DENVER art MUSEUM

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DENVERARTMUSEUM.ORG

Painting: Introduction to Oil

Ruby Red Workshop
Thursdays, 1:30 – 4:00 pm
6-week session, February 25 – April 1, 2027
Educator: J.R. Monks, jr@jrmonks.com

CLASS DESCRIPTION

This 6-week introductory oil painting class is an excellent opportunity to learn about the materials and techniques of painting in the oil medium. Students will start by asking what makes oils unique and how to celebrate this beautiful and expressive medium. Students will use a variety of subjects to practice the working methods and techniques presented in class. The focus will be alla-prima painting; however, students will discover simple glazing techniques to adjust their paintings. This creative journey in oils will also include instruction in drawing with the brush, color theory and mixing, understanding the importance of judging values and using a variety of edges to give a painting added depth and interest. Oils are incredibly versatile, and the Denver Art Museum's collections will inspire students and reinforce concepts discussed in class. Students will look at representational and abstracted works to dive deeper into their personal painting journey.

Pricing:

Museum Friend: $240 / Member: $255 / Student: $255 / Non-Member: $300
**Students will purchase their own materials and should expect to spend $120-180.*

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 THURSDAY 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 spend is $120-180.

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
Basic Palette Oil Paints – Yellow Ochre, Burnt Sienna, Ultramarine Blue, Ivory Black, Titanium White	1 tube each, approx. 40 ml, 2 tubes of white	Winsor & Newton Artists' Oil Paints Gamblin Artist's Oil Paints Rembrandt Artist' Oil Paints
Synthetic Hog Bristle Brush – Flat Size 4 and 10	1 each	Princeton Dakota Series Brushes Or similar
Palette Knife – smaller trowel or diamond shaped knife	1	Blick Palette Knives
Canvas Boards of Various Sizes	3 – 8″ x 10″ 3 – 9″ x 12″ 1 – 10″ x 14″ or 11″ x 14″	Winsor & Newton Professional Artists' Canvas Boards

Gamblin Gamsol **Must be this brand*	1 bottle, 16.9 oz	Gamblin Gamsol Odorless Mineral Spirits
Sketchbook	1	Up to you!
Pencils – somewhere in the range of 4-6B	2-3	Up to you! Or General's Kimberly Graphite Pencils
Optional: Metal Brush Washer – 8-10 oz size	1	Anderson & Sons Stainless Steel Airtight Brush Washer

Notes:

- The palette is limited in order to keep costs lower. You will ultimately expand this palette; the instructor will go over his expanded palette in more detail in class.

- There will be small jars with lids for solvent available to you; however, if you plan to study oil painting for any length of time, it is recommended that you invest in a brush washer with a sealing lid.

What to Expect:

Each day students will be provided short lectures with demonstrations and followed by time to work independently on paintings to practice the day's lessons. Group visits to the DAM's galleries will further reinforce the learning. While the class is an excellent introduction to painting in oils, students with experience will benefit as well. Each class session will build upon previous sessions so that at the completion of class students will have the confidence to continue painting in oil and have the knowledge to continue learning and enjoying the creative journey.

Timeline:

Week 1

- Class will begin with a brief introduction and then focus on reviewing the materials and studio safety considerations. Students will paint simple forms to reinforce the idea of chiaroscuro.

Week 2

- This class session will focus on understanding the importance of accurately assessing values in a simple still life and understanding the various types

of edges we observe in a subject. Students will paint a simple still life in a full range of values.

Week 3

- Students will investigate the qualities of color and apply lessons to painting a subject in a limited color palette.

Week 4

- Introduction to using various types of reference material and painting the landscape. Students will receive instruction designed to assist the student prepare for working on location as well as from photographic reference.

Week 5

- Studio work time for students on individual projects, they will select and work from their choice of reference material.

Week 6

- Studio work time for students on individual projects, they will select and work from their choice of reference material.

Educator:

J.R. Monks is a contemporary visual storyteller of the West. He works both directly in the field and in his studio and strives to be honest and bold in his approach creating images that speak to the beauty, grit, and spectacle of the Western United States. J.R. is a 4th generation Colorado rancher and maintains a studio in his small hometown on the eastern plains near the ranch where he was born and continues to live. J.R. feels a deep connection to the landscape and those who live closely in harmony with her, and his art is a humble homage to the infinite complexity of nature. J.R. is a Signature member of the Montana and Colorado Watercolor Societies, with his work included regularly in juried shows across the country.

https://www.jrmonks.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!