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Nancy Nowak Mastering Painting: Taking your Paintings to the Next Level
Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 14, 15, & 16, 2026
9:00am-4:00pm

- **Soft Pastels** - *A mixture of hard and soft pastels, the more the better (Schmincke, Unison, Great American, Terry Ludwig, NuPastel, Sennelier, Blue Earth, etc.) I do not recommend Rembrandt. Hint: Unify your pastels in one box for ease of use; sort by color and value.*
- **Surfaces**
 - 9x12 or 11x14 of UArt 400 (mounted preferred) or Lux (2 sheets per day)
 - *We will be painting with an alcohol wash underpainting and watercolor and some other types of sanded papers and “pastel papers” are not conducive for this particular workshop (e.g. Sennelier La Carte)*
 - *A piece of foam core for a back board*
- **Reference Photos** - *Your reference photos are very important! Have a bunch to choose from. Pro-tip: Best to include photos with strong contrast; a light side and a shadow side (not backlit). Make sure they have a strong focal area as well as a foreground, middle ground, and background. Keep it simple but not boring!*

You should have reference photos of landscapes and small figures in a setting and also with street scenes. The figures can be out in a farmer’s market, art fair, beach scene, walking down the street, etc. Try to get figures with light/medium/dark values on them. I would avoid children as a main focus.

 - If you have an iPad or laptop, please bring your photos downloaded onto your device. **Your phone is too small.**
 - If you are bringing printed paper photos:
 - Print in high resolution with accurate color - I suggest using the FedEx store to print; their printer is much better
 - Be sure they are printed at least 8.5”x11”



- Photos will print out darker, so I edit the image to make it lighter before I print it
- Crop in your photo and look for a big dominant shape

- **Other Items**

- Small sketch pad
- Pen (to take notes)
- Pencil and kneaded eraser
- Masking tape
- Isopropyl rubbing alcohol 70% (and separate jar)
- Stiff paint brushes ($\frac{1}{2}$ " or $\frac{3}{4}$ " or flat oil #10)
- Rounded watercolor brush (#6 or #8)
- Viva paper towels
- Hand wipes (optional)
- Latex gloves (optional)
- Watercolor set (can be an inexpensive set)
- Watercolor palette
- Water container