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Portrait Drawing and Painting

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Drawing Materials

Drawing Surfaces

Recommended Surface:

- Paper pad (smooth texture)– select any size between 12” x 16” up to 18” x 24.” Bristol paper is recommended.

Optional Surfaces:

- Illustration board– Bristol brand is recommended
- Toned paper
- Recycled paper

Drawing Materials

Please select one or more of the following based on your preference:

Recommended Pencils

- Graphite Pencils– 2B, 4B and 6B

OR

Recommended Charcoal

- Willow– 1 box of medium and 1 box of hard

OR

Recommended Pens

- Sakura Micron Pen– sizes 02, 03 and 08



Painting Materials

Paint

You can choose to paint in acrylic or oil for this class. For oil paints, there are many good brands. One of the best companies is Gamblin which is the best quality for your dollar. Other good brands include Winsor and Newton and Vasari. Old Holland is a fantastic brand but quite expensive. If you choose Williamsburg, please note that their paint is a bit on the heavy side in terms of viscosity.

Recommended Oil or Acrylic Paints in 37 ml tubes:

- Burnt Umber
- Burnt Sienna or Transparent Red Oxide or Red Earth
- Ultramarine Blue
- Cadmium Yellow Light (contains cadmium which a hazardous material) or Cadmium Yellow HUE (contains no actual cadmium) or Hansa Yellow Light (contains no actual cadmium)
- Cadmium Red Light (contains cadmium which is a hazardous material) or Cadmium Red HUE (contains no actual cadmium) or Vermillion (contains no actual cadmium) or Naphthol Red (contains no actual cadmium) or Venetian Red
- Yellow Ochre
- Flake White Replacement made by Gamblin (when painting flesh this white will retain your colors more vibrantly than Titanium White)
- Soft Mixing White (acrylic paint) or Zinc White/Transparent White
- Titanium White
- Viridian Green
- Naples Yellow
- Alizarin Crimson

Optional Oil or Acrylic Paints in 37 ml tubes:

- Cerulean Blue
- Cobalt Blue
- Brown Pink (highly recommended)
- Phthalo Green

Brushes

Please have 4-5 brushes for this class. The type of brush you use should be based on the type of painting style you want to achieve. Fibers of the brush determine the texture of the painting.

If you think you gravitate toward more realistic, soft blended images, like Raphael, invest in soft synthetic brushes or red sable brushes. Follow this link to see an example of this:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/blick-masterstroke-finest-red-sable-brushes/>

If you think you would like to see your brush strokes like an impressionist painter, like Claude Monet, go toward the stiffer natural hairs like bristle or hog's hair. Follow this link to see examples of this: <https://www.dickblick.com/products/robert-simmons-signet-brushes/>

This link gives a detailed description as to the different types of brushes artists may use:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paintbrush>

Recommended Brushes:

For student grade brushes, I recommend brands like Scholastic, Princeton, Grumbacher, Robert Simmons or Blick's line of brushes. For more expensive but better quality brushes purchase Escoda, Isabey or Old Holland.

- **Size**

Each company makes brushes slightly different from the other. As a general rule, small brushes are measured either as fractions, or 0-4, 5. Medium brushes go from 6- 10 in size and anything greater in size is a large brush.

- One large brush that is 1 - 2 inches in width
- Several medium size brushes
- One small detail brush

- **Fiber**

- Soft Hair Brush: Good for blending and creating smooth textures. Best soft natural fibers are red sable brushes.
- Blending Fan Brush: Best blending fan brushes are badger hair brushes.

- Stiff Hair Brush: The fibers are good for seeing brush marks on the painting surface. The best stiff brush hairs are hog's hair, bristle brushes, and some synthetic hairs.
- **Shape**
 - Round: Good for precise work, small works, delicate work and detail.
 - Filbert: All around good brush.
 - Flat: All around good brush and great for covering large amounts of surface.
 - Bright: All round good brush but the shorter hairs do not make it good for blending.
 - Fan: Great for blending and specific textures.

Painting Surface

Recommended Pre-Primed Stretched Canvas

Purchase the size you prefer anywhere between 12" x 16" to 18" x 24." Recommended brands are Fredrix and Blick.

Optional Wood Panel (Rigid Support)

The more archival painting surface is a rigid support such as wood panels. Often these are sized or waterproofed, and then gessoed to be paint ready. Ampersand makes a great ready to paint wood panel:

<https://www.artistcraftsman.com/catalogsearch/result/?q=ampersand>

The following link shows some great wood panels if you'd like to make your own wood panel:

<https://www.artistcraftsman.com/surfaces/canvas-panels/wood-painting-panels.html>

Recommended General Supplies

- Palette: Plexiglas, glass or grey disposable palette paper pads– 12" x 16." Blick or Richeson disposable palette pads are recommended.
- Palette knives: Richeson and Blick brands are recommended. My personal choice is:
<https://www.dickblick.com/products/blick-palette-knives-by-rgm/>
- Rags or paper towels

Optional Supplies (for oil painters only)

- Solvent: Odorless turpenoid mineral spirits like Gamsol by Gamblin or Weber brands.

- Oil Medium: Oil medium is usually 3 parts Linseed oil + 1 part turpenoid. I recommend using walnut oil. You can make your own or purchase pre-mixed oil mediums at the art store. Blick and Artist and Craftsman make pre-made oil painting mediums. This link has an example of an oil medium:

<https://www.dickblick.com/products/m-graham-walnut-alkyd-medium/>

- Closable jars or containers: 2 total– 1 for solvents and 1 for oil medium
- Oil Brush Cleaning Soap: Dawn dish soap or Murphy's oil soap is recommended