in Painting from the University of Iowa in 2005 and has taught drawing and foundations at the University of Denver and Metropolitan State University. Her work has been exhibited nationally at galleries including Goodwin Fine Art, Rule Gallery, Iron-ton, and the Urban Institute for Contemporary Art. She has been featured in New American Paintings, The Denver Post, Modern in Denver magazine, art ltd., and Luxe Interiors and Design. Bray's public commissions include permanent works at the Westin Hotel at Denver International Airport and the Colorado Convention Center, and her private commissions can be found in commercial and residential spaces throughout Denver. Bray is a current member of Tank Studios and serves on the board of Tilt West.

<https://www.mindybray.com/>

# WORKSHOP SPACE POLICIES

## About:

The Ruby Red Workshop is a dedicated space for Creative Classes and adult programs located on the first floor of the DAM's Martin Building. You can expect a traditional style art workshop with tables and four-legged chairs with backrests. There are a variety of other seating options available. Sinks, soaps, paper towels, and waste receptacles are accessible in the workshop. Restrooms are located in the elevator bay just outside the workshop entrance. Food and beverages are allowed inside the workshop space, please ensure that you do not enter any galleries with these items.

Each class is different and does not follow a strict or set structure, but will generally include instructor presentations and demonstrations, class gallery visits to view artworks in the DAM collections, individual work time supported by class instructor and assistant, and discussion or share-out time of finished works and works-in-progress.

## Cleanup:

Please remove all artworks from the classroom at the end of each class. If wet paintings or in-progress artworks need to be stored in the classroom, there is limited storage on drying racks and in the equipment closet. Students must take home their own materials after each class. Please ensure that art supplies and equipment belonging to the DAM are put back in the appropriate locations. Sponges, paper towels, and cleaning solution are provided in the classroom for cleanup.

## Classroom Access:

Students will have access to the classroom only during scheduled class hours. Please contact Mia DeBakker, Creative & Public Engagement Coordinator, if you need to arrange entrance to the Workshop outside of those hours –

[MDeBakker@DenverArtMuseum.org](mailto:MDeBakker@DenverArtMuseum.org)

Thank you for being part of Creative Classes at the DAM! For any questions concerning your registration, please reach out to our Sales & Service Team at [SalesTeam@DenverArtMuseum.org](mailto:SalesTeam@DenverArtMuseum.org) or (720) 913-0130.