

Tallahassee Senior Center – Art Program – 2020

Engage With Your Page with Mary Liz Tippin Moody

Tuesday afternoon, 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. Tallahassee Senior Center - Clay Studio

Class Description

Explore creating images on paper with a variety of media and visual art processes. Intended as a creative time for experimenting with two- or three-dimensional mixed-media projects. Use your sketchbook to plan and execute your own creative imagery with drawing, painting, collage and simple printmaking techniques. Start with sketches or references for your projects and explorations. Use your choice of medium, graphite or colored pencils, pen or brush, watercolors, inks, gouache, and/or acrylics. Drawing and painting guidance is available and students bring their own art supplies. For beginners and continuing students ready for creative adventure.

Many folks experience “white space anxiety” when placing imagery on a blank page. The secret is to make marks – with planning. This just takes practice and assimilating some basic information. The intent of this class is to encourage participants to relax and approach the process of image making on a page with enjoyment and freedom to embrace what might happen as you work. Making art can be uniquely expressive – non-judgmental and executed for its own sake. Hopefully, you can try out some of these experiences and apply them to your art-making toolbox. Attendees have begun to use past pages to work into three dimensions by covering or building and covering boxes or other objects with their own created and curated “pages” yielding intriguing and richly visual results.

Instructor

Tallahassee Native and FSU graduate, Mary Liz Tippin Moody, Illustrator/Graphic Designer, has worked in the advertising agency world for three decades. She draws and paints for the joy of the process, and exhibits her artwork in various regional venues and is an active member of several local arts organizations, serving as Community Liaison Chair for the FSU MoFA Artists’ League. She now freelances doing graphic design and welcomes art commissions of all kinds by creating portraits and one-of-a-kind greeting cards of people’s pets, themselves, homes or cherished local landmarks, rendered with a whimsical touch and a dose of humor.

More information about the class with a brief outline of the sessions is available. Email Mary Liz at hello@maryliztippinmoody.com for a copy.

Art Supplies to bring to class:

NOTE: Please do NOT buy all of this! Feel free to pick a medium and stick with that. There are some watercolors and acrylics to try at the art room, so please do not feel you must buy all these supplies before coming to class. **You will need the basics though, so please bring those.**

Needed – Must have:

Used or New Mixed Media Sketchbook – 9 x 12 or 11 x 14 or larger MIXED MEDIA Sketchbook with wire coil binding, which allows for thick pages. The paper tolerates wet media, permanent inks and dyes and collage processes.

Exercise Paper – This can be a pad of white heavy weight drawing paper 8.5 x 11 or 9x12” minimum size. This paper will be used in first two sessions and for exercises and reference sheets for your final projects. (see below “project paper”.)

Basics if you decide to continue:

Drawing pencils – It’s nice to have a range of leads, but to start with 2B, 4B and 6B – or – 2H, H and F will work fine. Here is a link to explain this: <https://pencils.com/hb-graphite-grading-scale/>

Erasers – A kneadable eraser is best – you can squeeze it, divide in half and knead it to absorb the graphite. A pink pearl eraser is good, too.

Pencil Sharpener – a school supply sharpener should be fine, but a quality sharpener is worth it.

Drawing Pens – waterproof black ink. A variety of points come in sets made by Faber Castell, Prismacolor and Pigma/Micron. These all allow you to apply solid black ink marks and then water media over – or, you can paint first and apply them over the artwork. Many have brushy points as well as the one width point. Just make sure you are getting the waterproof permanent kind.

Basic brushes for water media: Best quality watercolor brushes you can afford in these sizes to start:

Size 1 round – for details and brushy texture explorations

Size 4 round – for laying in larger areas or shapes

Size 6 or 8 round – for washes and transparent overlays – **if you only buy one brush, buy a size 8 round.**

A size 1 or 2 “MOP” is good to wet your paper and to wash large areas, but not essential. The local art supply stores carry a set of standard synthetic brushes in a slotted fabric carrier for about \$15.00, sometimes on sale.

Useful additions:

Project paper – **At least four sheets of watercolor paper that are at least 140 pound** are recommended for your projects. If you buy lighter weight watercolor paper, it can buckle, wrinkle, and shred on the surface if overworked when wet. 300 pound paper is the strongest and heaviest paper you’ll ever need. It can take a lot of work and layers of media without buckling or shredding. It is more expensive. Pads are sold in the usual sizes such as 8x10”, 9x12”, 11x14”, 12x16” and so on. The “finish” of the paper has to do with how smooth it is: “hot press” is smooth, without any “tooth”. Cold press has a slightly textured surface. “Rough” paper has texture, which some artists use to add visual interest to their work. This is a good article on paper:

<https://emptyeasel.com/2013/08/27/how-to-choose-the-right-watercolor-paper-weight-texture-color-explained/>

Watercolor paints: There will be some school quality tube watercolors available to use in the art studio. But if you want to continue on your own at home, you might want to get a set of decent quality tube watercolors or pan watercolors. A porcelain saucer can operate as a palette, or you can get one with “wells” to hold your washes if you get tube colors.

Read about what to consider here: <https://watercolorpainting.com/beginners-guide-watercolor/>

Watercolor pencils: dry watercolor is the “lead” of the pencil, which you can lay down like colored pencil and then work lightly over with a wet or damp brush. A set with a minimum of 12 colors will do, and some sets have 24-36 colors, which are great when sketching without a palette, using only water and ink. You will also need a good sharpener for these. Great brands I have accumulated are Prismacolor watercolor pencils in regular and premier, Derwent Studio watercolor pencils, Marco/Raffine watercolor pencils – these have an almost “creamy” feel and blend beautifully. The method is not exactly like painting with a wash and brush, but once you have practice with both, you might develop a preference for ways to use either or both.

Small tube of Titanium white acrylic paint – is useful for laying in areas you want to remain white.

Paper toweling, Q-tips, or other material to blot / draw water and paint back out of the paper.

Creative Mark brand “Aqua Stroke” brush with water reservoir in handle – great for using with watercolor pencil and especially when sketching in the field, too. Size: small round and/or mini.

Masking Fluid – for experimenting with resist techniques.

White regular colored pencil to experiment with resist areas.

Where to shop? Michaels – Governor’s Square Blvd. or Hobby Lobby – Thomasville Road at Capital Circle.
(Both usually have coupons in newspaper on Sunday and go on line for coupons)

On-line: www.cheapjoes.com, www.aswexpress.com, www.dickblick.com Amazon.com

If you have further questions regarding the class or art supplies, email Mary Liz at maryliztippinmoody@gmail.com

For Information or questions regarding registration or payment, contact Jennifer Haskins, 891-4016,
jennifer.haskins@talgov.com.