Drawn to Paint

Ron Krouk

Notes:

Oil Paints are best since they won't dry up so quickly which gives you the time you need to mix colors. Use what you have but I recommend getting used to artist grade rather than student grade paint – big difference in color and pigment saturation. Please not that oil paint materials, rags, thinners and spirits CANNOT be disposed of in the New Art Center building, therefore each student is responsible for cleaning their materials off site.

Materials:

Drawing

- 18 x 24 drawing board (or Masonite)
- 18 x 24 Newsprint Pad
- Some better quality drawing papers to experiment with. At least 12 x 16. White or offwhite. Charcoal or pastel drawing paper, or Bristol or multimedia or drawing (vs sketching) paper.
- SOFT Vine charcoal and soft compressed charcoal.
- A few pencils (HB or softer) and a pink pearl, white plastic and/or kneaded eraser.
- Soft rag or chamois.
- Optional: India ink or sumi ink or even black watercolor or acrylic. Sandpaper to sharpen charcoal or make charcoal dust.

For Oils and Acrylics

- Canvas, canvas board, Masonite primed with gesso or paper prepared to paint on (see note below): 9x12, 11x14, and 12x16 are good sizes. Bring at least 2 to each class. If you like, it is fine to tone them with some middle or light value neutral color.
  - Note on paper to paint on. There are many choices: a pad of canvas paper or canvas sheets, a pad of arches Huille paper, or a pad of heavy paper (at least 100 lb) and a bottle of matte or gloss acrylic medium which can be used to prime the paper before painting. I will demonstrate if you like.
- Cotton Rags (like old T-Shirts) and paper towels.
- Brushes (one skinnyish round sable or synthetic) and just a few high quality, long handled "flats" or "brights", either hoghair or sable-like, but nothing smaller than ½ inch.)
- A good metal blade palette knife for mixing and painting. An optional decent size blade for painting.
Freezer paper or a disposable palette pad at least 12x16. It's good to cut your freezer paper in advance and staple it to a piece of cardboard. I'll show you how.

Masking Tape

Oil Colors—colors you have are probably fine but if you want a recommended palette to start with get the artist grade tubes of

- Titanium or Zinc white (or Permalba or Utrecht White) (large tube)
- Cadmium Rd Lt
- Alizarin Crimson Permanent or Alizarin Crimson
- Cadmium Yellow Lt
- Ultramarine Blue
- Viridian Green or Permanent Green (regular or light) or pthalo green.
- Burnt Sienna (or burnt umber or raw umber if you already have one of those colors)

Oil Colors (optional but fun to have)

- Cobalt Teal
- Cadmium Orange
- Cadmium Green
- (Black is a fine color and I have nothing against it except that it gets in the way of learning about color complements.)

Solvents

Odorless mineral spirits (Gamsol) in a wide mouthed plastic or metal watertight container). You'll reuse the spirits over and over and besides, there is no place to dispose of it in the school. A container with a screen of some kind inside is very useful so the paint sediment settles. There is one at this link: https://www.amazon.com/Guerrilla-Painter-Brush-Washer-10-Ounce/dp/B00TV38PN6
  - There are no safe solvents, natural or synthetic, all are toxic. The New Art Center recommends the least toxic solvent option, Gamsol Odorless Mineral Spirits, or natural options like Citrus Solvent or vegetable oil. Turpentine product is not permitted.

Heavy Body Acrylics or Acrylic Gouache (Golden acrylics seem to be one of the best brands. (Their “Open” line is somewhat slower drying which will be helpful). Liquitex, Blick or Utrecht brand paint artist grade paint are also good. (Not Artist Loft or Reeves). Colors you already have are probably fine but if you want a recommended palette try the artist grade tubes of

- Titanium or Zinc white (or a mix of the two) (large tube)
- Alizarin Crimson Permanent or Alizarin Crimson
- Cadmium Rd Lt
- Cadmium Yellow Lt
- Ultramarine Blue
- Raw Umber (or burnt umber or burnt sienna if you already have one of those colors)

Heavy Body Acrylics or Acrylic Gouache (optional but fun to have)

- Viridian Green or Pthalo Green or Permanent Green (regular or light)
- Cadmium Orange
Other

- Water and a large wide mouthed container. A very fine mist small spray bottle is almost essential.