

Pastel Animal Portraits with Margaret Williams-McGowan

This workshop will help bring your favorite animal or pet to life with pastel. We will be using velour artist paper, a favorite of many artists who paint animals and children. Velour paper will give you realistic soft edges perfect for our furry critters. The paper also holds many layers of pastel, keeps the dust down and doesn't "eat-up" your pastels like the rough papers seem to do.

We will be working from photos. The entire class will work from one I provide the first day. You may finish it the second day or do another portrait from a photo of your choice. Be sure your photo is in focus with good contrast and not taken with a flash. We don't want a "deer in the headlights" look. A flash also washes out most shadows. Also it's best to work from an 8.5" x 11" photo enlargement

Supplies:

Hard pastels (such as Nupastels) and medium pastels all in earth and skin tones plus white and black. Also several soft pastels for highlights such as bright white, light blue, light yellow and one strong black.

We will work in layers starting with hard pastels and working up to the soft and brightest, spraying fixative between layers.

Also bring:

- *Regular pencil
- *Charcoal pencil
- *Pastel pencils
- *Kneaded eraser
- *Several large sheets tracing paper
- *Transfer paper
- *Spray fixative
- *Mounting board and masking tape for the velour paper
- *Velour paper.... I can provide the paper, will need to know how many sheets two - three weeks in advance to order.

If easels aren't provided and you have a table or portable easel please bring.

Margaret Williams-McGowan

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