

Outdoor Painting
Email: spayne@pgusd.org

Instructor: Sam Payne
Class Website: [Outdoor Painting](#)

Class Description:

The goal of this class is to spend 3 hours a week at unique locations making art/painting outside. The course is designed for all levels and media though it is predominantly geared towards Acrylic, watercolor and oil paint. The class content is based on the idea of the impression or sketch performed in nature. There is an emphasis on personal exploration with chosen media as well as working in a group setting to flex a vocabulary pertaining to art. This class emphasizes each students' particular goals and does not aim for all students to make similar looking work. Locations are provided on the [class website](#) and through email. Each semester there is an artist studio visit or gallery visit. When raining we meet in a museum to sketch. All locations are near bathrooms and require less than several hundred feet of walking from vehicles.

Class schedule (All is optional/ the goal is to inspire each other to work outside each week)

9:30- 9:45AM Discussion with historical references/books and occasional demonstration.

9:45 to 10 AM Sketch/thumbnails and set up.

10-12 PM Make Art/Paint

12-12:30 Group Share.

Outdoor Painting Materials List

Invariably the student of art finds materials they prefer by experimentation.

Students with more experience are encouraged to continue their processes and materials.

For students who are new to the idea of painting outdoors I provide the list below.

General Supplies List

- Clothing for the weather. Sun Screen.
- Paint, brushes and surfaces.
- Easel Setup including chair if needed and bags for carrying. We are usually a short distance from our vehicles. There are many possible Easel Setups which I will go over briefly during the first class.
- Some way to attach painting surface (canvas paper, canvases. Paper etc) to your easel i.e. a board with clips or blue tape.
- View finder.
- Sketch book, with mixed media paper for paint sketches/ thumbnails and gesture studies.
- Snacks and water. 3 hours can take time to build up stamina to be outside and a snack and hydration helps.

Specific to Acrylic Supplies List (In the Summer and warmer days in direct sun it is imperative with acrylic to arrange your set up in shade or face your easel appropriately or use umbrella. It can also be useful to use a [retarder](#). This is a product that lengthens drying time and can be added to your spray bottle or squeezed into the paints).

There are convenient kits of paint and brush sets available I have linked below.

The quality of paint varies greatly. To start, I suggest an artist level paint such as Golden, Winsor Newton or Liquitex but if this is cost prohibitive there are many alternatives.

1. Tubes of Acrylic "Heavy Bodied" Paint such as the Golden brand.
2. Any of the 3 sets linked below will work well. 2 fl. Oz is a good volume for each tube to start. If you cannot purchase these sets, you can buy the tubes individually or find sets from other brands that include similar colors.

- a. <https://www.michaels.com/product/golden-artist-colors-modern-theory-color-mixing-set-D015671S>
 - b. https://www.michaels.com/product/golden-heavy-body-acrylic-principal-6-set-10043312?com_id=pdp_AlsoLike&path=youMayAlsoLike
 - c. [Golden Classic Set \(Amazon\)](#)
3. Surfaces to paint on such as a pad of “pre-primed” canvas paper measuring around 9”x 12” (Approximately 14 sheets)
- a. <https://www.michaels.com/product/canvas-pad-by-artists-loft-necessities-10188587?michaelsStore=8754&inv=15>
4. Sketchbook with “mixed-Media” style paper.
- a. <https://www.michaels.com/product/canson-artist-series-mixed-media-pad-10409163?michaelsStore=8754&inv=8>
5. Brushes. I suggest an assortment of round and flat brushes. Brushes are categorized for sale depending on paint medium. Since we are using acrylic paint in this class, I suggest using brushes, flat and round, in the acrylic category. Sizes ranging from 5 to 10.
- a. <https://www.michaels.com/product/brown-synthetic-flat-round-brushes-by-artists-loft-necessities-10335747>
6. Rags/ paper towels
7. 2 water containers/ cups (can be paper cups). These are for dipping brush in water when
8. painting.
9. A Water container with water for filling the above cups.
10. Palette. Acrylic dries quickly. Students need convenient ways to store paint in a relatively airtight container. I present 2 options. Either the palette paper and the larger artist palette box where all mixing and storing takes place or the smaller palette box in combination with palette paper.
- a. <https://www.michaels.com/product/artist-palette-seal-10011263>
 - b. <https://www.michaels.com/product/stawet-handy-palette-10473488>
 - c. <https://www.michaels.com/product/paper-palette-pad-by-artists-loft-9-x-12-10552994?michaelsStore=8754&inv=2>
11. Palette knives
- a. <https://www.michaels.com/product/metal-palette-knife-set-by-artists-loft-10598004?michaelsStore=8754&inv=3>
12. Spray bottle
- a. <https://www.michaels.com/product/clear-spray-bottle-4oz-by-artists-loft-10720097>
13. A convenient way to carry everything (a bag or box of some kind)
14. Curiosity and compassion!
15. Optional [Retarder](#) for warmer season.