

Kay Brathol-Hostvet Art Workshops

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Joyful Abstraction in Acrylic

Saturday, November 7, 2026 10-4

Learn about basic composition and color combinations while creating non-representational or abstract paintings in acrylic. Working from small value studies and intuitive design and color, we'll create direct, playful paintings. Acrylic is an easy medium for exploration because it dries quickly, allowing for quick changes and layering, and because there are a multitude of mediums available to the artist to modify the texture of your paint. I will be providing some acrylic mediums, practice papers, and useful handouts, as well as tripod table easels. If you have trouble getting any of the materials or have questions, contact me via email and I may be able to help you. Most art supply stores carry these items. I use Golden and Liquitex paints, but any quality brand will do. I do not recommend using student-grade acrylics; your results will be less satisfactory. I tried to keep the number of colors to a minimum but you can certainly bring more than required. If you come with a set of tiny tubes (less than 2 oz) be sure to buy a larger size tube of white. I have included the pigment numbers along with the names (names vary between brands); tubes of artist-quality paints will list the pigments. If you don't have these or can't find them, please don't worry; we can work with whatever paints you have. Dress in your "grubbies" or bring a smock or apron. Please bring a bag lunch.

REQUIRED:

___ **2 Oz. Tube acrylics** (not fluids or craft paints) in these **5 colors**:

- ___ 1) Cadmium Yellow Light (not cad yellow medium) or Primary Yellow (PY 35)
- ___ 2) Quinacridone Red or Crimson (PV 19) or Naphthol Crimson (PR 9)
- ___ 3) Ultramarine Blue (PB 29)
- ___ 4) Mars Black OR Ivory Black
- ___ 5) Titanium White (PW 6)

___ **2 Water containers**, at least 1 quart size—bigger is better!

___ **Rags or paper towels** (I like one or two small cloth rags and a roll of paper towels)

___ **Palette mixing knife**, metal or plastic

___ **Palette at least 12" x 15." (bigger is better)**

I recommend a large glass cutting board (*not* Plexiglas or acrylic). It cleans up easily and is available at hardware and discount stores. It usually comes with a pebbly textured front—use the smooth back side; just scrape off the rubber feet. Or a "stay-wet" style palette box (with sponge and stay-wet palette paper) made for acrylics. Dick Blick (online and in stores) and Amazon now sell glass palettes in clear, white, or gray. Get the white or the gray if you go this route. Traditional wood or plastic palettes do not work with acrylics!

___ **2 Long-handled Flat artist brushes** (synthetic nylon bristle brushes meant for acrylics are best, hog bristle is acceptable; *not* soft sable watercolor): #4, 6, or 8 AND 8,10 or 12 Flat (one each about 1/4-1/2" and 1/2-1" wide)

___ **Spray/misting water bottle** (old hairspray bottle works great)

___ **Sketchbook** or blank paper and a **pencil** for planning and note taking

___ **2 medium-sized supports**: stretched canvases, canvas panels, or boards (pre-primed/gessoed) in sizes anywhere 12-30" (12 x 12, 12 x 16, 16 x 20, 18 x 24, 20 x 30, etc). Keep all longest dimensions 30" or smaller so we have room to work.

___ **Plastic grocery bag** to use as your personal trash receptacle at your table

RECOMMENDED/OPTIONAL:

___ **Additional colors** (listed in order of importance): Cadmium Red Medium; Cobalt Violet or Dioxazine Purple or Prism Violet; Permanent Green Light or Phthalo Green yellow shade; Phthalo Blue, Burnt Umber, Cadmium Orange, Cobalt Blue, Indian Yellow.

___ **Small shallow pan** (old cake pan, bread pan, pie tin) for keeping brushes wet while working

___ **Razor blade scraper** (retractable blade used for scraping windows, etc) for cleaning off palette

___ **Additional brushes** in various sizes and shapes: small and larger rounds, very wide flat, etc.

___ **Additional canvases** in case you create more than two paintings! :)

___ **Specialty acrylic mediums**: soft or heavy gels, glass bead medium, fiber paste, etc.

___ **Artist's color wheel**

___ **Your own tabletop or portable standing easel**