

**Introduction to Pastel Painting**

**Instructor:** Ruth Rodgers

**Date:** Saturday February 11, 9-4 pm with 1 hour lunch break

**Location:** TBD

**Fee:** \$90 for members, \$99 for non members

**About the Instructor:**

Ruth Rodgers works primarily in soft pastels. Her style is best described as 'naturalism' which seeks to represent reality not in the hyper-realistic way of photographic realism, but in the way that the human eye and brain actually perceive the world. She is influenced, as well, by the effects of light so well conveyed by the masters of Impressionism. She has studied with a number of Canadian and American pastel artists, and has integrated their teachings into her own distinctive style.

Ruth is inspired by her immediate surroundings, and hopes that her work will help viewers to see the beauty in the everyday world. She is especially interested in the changeful skies of Ontario, and frequently depicts them, in all their moods, in her work. She also enjoys interpreting the human journey through figural works.

Ruth is the President of the Pastel Artists Canada, and highly recommends this group for pastel artists at any stage in their careers.

**Course Content:**

This one-day course will use a cloud study painting project to introduce students to concept, composition, value, colour, underpainting, and finishing techniques using soft pastels. Students will complete at least one painting, and may have time to complete or start a second painting. Photo references will be supplied.

**MATERIAL LIST**

- SOFT (**NOT** OIL) pastels in a range of colours, especially including a range of blues and purples (very light to very dark); a starter set of Rembrandt ½ sticks is a good choice, or buy single sticks in desired colours. Avoid cheap pastels such as NuPastel and Mungyo for best results. The instructor's full set of pastels will also be available as extra resources as needed.
  - Good sources include Meta4 Gallery in Port Perry, Studio Six in Markham, Pastel Studio in Cambridge (note that Curry's and Michael's do not stock good pastels)
- A stand-up or tabletop easel.
- A drop cloth to catch pastel dust, and a roll of aluminum foil to create a catch-tray.
- A bottle of standard rubbing alcohol (from the drugstore); a small container (jam jar or small yogurt container); a ½" brush (cheap, bristle—dollar store is fine, don't bring a good watercolour or oil brush!)
- Baby wipes, if desired, to keep hands clean; paper towels

Students will purchase at least one sheet of specialty sanded paper (\$4 per sheet) from the instructor on the day of the workshop. Please bring sufficient cash.