

**“Painting an Expressive Portrait” with Jeanne Tangney
May 25, 2019**

Portrait painting is so much more than capturing a likeness! In this workshop, we will explore how to create an expressive portrait while learning the importance of shapes, values, color relationships, and edges. We will first go over some basic proportions for establishing general features, then cover other useful tips for starting a portrait and correcting errors along the way. We will analyze facial planes, form shadows, and cast shadows, discussing how they can be used to portray gesture and interest. These guidelines will be applied to a preliminary charcoal study before beginning our more developed pastel painting. We will focus more on creating an expressive, evocative portrait rather than an exact likeness. Demos will be included and students will receive plenty of individualized instruction to help them reach their personal goals.

Supply List:

Soft pastels – be sure to have a variety of colors and values. Some of the brands I rely on are Terry Ludwig, Great American, Unison, and Giraults. If you will be purchasing pastels for this workshop, consider getting a half-stick set. They are a great value and many offer an expansive color selection for the cost.

Hard pastels (ex. NuPastel or similar)

Vine charcoal

Pastel Paper - UART 400 or 500, Pastel Premier (there are several color options, I use the Italian Clay), or other paper/surface of your choice. Make sure you have several pieces available, minimum 9” x 12”, larger for life size. I buy large sheets and cut them to size.

Backing board for paper

Tape or clips for attaching paper to board. Tape is also useful to establish the boundaries of your painting.

Isopropyl rubbing alcohol for underpainting

Small container with lid for the alcohol

Inexpensive paintbrush (1/2” to 1”). I use a 1” flat watercolor brush

Sketchbook/drawing paper and drawing tools (vine charcoal, charcoal pencils, kneaded eraser, etc.). I like Strathmore 400 paper, 9” x 12” or larger. It is readily available and great for charcoal studies. If you have a preferred paper, feel free to use that instead. I also enjoy using black pan pastel and an application tool to block in my sketches, but the other listed materials are fine.

Because of time and space limitations, you will be working from your photos, either printed or on an iPad-type device. I prefer using my iPad so that I can adjust values as I am working or enlarge areas to see detail.

Please bring a selection of photos to choose from. Try to include those with identifiable lights and shadows rather than flat lighting.

Biography:

A graduate of Rhode Island Collage with a BA in Painting and a BS in Art Education, Jeanne Tangney has exhibited her pastel paintings throughout the United States and has won numerous international and national awards. She has been recognized in the Pastel Journal magazine's Top 100 (2016 and 2017) and her work was featured in the August 2016 issue of the American Art Review. Jeanne is a Master Pastelist in the Pastel Society of America (PSA) and has earned Master Circle status in the International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS). She is also a member of the Pastel Painters Society of Cape Cod, the Connecticut Pastel Society, and the Art League of RI. She is a faculty member of the Newport Art Museum and the Wickford Art Association.