

Community Education – Fall Quarter 2026

Course Title: Independent Study for Artists

Instructor: Sharon Schwane

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Course Details

- Tuesdays 9:30am-12pm

Course Description

Experience the joys of watercolor in a positive atmosphere with the support and encouragement of fellow artists. Explore and work on your own projects, brush up on watercolor basics, and/or learn some new and interesting techniques to add to your painting repertoire. For those wanting to join in the projects on the syllabus, please consult the supply list.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will:

- Enjoy studio space with other artists as they work independently on their own projects and find inspiration in the discussions and weekly critiques by fellow artists.
- Learn some interesting techniques with tape, credit cards, and salt to create unique paintings
- Increase their knowledge of color harmony using negative painting

Course Schedule

1. Sept. 22 – It's So Abstract!

- Applying various techniques and tools to achieve small abstract paintings to create cards.

2. Sept. 29 – Negativity

- Using harmonious fall colors to create a layered scene with negative painting techniques.

3. Oct. 6 – Taping the Trees

- Using Washi or masking tape to create birch tree forest paintings.

4. Oct. 13 – Using Your Credit Card

- Credit cards, paint, salt and spray create unique paintings.

5. Oct. 20 – Follow Up

- Artists complete previous week's project

6. Oct. 27 – The Web We Weave

- Using Halloween spider webbing to create an unusual and interesting background for a painting.

7. Nov. 3 – Follow Up

- Artists complete previous week's project

8. Nov. 10 – Holiday Painting

- Creating a holiday or winter scene on stretched watercolor canvas (provided).

9. Nov. 17 – Open Day

- Time for finishing projects, individual instruction, etc.
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Resources

Recommended references for further study:

- **Watercolor: Let the Medium Do It** by Valfred Thelin, Watson-Guption Publ., New York.
 - **Painting Abstracts** by Rolina van Vliet, Search Press Ltd., Turnbridge Wells, Kent.
 - **Watercolor: Painting Outside the Lines** by Linda Kemp, North Light Books, Cincinnati, Ohio.
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Class Evaluation

- Class evaluations are sent by email.
 - If you don't see it right away, check your **junk/spam folder**.
 - Evaluations are **anonymous** and come directly from Clark College.
 - If you don't receive one, contact:
 - Email: continuingeducation@clark.edu
 - Phone: 360-992-2939
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Inclement Weather

- If the college closes due to weather, updates will appear at www.clark.edu

- Community Education may also cancel classes independently if travel is unsafe.
 - If canceled, you will be notified by both phone and email.
 - Please check that your contact information is correct on the class roster.
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More Classes

Looking for more Community Education courses? Visit: www.clark.edu/cce/