

Basic Colored Pencil Supply Lists: Wax-Based “Dry” Pencils and Watersoluble Colored Pencils

Kristy Kutch, kakutch@earthlink.net

www.artshow.com/kutch

Telephone: 219-874-4688

Thinking ahead for the workshop:

_____ *Feel welcome to bring some prepared, basic line drawings, if you have subject matter in mind and would like to get a head-start. Students are also welcome to bring some of their own reference material, such as photos .*

There will be many demonstrator sets of colored pencils available for students to sample and borrow. Do not break the budget on art supplies; anyone could probably come with just the desire to learn and draw and still succeed and have plenty of materials available!

The First List Is for Wax-Based, “Dry” Non-Watercolor Pencils

_____ Bristol board, regular-finish (also called vellum-finish) drawing paper, at least 9” by 12”, available in a pad. **Regular-finish Bristol board** (as compared to plate-finish, which is very shiny-slick) accepts more layers of color and **is preferable**. OR **Stonehenge** brand paper (**you’ll receive a full-sized pad of Stonehenge free**) is also very popular with many colored pencil artists; that is excellent, too. Hot-press watercolor paper (140# or more) also works well.

_____ Reusable, putty-type wall adhesive; this is gentle, kneadable, and reusable. Some brands are “Poster Putty”, “Hold-It”, or Elmer’s “Tac ‘N Stik”. Look among the school and office supplies. **A small sample of reusable putty will be provided for each person.**

_____ Hand-held, battery, or electric pencil sharpener. (Bring an extension cord, just in case!)

_____ Graphite drawing pencil: #2 **OR** HB (medium-soft, all purpose).

_____ **Optional:** Several sheets of either medium-to-heavy tracing paper or translucent drafting paper.

_____ Sheet or small paddle of sheets of sandpaper for cleaning erasers. **An emery board will be provided.**

_____ White plastic eraser (**free for each person**) , such as Magic Rub or the cartridge-pen type eraser, found in art supply stores and at the school supply section of discount and drug stores. A battery-operated eraser (with refills) also works quickly and well. Sakura makes an excellent battery eraser.

_____ **Optional:** Cloth for buffing, such as a clean, soft handkerchief.

_____ Set of artist’s studio-quality colored pencils. Some brands (in alphabetical order): Bruynzeel Design; Caran d’Ache Pablo or Luminance Pencils, Derwent Artist’s, Derwent Coloursoft, Derwent Procolour, Derwent Signature (discontinued), or Derwent Studio Pencils; Faber-Castell Polychromos; Koh-I-Noor Polycolors, Lyra Polycolors or Lyra Colourstripes; Sanford Prismacolors or Sanford Prismacolor Premium Lightfast Pencils (discontinued) . **There will be large sets of colored pencils available for your experimentation, as well as generous take-home samples.**

_____ Sanford Verithin Pencils in Tuscan Red, Violet, or Indigo Blue. Verithin pencils are excellent for fine, crisp edges. There will be some Verithins available for student use.

_____ Caran d’Ache Fullblender, Derwent Blender and/or Burnishing pencil(s), Lyra Rembrandt’s Splendor, **or** Sanford Prismacolor Colorless Blender non-pigmented blending pencil. **Each student will receive a free sample blending pencil.**

_____ Colorless blender marker, such as the Sanford Prismacolor Colorless Blender Marker . This resembles a double felt-tipped marker, but it contains a clear, alcohol-based solvent. (Other brands are the Tombow Brush Pen and Finesse Blender Pen.)

_____ **Optional:** A roll of Scotch Removable Tape, which is in a plastic tape dispenser, has a blue-plaid label, and can be found in office-supply stores.

_____ **Optional:** Stiff blending brushes, such as pastel-blending brushes, inexpensive hog-bristle brushes, or stiff stencil brushes. These work well for blending colored pencil, especially on sanded, textured surfaces.

_____ Helpful-if-You-Want-to-Research-It Department: Bet Borgeson's book, *The Colored Pencil*, Revised Edition, Watson-Guption Publications, 1993 or Kristy Kutch's book, *Drawing and Painting with Colored Pencil*, Watson-Guption Publications, 2005; *The New Colored Pencil*, Tenspeed Press (Random House), 2014. **There will be colored pencil books available for browsing and purchase, too! (I will be happy to autograph my books, too.)**

The Second List Is for Watercolor Colored Pencils

_____ Set of artist-grade watercolor/ watersoluble pencils; a small set is fine, because **there will be demonstrator sets to try at class**. Given the decision of whether to buy a smaller, high-quality set, choose that, rather than a larger-but-cheap set. The colors will be richer and more intense, and you will get much more pigment (and quality) per dollar. Some suggested brands are (in alphabetical order) : Bruynzeel Aquarel, Caran d'Ache Supracolor or Museum watercolor pencils, Cretacolor Aquamonolith (woodless watercolor pencils), Derwent Inktense (watersoluble ink) pencils, Faber-Castell Albrecht Dürer, Faber-Castell Magnus (jumbo watercolor pencils), Lyra Aquarell, Sanford Prismacolor Watercolor Pencils. **Note:** If you have watersoluble wax pastels (which look like crayons), such as Caran d'Ache Neocolor II or NeoArt sticks, Derwent Inktense Blocks, or "Woody" Stabilo pencils, feel welcome to bring them.

_____ Watercolor paper or quarter-sheets of regular-size watercolor paper, preferably at least 140 lb. Hot press paper is the smoothest and finest-textured, rough paper has the most "tooth", and cold-press is somewhere in between those textures. (If you're not sure, bring it anyway!) The heavier-weight the paper is, the less chance there is of buckling. **Each student will receive some watercolor paper.**

_____ Whatever brushes you have; if you only invest in one brush, try a #6 round brush. White sable brushes are excellent and are actually synthetic. If you invest in a second brush, try a script/ reservoir liner brush (Cheap Joe's Lizard Lick #2 is wonderful), which is wispy and great for details. A 1" or larger wide, flat brush is great for large areas such as skies, should you want to try landscapes. If you have more brushes, bring them!

_____ Tissues, paper towels, and even Q-tips are nice for blotting.

_____ Scrap paper for trying out color swatches is also good.

_____ Two water containers, even if they are plastic 2-liter bottles (or smaller) which have been cut down for this purpose.

_____ Old toothbrush(es) for spattering.

_____ OPTIONAL: Masking fluid, plus some old (disposable, non-treasured) brushes for applying it. Wax resist stick, like the clear waxy crayon found in Easter egg dye kits, is also good for saving white areas.

_____ OPTIONAL: Plain, original-style (*not* the kind with Febreze) Mr. Clean Magic Eraser, which is effective for lifting watercolor pigment from Aquabond. **Each person will receive a wedge of this type of eraser.**