

Painting: The Women of Abstraction

Ruby Red Workshop
Tuesdays, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
4-week session, October 27 – November 17, 2026
Educator: Sarah Pedry, sgpedry@gmail.com

CLASS DESCRIPTION

In this 4-week class, students will explore the rich history of the women of abstraction, learning and practicing the techniques that make their work unique. Each week students will study paintings from the Denver Art Museum's collections and create a work of art that mimics the artists' style with acrylic paint on paper. Students will explore the ways in which color, movement, and composition make abstract art so intriguing and boundary-pushing.

Some of the artists students will study include Emmi Whitehorse, Georgia O'Keefe, Joan Mitchell, Elaine de Kooning, Agnes Martin, Dyani White Hawk, Mary Abbot, and Helen Frankenthaler.

Pricing:

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

**Students will purchase their own materials and should expect to spend \$60-100.*

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 later TUESDAY 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 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 cost is \$60-100. Additional materials will be supplied.

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 picking up prior to the first day of class.

Item	Quantity	Suggested Link
Acrylics basic paint set (red, blue, yellow, white, black)	1 set	Golden Fluid Acrylics-Set of 10, Mixing Colors, 30 ml
Paint brushes	1 assorted set (at least 1 flat and 1 round brush)	Blick Mega White Synthetic Brushes
Heavy weighted paper 18"x24"	1 pad	Strathmore 400 Series Mixed Media Pad

Note:

Students may bring any other varieties of acrylic paint, mediums, and brushes they wish to experiment with.

What to Expect:

In each class students will view slideshows of artwork, and engage in discussion about themes, techniques, and historical significance. Students will utilize these discussions in the creation of large acrylic paintings that focus on exploring a wide variety of approaches to making abstract art.

Timeline:

Week 1 – Color Stories

- What happens when we rely only on color to tell a story and express emotion?

Week 2 – Expressive Movement

- How does the body and movement show up in abstract painting?

Week 3 – Meditative Lines

- How much depth can a simple line carry?

Week 4 – Unusual Views

- Can we find new ways to see the spectacular in everyday objects?

Educator:

Sarah Pedry is an artist and illustrator, whose work centers around the bond between humans and the landscape. Her work has recently appeared in Pencil Magazine, and on the cover of CALYX: A Journal of Art and Literature by Women+. She is also the co-author and the illustrator of the picture book, "How Birds Sleep" (mineditionUS/Astra, 2023), a School Library Journal Best Book of 2023, among other honors. Her illustrations have also appeared on signs and apparel for the High Line garden, in New York City. She has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting from the Kansas City Art Institute, and a Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Art from the Maine College of Art.

www.sarahpedry.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. Students 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.

QUESTIONS

Questions about class content, curriculum, materials, etc. can be directed to Mia DeBakker at mdebakker@denverartmuseum.org or Sarah Rockett at srockett@denverartmuseum.org.

For any questions concerning your registration, please reach out to our Sales & Service Team at info@denverartmuseum.org or (720) 913-0130.

Thank you for being part of Creative Classes at the DAM!