

Frequently Asked Questions

Llano Grande Oil Painting Workshop

Question. What will we do in class?

Answer. The first couple of classes consist of a presentation and demonstration followed by one-on-one help. By the fourth class everyone will be working on their own and I will be working with you on an individual basis.

Question. Is this workshop similar to a “Paint and Sip” or “Bob Ross” class?

Answer. No, the workshop is like a college fine art class without the pressure and grades. My goal is to teach you how to paint the paintings you want, in the style you want.

Question. You said that classes are fun - can you explain?

Answer. Students comment that my classes are fun. I think they say that because we keep things informal and the stress levels low.

Question. What if I miss a class?

Answer. If you miss a class it is not a problem as I will catch you up. I plan to have all of the presentations posted online.

Question. Can you tell me more about what you mean by “Shared Materials”.

Answer. To save money everyone in the class will pay a one time fee of \$20 which will allow me to buy all the paint, specialized paint thinner, “oiling-out” mix, brush cleaning jars and specialized no-odor cleaning fluid. These materials will be available for those enrolled in the workshop - during and outside of scheduled classes, 24/7.

Question. Can I bring my own paints, thinner mediums, and brush cleaners?

Answer. You can use your own paint, as long as the color bias is that of a split-primary system. Because of studio safety concerns you must use Gamblin mediums and odor-free brush cleaner. If you have any questions on this let me know.

Question. What will we paint?

Answer: We will be painting from a photo of YOUR choosing. It does NOT have to be your photo; feel free to choose a photo of an actual painting or something from from a magazine, book or image found online. Do not be concerned with ‘copyrights’ as this is an educational setting. I will help you choose a photo that will make a good painting AND be a good learning experience.

Question. How will I transfer the outlines of the photo I want to use onto the canvas?

Answer: You can use the provided projector to trace the photo onto the canvas, use transfer paper, or freehand to trace the outlines of the image.

Question. You said that oil paint stays wet on the palette but dries overnight. Can you explain?

Answer: Oil paint from the tube does not contain a ‘drying oil’ so unless you mix in a drying oil it stays wet. After you mix the colors and add a modern drying oil the paint dries overnight.

Question. Isn’t oil paint toxic & smelly?

Answer. Oil paint itself is not, it is the use of turpentine to thin and clean brushes. We don’t use turpentine to thin paint and to clean brushes - we use odor-free turpentine.

Question. I prefer acrylic - can I use it instead of oil?

Answer. Yes, the techniques I am teaching work for both oil and acrylic. However, you still need to pay the shared material fee so that we will be able to afford the supplies for the class.

Question. Tell me more about the instructor.

Answer. I have degrees in fine art and education and have a passion for teaching painting. Teaching at the college level for 30+ years and workshops for ages 8 to 75 has taught me what works and what does not. Regardless of the age group, I teach using the techniques of the Old Masters as this system has been proven to work. I am also a life-long artist and have exhibited widely and been represented by many galleries.

If you have any other questions, email me at steve.bendy@icloud.com or text me at 402-769-8160.
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