

KALAMAZOO INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Watercolor with Expression

Instructor: Susan Badger

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PAPER:

[Arches 140 lb. cold press watercolor paper](#) is recommended for this class. These sheets can be purchased in smaller sizes, but the full sheets are 22 x30," and can be torn down into smaller sizes.

WATERCOLOR PAINTS:

The watercolor paints listed below are recommended, however **it is not necessary to have all of them**. Students often want to know which paints I use, so I offer this thorough list. Having a warm and a cool version of each primary is very helpful, along with a color that makes it dark. Of course, there are many other colors available on the market.

Good quality artist or professional grade tube watercolor paints are recommended over student grade paints or pan colors for this class. However, some students prefer to start with less expensive watercolors, and some find they prefer pan colors.

There are also many good brands of quality watercolor paints on the market. I primarily use artist grade tube watercolor paints by [Winsor Newton \(WN\)](#), along with some colors made by [Daniel Smith \(DS\)](#).

PRIMARY COLORS:

- **Blue:** Cobalt Blue, French Ultramarine Blue, Winsor or Phthalo Blue (Green Shade), Cerulean Blue.
- **Red:** Scarlet Lake or [Organic Vermilion \(DS\)](#), Permanent Rose.
- **Yellow:** Transparent Yellow, Indian Yellow

SECONDARY COLORS :(Many secondary colors can be mixed from using primary colors)

- **Violet:** [Quinacridone Magenta \(DS\)](#)

EARTH TONES:

- **Earth Tones:** Burnt Sienna

BRUSHES:

- **Round, Flat, & Rigger synthetic nylon in sizes 8-14**

Other brands can be used. Various sizes and types can be utilized.

- **My Preferred Brands:** [Kolinsky Sable](#) brushes are wonderful, however I most often use a blend of synthetic & natural bristle brushes. I primarily use a [“Dream Catcher” blended bristle brush](#), in various sizes of rounds. These brushes are available from Cheap Joes.

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PALLETTE:

A watercolor palette with wells and a lid is recommended for squeezing tube watercolors into, and areas for color mixing is recommended. In my studio I use a large palette, however, I use a smaller palettes in class & for on location work.

BOARD FOR SUPPORT:

Various types of boards can be utilized, **but an inexpensive and lightweight choice is 1/4" foam board**. Other excellent choices include sealed plywood or Masonite, gator board, and plexiglass.

MISC. ITEMS:

A sketchbook is recommended for preliminary drawings and note taking. Along with a few pencils ranging from **B to 6B**.

Other recommended supplies include:

- Drafting or [artist's low tack tape](#)
- [A natural sea sponge](#)
- Kleenex or paper towel
- A palette knife or cut up swipe cards are very useful for scraping

Optional additional materials include:

- pen and ink, water soluble pencils, etc.

ART SUPPLY SOURCES:

Art supplies are available for purchase locally at [Michaels](#) or [Hobby Lobby](#).

Additionally, there are many online sources &/or art supply catalogs. Over the years I've often used Cheap Joes, however lately I'm ordering more from Jerry's Artarama as they seem to have the best prices.

- **Cheap Joes Art Stuff:** cheapjoes.com or 1-800-227-278
- **Jerry's Artarama:** jerrysartarama.com 1-800- 827-8478
- **Dick Blick:** dickblick.com or 1-800-828-4548