

Skin-tastic Skin Tones

– A Workshop in Mixing Realistic Skin Colours

Instructor: Holly McWilliams – Indigo Arts

Welcome to *Skin-Tastic Skin Tones*! In this workshop, we'll dive into the nuanced world of mixing and painting realistic and expressive skin tones. Whether you're working in oil or acrylic, you'll learn how to simplify color mixing and see your subject with fresh eyes. We'll explore temperature, value, and subtle shifts in hue while building confidence in your approach to painting the figure.

This is a fun, approachable class where you'll gain skills that translate into any portrait or figurative work. Below is the full supply list to help you come prepared and ready to paint!

Paint

This class is open to both **acrylic and oil painters**.

While student-grade paint will work, **artist-grade paint is highly recommended** if you're ready to invest in quality. It has stronger pigmentation, better mixing ability, and is more enjoyable to work with.

Suggested Colors:

- Cadmium Yellow Medium
- Cadmium Red Medium
- Anthraquinone Red, Alizarin Crimson, or Quinacridone Red/Rose (any of these will work)
- Ultramarine Blue
- Manganese Blue (*Cerulean Blue can be substituted*)
- Burnt Sienna
- Burnt Umber
- Titanium White

Optional, but helpful for figure painting:

- Yellow Ochre
 - Cadmium Orange
 - Quinacridone Violet
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Mediums & Solvents

Oil Painters: Eco-House or Gamsol (for cleaning). *Please avoid hardware store turps!*

Acrylic Painters: Gloss Medium

Brushes

Bring a **variety of shapes and sizes** that you love working with.

If you're looking for recommendations, Holly's go-to brushes include:

- Princeton 6300 Series
- Heinz Jordan (H.J.) Series 10 (blue handle hogs hair)
- Rosemary hogs hair or synthetics

Recommended Types & Sizes:

- Flat Brushes: Sizes #2, 4, 6, 8, 10
 - Round Hogs Hair: Size #6
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Painting Supports

You can choose either canvas paper or canvas boards.

- Pad of Canvas Paper (12" x 16") for studies
OR
 - 4 Canvas Boards (12" x 16")
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Additional Supplies

- Sketchbook (for notes and sketches)
- Pencil and black marker (*Sharpies work great*)
- 12" x 16" Paper Palette
- **Oil Painters:** Solvent-safe brush washer or sealed glass jar (e.g., jam jar with leak-proof lid)
- Blue Shop Towels (*preferred*) or white paper towels
- Masking Tape

Feel free to reach out if you have questions about materials or substitutions — we want you to feel excited and ready to go! Let's have fun and explore the magic of skin tones together. 🧡