

VMFA STUDIO SCHOOL :A Crash Course in Plein Air Painting- 2 day workshop (updated8/2015)

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You will need a portable easel and a surface to put your palette on. There are many styles of portable easels or you can create an easel and palette area by using 2 folding chairs with flat seats, one chair to lean the painting against the back of and rest the palette on the seat of and the other to sit in. If you have a portable easel that does not have a surface for your palette then you will need a small portable table. Very light easels will fall in wind but if you bring a bungee cord, you can hang you some weight from it (like your bag with supplies) and that should work.

Call me or email if you have any questions and I may be able to offer additional solutions.

We will meet at the Studio School the first day and paint on VMFA grounds. In inclement weather we will paint in the Studio School. There are many nice views out the windows or you can work from photos.

BRING ANY SUPPLIES THAT YOU ALREADY HAVE. THIS LIST IS A GUIDELINE:

Hat, sunscreen, water bottle, small trash bag

A couple of sticks of SOFT willow or vine charcoal- size (3/16") or thinner for sketching on the canvas

4 Canvas or Hardboard Panels: 11x14s OR 12x16s (Not cotton canvas on stretchers unless you cover the backs)

GAMSOL is the best thinner and lowest odor OR Turpenoid in the BLUE AND WHITE can is OK too.

Paint Thinner CUP- metal is best for outdoors. Soup cans work well.

Do NOT bring hardware store solvent-the fumes are too strong. You can reuse solvent if you bring a jar with a lid.

OIL PAINTS – The WINTON line by Windsor Newton is the best value. (Hues are fine and less expensive.)

Yellow----- Cadmium Yellow Pale Or Cadmium Yellow Light (Hues are fine)

Yellow Orange Cadmium Yellow Medium (Hues are fine)

Red Orange----- Cadmium Red Light OR Vermilion (Hues are fine)

Red Violet----- Permanent Rose

Purple----- Magenta

Blue----- Ultramarine (any variety regular, deep or French)

Blue Green----- Prussian blue OR Phthalo blue OR Phthalo turquoise

Green- ----- Sap Green

White----- Titanium White(GET A LARGE TUBE!) Winton Brand, Windsor Newton

BRUSHES Natural or Synthetic Bristle: I recommend a range of sizes like those listed below:

NOTE: Oil Brushes have long handles and size 4 has bristles 1/4" width. If you are just starting out buying sets is more economical. Brands are constantly changing and I have found that stiff synthetic bristles hold up well.

Avoid soft red sable or soft white synthetic.

Bristle ROUND Brush Size 0 OR size 1

Bristle FILBERT, FLAT, OR ROUND Size 2

Bristle FILBERT OR FLAT, Size 4

Bristle FILBERT OR FLAT, Size 6

Bristle FILBERT OR FLAT, Size 10 OR 12

PALETTE KNIVES- Drop Handle with a long thin flexible blade that comes to a point (blade is 2-3 inches)

Optional: Another Drop Handle smaller pointed palette knife (blade one inch)

PALETTE : 12"x16" minimum. Wood or Plexiglass, Paper palettes must be taped to something rigid

Large Wood palettes are fine. A palette that is wood color or gray is better than a white palette.

PAPER TOWELS- Bounty or Viva paper towels.

ART SUPPLY STORES

PLAZA ART- 927 W. Grace St. (near Harrison) 359-5900- Gives VMFA student discount.

Most likely to have everything but parking is not great.

VCU Bookstore - 1111 W. Broad Street (between Harrison & Shafer)

AC. Moore, Michael's, Hobby Lobby- good locations but more expensive and don't offer VMFA Student discount.

Buy online: Dickblick.com, Rexart.com, Pearlpaint.com, ASWexpress.com, Cheapjoes.com, Utrechtart.com