

Botanical Illustration: Pen and Ink with Watercolor

by Linda Ann Vorobik, PhD
A Workshop Sponsored by The Berry Botanic Garden

Saturday and Sunday, September 15th & 16th, 8:30am to 4:30pm

at The Berry Botanic Garden, 11505 SW Summerville Avenue, Portland, OR 97219
www.berrybot.org

For more information or to register, contact Kris Freitag, Public Services
(503) 636-4112, Ext. 102, *or* register@berrybot.org

Learn the basics creating botanical watercolors from professional botanist, botanical illustrator, and teacher, Dr. Linda Ann Vorobik. Linda, through demonstrations and lectures, introduces participants to drawing skills, parts of the plant, what botanical illustration is when defined precisely, and pen & ink or watercolor techniques as used for painting plants.

The first morning of the workshop begins with a lecture and demonstration followed by supervised drawing to create pencil drafts. Late morning and afternoon Linda will demonstrate pen & ink and watercolor techniques. The second morning will begin with more watercolor demonstrations. Most of the workshop will be devoted to participant drawing and painting with supervision by Linda. The workshop closes on Sunday by finishing watercolors, followed by a friendly critique of paintings produced. All skill levels are welcome: accomplished artists can learn added botany skills and skilled botanists will learn painting techniques. Weather permitting: lunch and walk in the garden during the noon hour.



Image above:
Great Camas (*Camassia leichtlinii*).
Watercolor copyright Linda Ann Vorobik

Selected References

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Image to right:
Great Camas
Camassia leichtlinii
copyright Linda Ann Vorobik.
Watercolor on paper.

Supplies - Only those listed under “REQUIRED” are required for this workshop

The "Art Supplies" list below includes supplies required and those which are optional for general pencil drawing; it also includes supplies for pen and ink and watercolor, for your interest. The required list has basic supplies necessary for the techniques that I will be teaching you. I selected inexpensive items for this list in an

REQUIRED

General

10X hand lens

15 cm rule

scissors

(inexpensive) portfolio for illustrations

small tracing paper pad: Clearprint Vellum or equivalent

pencils: such as 1 each HB, 2H

pencil sharpener

plastic white eraser

single edge razor blade

masking/drafting tape

straight edge

two dissecting probes or very fine forceps

Pen and Ink

Fine Permanent felt pens, such as “4 PITT artist pen set OR

Gillette nibs #290, 291 or comparable and ink & nibs:

permanent black india ink

nib holder for above nibs

liquid paper correction fluid for pen and ink

1 or 2-ply drawing paper, bristol (*Strathmore* 400 series)

Watercolor

Note: I use a variety of brands of “Artist Quality” paints; there are many good brands available

Try to select pigments that are permanent (non-fading). Ask dealer for help. You can substitute colors if you wish

watercolor pigments:

ultramarine blue or equivalent

sap green

cadmium red

lemon yellow

cadmium yellow

HWC bright violet

Van Gogh permanent orange

burnt sienna

quinacridone gold

gouache: zinc white

quinacridone red

quinacridone rose

quinacridone violet

quinacridone magenta

other watercolor supplies:

medium round brush sable or equivalent (approx. #4 or 5)

roll of paper towels/lintless paint rag

1 sheet hot press* watercolor* paper 140 lb*

1 sheet cold press* watercolor paper, 140 lb

2 jars or other water containers,

wc palette (white ceramic plate) (1 use 4 small cheap round plastic palettes)

attempt to minimize costs to beginners.

In the optional list I have included additional or alternative (better quality) items for the more experienced student. (Do not buy everything on both lists!) Also note that art supplies are listed by category: those for general use, those for pen and ink, and those for watercolor.

OPTIONAL

easel (portable)

(smooth, lightweight drawing board for field)

(clips to hold paper on drawing board)

can of workable fixative

illustration board, cold press

2-ply drawing paper or pad, rough, such as 9x12 or 11x14

transfer paper

mechanical drawing pencils, 0.5 and/or 0.3

electric pencil sharpener (esp. for color pencil work)

electric eraser

(carrying case for papers and supplies)

scotch removable magic tape

good, bright desk lamp & extension cord

watchmaker's forceps

technical drawing pens (I like **Rotring**)

ink for technical drawing pens

graphic white

Strathmore 500 series 100% rag, smooth, 1 or 2 ply

(Note:

if you wish to buy a watercolor set, fine!

If you wish to paint with gouache, fine!)

Winsor-Newton series 7: 0,1,4/5,(7) or equivalent

watercolor sponges

soft press 140 lb* by the sheet

atomizer/plastic spray bottle

hair dryer

***note:** Hot press = smooth; cold press = rough; cool press is somewhere in the middle. I prefer hot press paper, 140 lb, *Strathmore Gemini*, *D'Arches*, or *Fabriano* OR cold press *D'Arches*. The only water color block that I have found that I like is Jack Richardsons. Preferences vary; experimentation is good! AVOID watercolor tablets.