DENVER art MUSEUM

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DENVERARTMUSEUM.ORG

Painting:
Introduction to Watercolor

Ruby Red Workshop
Tuesdays, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
4-week session, April 27 – May 18, 2027
Educator: Sarah Shay, sarahrshay@gmail.com

CLASS DESCRIPTION

In this 4-week class, students will learn the basics of painting with watercolors through explorations of color, layering and mark-making. Each week the class will visit the DAM galleries to deepen the understanding of watercolors. Students will learn basic watercolor techniques to guide these explorations, generating multiple sketches and small-scale paintings, and begin developing their own visual language in watercolor.

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 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 $80-100. 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 website before picking up prior to the first day of class. Please search the *Meininger Class Kit* section on their website.

Item	Quantity	Suggested Link
Watercolor Paper Block	1	Arches Watercolor Paper Block, Cold Press, 9″x12″, 140 lb
Watercolor Paint Set	1 set, 36 colors	Kuretake Gansai Tambi Watercolor Paint Set, 36 Colors
Set of Brushes	1 set	Princeton RealValue Brush Set, Synthetic Golden Taklon, 7 Piece

Note:
All materials will be demonstrated in the first class, you may wait to purchase any materials until the second class. You may also use materials you already own, or share if registering with a friend.

What to Expect:

Students can expect to work with watercolors in each class to create a series of small scale, exploratory paintings. The class will visit the DAM galleries each week to look closely at both traditional and contemporary artists using watercolors. No prior experience required, class time will allow for individual pathways to meet a range of experience and voice.

Timeline:

Week 1

- Class Introduction and Material Overview
- Painting and the Palette
- Gallery Visit

Week 2

- Layering and Mark-Making
- Gallery Visit

Week 3

- Composition and Individual Voice
- Gallery Visit

Week 4

- Building a Final Composition
- Building Color Through Layers and Mark-Making in Watercolor

Educator:

Sarah Shay is a Denver-based artist, she studied Photography and Anthropology at the University of Iowa, and Arts and Education at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Teaching and learning are at the core of Sarah's painting practice, and Sarah has taught in K-12, Higher Education, and community-based programming in Colorado.

www.sarahshaystudio.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!