

Textures: Feathers and Fur

Arlene Powers

This class will cover various techniques used to produce textures, especially for feather and fur. I.e. dry brush, specialty brushes, watercolor pencils, and hard edge-soft edge. Also we will cover bird anatomy, strategic use of color, cold press vs. hot press paper, and backgrounds.

The classes will consist of demonstration and hands on work with the techniques. If you are currently working on an animal painting, please bring it to class. If not, please choose an animal you would like to work with and have the drawing portion completed, so you can start painting. Bring your ref photos. If you don't have a ref, I will bring some extras.

During one of the classes, we will have some feathered guests, who will graciously allow us to paint, sketch and or take photos of them, so if you would like to get some photos of parrots, bring your camera. I will let you know which date, so you can be prepared.

Please bring your normal set up for watercolor, don't forget pencil and sketch paper. If you have not used hot press paper before, this would be a great time to buy a sheet or two and bring it to class to try out. Also, if you have watercolor pencils and have not figured out what to do with them – this will be a great opportunity to work with them.

A more detailed supply list will be sent out when you register for the class, so come join us – we are all going to the birds!

Supply list for Textures: Feathers and Fur class

- Basic set of watercolors including a cool red, yellow, and blue, and a warm red, yellow and blue. I suggest Alizarin Crimson Permanent, Windsor Yellow or Aureolin Yellow, and Thalo Blue for the cool colors and Cadmium Red, Cadmium Yellow, and Cerulean Blue, but if you already have your palette, use what you have and are used to. If you don't want to mix your own colors, you might also consider, yellow ochre and Burnt Sienna, and your favorite green and purple. Also Daniel Smith's Titanium buff is a great color if you paint animals
- Watercolor pencils if you have them – not required, but could be useful.
- Palette
- Brushes –#8 or #10 round brush, #6 round brush, #0 brush and a Mop brush. If you have any specialty brushes, such as a rake, liner, etc. not required, but could be helpful.
- Paper – One sheet of Hot Press and one sheet of cold press watercolor paper. If you are already familiar with and using a specific brand – bring it, I use Arches, but any Good brand will work.
- Board to secure paper to, can be masonite clip board, gator board w/bulldog clips or whatever you are currently using.
- Water container and water.
- Paper towels or tissue.
- Spray bottle.
- Natural sponge(s).
- Newspaper, plastic or whatever you like use to cover your area with.
- Reference materials, photos, any paintings you have started that you would like to work on.
- You might want to bring a camera on the day I bring the parrots in, probably the last week of class.