

Paint Club Description

With Kim T. Richards

Do you love to paint, but don't have a regular time and place to indulge your artistic pursuits? Perhaps you find yourself surrounded by unfinished canvases, and are seeking some guidance and direction. Or are you new to painting and eager to learn, but unable to commit to a weekly class? Paint Club was designed just for you!

Each month, instructor Kim T. Richards will lead a bite-sized lesson on various skills or topics related to oil and/or acrylic painting. Following the demonstration, Kim will work individually with students to help refine ongoing painting projects and help with any challenges you may be struggling with.

Whether you're a new to painting in acrylics and oils or an intermediate artist seeking to try something new, Painting Club was created just for you.

Upcoming topics:

- August 13 - Seascapes
- September – Sunrise/sunset
- October – Flower bouquet
- November – Fall color
- December – Palette knife painting

Paint Club Supplies

Please bring any paintings you would like to start or continue working on. If you don't have an ongoing project, please bring a canvas or canvas panel in the size of your choice and any photos you would like to use as reference.

You may bring any oil or acrylic paint you already own. In this series of workshops, I will talk a lot about using a split primary palette, which means having a warm and cool version of each of the primary colors. (I will explain what I mean about this in class) I recommend having the following colors:

- White - Titanium white
- Yellow - Cadmium light or lemon, and Cadmium yellow deep (Hansa Yellow light and Hansa Yellow deep are less expensive options)
- Red- Alizarin Crimson Permanent and either Cadmium Red Light or Pyrrole Red light
- Blue - Ultramarine Blue, and either Manganese Blue or Severs Blue
- either Transparent Red Oxide or Burnt Sienna

If you are purchasing new paint, I recommend purchasing artist grade paint. Student or craft grade paints have a lot of fillers in them and low quality pigments. It is actually easier to learn when you use quality materials.

Brand recommendations for oils, I like M. Graham and Rembrandt brands for their creamy texture. If you prefer a stiffer paint, Gamblin is a good brand.

Brand recommendations for Water Soluble Oils - Cobra and Grumbacher Max

Brand recommendations for acrylic - Golden and Liquitex.

Brushes - I recommend having a variety of brushes in different shapes and sizes. I like flats and filberts, but bring the brushes you feel most comfortable with. My favorite brand for both oil and acrylic is the Princeton Aspen line.

Palette - a pad of palette paper is fine for either oil or acrylic. If you would like a palette that can help keep your paint viable for longer and is easier to transport, I recommend the Masterson Stay Wet palettes - the ones that come with a sponge and paper are for acrylic. The one that is for oil will need either a piece of plexiglass, regular glass or a paper palette inside.

Additional supplies:

If you are using oil, bring a jar of odorless mineral spirits or Gamsol in a container with a lid.

If you are using acrylic, you will need a container for water.

For either medium, you will also need paper towels, masking tape, paper and pencil for sketching,

Kim T. Richards Biography

Growing up in Brooklyn NY, artist Kim T. Richards had access to wonderful museums and an early exposure to the world's great art. After earning a BFA in illustration from Parsons School of Design, Kim pursued a career as a textile designer. Many of Kim's prints featured floral motifs, and that interest in flowers is still evident in her work. Kim is currently filling her own garden with all the plants she loves to paint. In good weather you can often find her outside painting the flowers there, or out with her friends painting all over Loudoun and Fairfax counties. When the weather is not conducive to spending time outdoors, Kim enjoys working in the studio painting bouquets of flowers, or reimagining some of the locations she painted on location in the past.

Artist Statement

Painting flowers or landscapes from life creates a feeling of serenity in me that I strive to share with the viewer. Our modern lives have become so busy, we hardly have an opportunity to look around and experience the beauty of everyday life. When do we stop and look closely at a flower or the landscape around us? Painting is my way of taking the time to live in the moment and pay close attention to the beauty that surrounds us. Painting is like a meditation for me, but instead of focusing on my breath, I am focusing on my subject, noticing all the minute details about it, from the play of light on the petal of a flower, to the way the sky reflects in a pond. Painting from life brings a sense of peace in me that I hope to extend to the viewer.