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About the workshops - My workshops are very informal and relaxed. The common goal is to learn more about art and enhance our own creative efforts. While I specialize in painting wildlife, you don't have to paint wildlife to participate. We have still-life painters; landscape artists; even carvers, and they all work in a variety of mediums including watercolor, acrylic, pastels, colored pencil, oil and more. Joining a group of artists for a workshop of painting and sharing is truly worthwhile. This creative camaraderie is both inspiring and fulfilling. If you have any questions about my workshops, or would like to be put on my workshop mailing list, please contact me. There is more information and photos on my website.

Currently I offer one workshop annually, which is always the end of August. The location is in the northern part of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The workshop begins with Friday evening registration (no meal) or Sunday after noon if you are only doing the second session. **NEW: We must be out of the lodge by 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday.** I also do workshops for other art groups and organizations. If you know of such a group that might be interested, have them contact me for information.

- I will be one of the returning guest instructors for SKB Artist Rendezvous & Workshop, Dubois, WY at the Headwaters Arts & Conference Center September 13-18, 2020. For more information go to this link: <https://skbworkshop.com/dubois-workshop-info-2/>
- This section will be updated periodically if other workshops are scheduled for 2020. This updated newsletter will be available for viewing and downloading on my website in the workshop section.

Fall Workshop – Held at Camp Wa-Wa-Sum near Grayling, Michigan. Full workshop is **August 14 (Friday evening registration) to 1 pm August 18**. Also offered as two day workshop for either **August 14-16** or **August 16-18, 2020**. Discount for full workshop. Lodging, meals, and instruction included. This year I plan to **focus on plein air painting**, weather permitting, keep that in mind when packing your art supplies!

Full workshop cost is \$500 (August 14-18, 2020)

First session cost is \$280 (August 14-16, 2020) • Second session cost is \$280 (August 16-18, 2020)

Workshop Registration – Filled on a first-come basis, \$50.00 deposit to guarantee your registration.

Register me for the following 2020 workshop **FALL** – Camp Wa Wa Sum

Indicate if you are participating in the First part (\$280) Second Part (\$280) Full Workshop (\$500)

Enclosed is my check, money order, or charge to MasterCard, or Visa for the following amount \$ _____

Charge Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ CVC# _____

Signature (required for Charge) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, & Zip _____

About This Workshop

In some previous workshops we have done a little plein air painting. This year I plan to make plein air painting the main focus of the workshop. The weather will be a major factor in how much outdoor painting can be done. We will adjust our outdoor plans daily based on the conditions. If you prefer to do studio painting, you are welcome to do so, but I want you to be aware that the main focus this year will be plein air painting. Generally, plein air painting require quicker looser painting because of the changing light conditions that occur while painting outdoors. If the weather does not allow us to paint outside, we will work on using photographs as if we were painting on location. The emphasis will be on making good choices for composition, utilizing simple shapes, establishing color and value, and capturing the essence of the subject matter.

I will go over my own process of plein air painting on Friday evening. Our first day of painting will begin Saturday morning, after breakfast. My plan is to break the day into two outdoor painting sessions, one before lunch and one after. Our after dinner evening program will be to critique and discuss the work done each day, as well as offer tips and ideas. As always, the evening is open to painting as late as you wish.

I suggest that you not try to do large plein air paintings, due to time constraints, unless you are a quick painter, or used to working on large pieces in a relatively short time constraint (likely 2-4 hours). Personally, I like to work on sizes like 9"x12" and smaller. You need to bring your own painting supplies and supports. I recommend smaller paintings and a limited palette. You may wish to bring a French easel, folding chair, lap board, portable easel, or whatever else might help you while working in the field. Many times I have just worked on my lap and that works too.

Participants are responsible for travel, personal toiletries, linens, bedding (sleeping bag recommended) and pillow. Registered participants will receive a pre-workshop letter approximately two weeks prior to the workshop. This will serve as a reminder and include some more detailed information, including a map to the Wa Wa Sum lodge.

Cancellation Policy:

Once your place has been reserved, there will be a nonrefundable cancellation charge of \$25 prior to 20 days before the event to cover administration costs.

No-shows will not receive a refund, regardless of the circumstances. If you drop out of a class the workshop once it has started, you will not receive a refund.

We reserve the right to cancel the workshop, in which case we will make a full refund.

Plein Air Painting Tip & Links:

Below are some good tips that I found from a variety of sources on the internet. Links to the full information and artists/authors are at the bottom of this sheet.

1. TRAVEL LIGHT

Remove anything from your painting box that you don't really need. Do you need a dozen brushes when painting studies on location, or just a few?

2. SIMPLIFY YOUR PALETTE

Limited palettes rule when it comes to traveling light. A careful consideration of chosen colors before setting out can be beneficial. Don't forget that you can mix your own greens, and the fewer colors you use the more harmonious the result.

3. USE YOUR SMART PHONE TO CAPTURE A VISUAL REFERENCE

Take a camera or smart phone with you when painting *en plein air*. Painted studies capture atmosphere as no photograph ever could, but a camera can capture details in an instant. Using a photograph as a visual reference for your painting can ensure consistency in your work in the face of weather and lighting changes.

4. USE EASILY PORTABLE CASES TO TRANSPORT SUPPLIES

A good Pochade box can be really useful, not only for packing your items but also to act as a small easel. And for larger *plein air* work, a French easel, is fantastic.

5. DON'T WEAR SUNGLASSES WHILE PAINTING

Though you may be contending with bright sun at times, sunglasses alter color balance and can therefore affect how colors are perceived.

6. BUG REPELLANT

Sometimes it's a necessity!

- Wear neutral colors
- Use fresh color on a clean palette
- Keep your medium clean
- Use a sturdy, high-quality easel
- Use good paint

- Use a receptive painting surface
- Keep your canvas out of the sun
- Be patient, grateful and humble. Just to have the opportunity to paint is a gift. Stay grateful for the opportunity, humble to the task and, for heaven's sake, be patient with yourself. Keep your heart open and your hand sure.

There are many benefits to painting plein air such as:

- You get to *truly see* what is there, rather than what a camera is able to pick up.
- You get to paint *in the moment*. Painting what you feel is much more effective than painting from what you remember feeling.
- You learn to paint *instinctively* and with a sense of *urgency*. When you are painting outdoors, everything is constantly changing - the wind, light, colors and objects. If you do not paint quickly enough, then you may end up trying to paint two completely different scenes.

<https://www.creativebloq.com/features/en-plein-air-painting>

<https://www.artistsnetwork.com/art-mediums/oil-painting/11-tips-for-painting-en-plein-air/>

<https://drawpaintacademy.com/7-plein-air-painting-tips/>

<https://www.outdoorpainter.com/overcoming-difficulties-painting-en-plein-air-tips/>

<https://www.artistsnetwork.com/plein-air-painting/>

<https://mitchalbala.com/the-approach-four-essential-steps-to-plein-air-painting/>