Missouri Botanical Garden

Material List – Watercolor: the Color of Fall

I use professional transparent watercolor in tubes. The bulk of my art supplies are mail ordered. One company I do a lot of business with is Daniel Smith Art Materials in Seattle. They manufacture an excellent line of watercolors. The watercolors I will be using can only be ordered through them. Information on ordering from them is in the cover letter and at the end of the supply list.

Susie Short Essential Set (Hansa yellow medium, Quinacridone Rose, French Ultramarine Blue, New Gamboge, Pyrrol Orange, Phthalo blue, *Quinacridone Burnt Orange) These are heavily pigmented 15ml tubes. #285-250-188 $36.83 (as of January, 2013.) I am adding to this set a tube of Manganese Blue Hue: #284 600 051 ($8.69).

You can buy similar colors locally at Artmart and Dick Blick under the brand names Holbein or Winsor Newton. I like both brands but only their professional lines, not the student grade. Holbein carries a color called “Brilliant Orange” which is very similar to Pyrrol Orange. I am not sure if there is a good substitute for hansa yellow. I would suggest if you are going to buy paint locally to get Winsor Newton's Winsor Yellow as a substitute for hansa yellow. Cerulean Blue would be a substitute for Manganese Blue Hue. *Quinacridone burnt orange is similar to Burnt Sienna. Please note: It will cost more to buy paint (and brushes) locally.

Brushes

One of the major mistakes artists make is they buy brushes that are too small. Yes, sometimes a small detail brush is needed but to get the loose, juicy feel that is characteristic of watercolor, large brushes are a must. We will be using a combination of round and flat brushes. My favorite brushes are a blend of synthetic and natural hair. Good round brushes should have a rounded belly that comes to a fine point. Flat brushes should not split and have a nice chiseled edge. Brush sizes vary according to manufacturer. A size 12 round in one brand may equal a size 8 in another brand.

Daniel Smith offers a line of excellent and inexpensive brushes that I would recommend. Their rounds do run small though, but this does not affect the quality.

Platinum Series 24 Squirrel/Synthetic Watercolor brushes

Suggested sizes: Rounds: #8 (#657 013 002: $9.97) and #16 (#657 013 004: $16.80) Flats: 1 inch flat (#657 012 004) $18.83 and/or ¾”flat (#657 012 003) $12.66 Wash: 1 ½ inch (#657 015 002) $29.53 optional Cat's Tongue: ½” (#657 014 001) $15.88 optional

Prices do not reflect student discount

Prices may not be current. You can check prices on line or call Daniel Smith's customer service. (www.danielsmith.com, 1-800-426-6740)

Other brands of brushes I have used and liked are: Winsor Newton Gold Septre, Princeton, and Robert Simmons Sapphire series. You can buy these locally at Artmart in Richmond Heights. Brush sizes suggested: #8 and #12 round, and 1 inch flat. Dick Blick in Clayton also sells watercolor brushes. Do not buy brushes that are advertized “for water media”. They are more acrylic brushes than watercolor.
**Paper:** Two sheets of 140# cold press watercolor paper. I use Winsor Newton or Arches watercolor paper which is acid free, 100% rag cotton. Sometimes you can get it in packets of five a little cheaper. They come in 22X30 inch sheets which we will cut in eigths or quarters. How much paper you will need depends on how much you paint. I would suggest two sheets (22X30) to start. Bring one sheet cut in quarters to the first class. We will use both sides of the watercolor paper. You can purchase these papers locally or through mail order but most mail order places have a minimum purchase of ten sheets.

**Palette:** A covered plastic palette with at least twenty wells for paint and a large mixing area works best. Brands that work well are: John Pike palette, Frank Webb Palette, Tom Lynch Palette, *Robert Wood Palette* and *Stephen Quiller Palette (I use the Quiller traveler size).* Most of these can be bought locally. *Can be purchased through Daniel Smith.

**Drawing:** HB pencil, a kneaded eraser, and a sketch book or bring some copy paper.

**Board** to mount your watercolor paper on. I use gator board but it is hard to find locally. You can also use heavy cardboard or foam core but put contact paper on it to make it waterproof. Size should be 16"X23" or two pieces that are 12" X 16". Daniel Smith carries gator board cut to fit full, half or quarter size sheets of watercolor paper. You don’t have to put contact paper on gator board. I bought two of the quarter size pieces to use in my class. I love it. It is light and easy to transport back and forth to class. Gator board is a little fragile. It can take repeated stabling but if you step on it, it breaks. Here is the order number. It is your choice as to whether or not you want to order it.

*Gatorboard, 1/2in x 12in x 16in  Item #: 249 020 001 $7.50 (recommend getting two)*

**Other things:** large cellulose kitchen sponge, roll of Viva paper towels, Kleenex (no additives), two quart-size containers to hold water, a spray bottle

**Painter's tape:** one inch or three quarter inch width. I like Ace Hardware’s store brand painter’s tape. It is low tack and a neutral color. White artist’s Tape works even better but costs more. That is available at ArtMart and Dick Blick

***Required:*** a sense of humor and an adventurous spirit

Daniel Smith Art Materials  
1-800-426-6740  
[www.danielsmith.com](http://www.danielsmith.com)  

Their catalog is on line. Their customer service is wonderful. Shipping will be extra but there is no sales tax. Remember to use my teacher referral number, TRP00194 and the 20% discount code, WSCHOOL3. The prices I quoted do not reflect the student discount

The best places to buy art supplies in St. Louis are Artmart in Richmond Heights and Blick in University City. They are well stocked stores with a wide variety for artists. If you bring your supply list in they will give you a 10% discount.

I am looking forward to meeting you all and sharing the watercolor experience. If you have any questions, please contact me through Missouri Botanical Garden Adult Education office at 314-577-9506.

Judy Seyfert
Watercolor: the Color of Fall
Fall, 2013

Dear Artists,

Watercolor is a wonderful, dynamic and expressive medium. In its simplicity all you need is paper, paint and water. But one thing I have learned is that it is important to start with the best supplies you can afford. Having quality brushes, paint, and paper is an integral part to a successful painting experience. Painting can be frustrating if either one of these is not up to par. The supply list enclosed is what I will be using. If you already have supplies from previous classes don’t feel you have to purchase more. Later on in the class there may be a few additional supplies you will need or want.

St. Louis is lucky because we have two great places to buy art supplies: Dick Blick and ArtMart. If you bring your supply list in, they will give a 10% student discount. Michaels and Hobby Lobby have a limited amount of art supplies also. Remember to look for coupons and use them.

As you can tell from the supply list I purchase a lot of supplies online. Daniel Smith Art Materials is one of my favorite online retailers for art supplies. Two years ago Daniel Smith started a “Teacher Referral Program”. I have been given a TRP (teacher referral program) key code: TRP00194. Every time you purchase from them and use this code I accumulate bonus points, one point for every dollar spent. I use these points to purchase items for my classes at the Garden. The Daniel Smith education department is offering my students an additional 20% off and free shipping. Using the source code “WSCHOOL3” gives you that discount. You must call in the order. Their operators will have a copy of the supply list and will give you the discount and apply the TRP number. When ordering, tell them you are taking a watercolor class at the Missouri Botanical Garden with Judy Seyfert. Give them the TRP number (TRP00194) and the discount code (“WSCHOOL3”). If you have any problems or questions about their product contact Bernadette Brown, Sales Manager at Daniel Smith. Her phone number is 1-206-812-5877 Ext. 435. You can also call 1-800-426-6740 and ask to speak with her.

Because I use so much paper, I buy Winsor Newton watercolor paper in bulk. If you wish to purchase paper from me let me know in advance and I will bring it to the first class. I sell it in packs of five sheets (22X30) for $22. The cost is subject to change.

If you have registered late for this class and don’t have time to order paint, call me and let me know. I will bring paint and brushes for you to use that first class. I may even have an extra set of paint I can sell you.

In the past I have found that students after a few weeks decide they need to add to their supplies. We simply put a group order together and save some money on postage and sometimes paint. So paint for a few weeks with the basic supplies and see if you need to make any adjustments. Any supplies you purchase will last well beyond this class. The Daniel Smith watercolors are highly pigmented so a little goes a long way. Not only is the Susie Short Essential Set a good value, it is a good starter set to build an expanded palette.

I am looking forward to meeting you all and sharing the watercolor experience. If you have any questions, please contact me through Missouri Botanical Garden Adult Education office at 314-577-9506.

Judy Seyfert