Suggested Supplies for 'Intermediate/Advanced Watercolors'.

You don't need every item on this list, but at least bring the basics. Bring your favorite supplies, improvise, and we'll discuss options in greater detail in class. You can create in any style, from traditional to abstract.

• If you work in Watercolors:

Palette: No tiny palettes or pan paints! A multi-well palette, medium size, is necessary for best results. You can improvise with mixing trays of some kind, even wax plates or plastic food trays.

Paper: Any brand of 100% cotton paper is best. I suggest cold pressed, fine paper, 140 lb. For best results, pre-stretch paper by soaking in water for about one hour, then staple or tape (gummed brown tape) to a firm board. Or, consider 12 x 16 or larger blocks (not pads) -- which don't require this pre-stretching. Loose sheets will curl when wet.

Paints: Any 'artist quality' brand is best. 'Student grade' paints are okay for beginners and experimenting. Invest in tubes of paint, 'pan paints' are limiting. At a bare minimum, bring the three primary colors: Quinacridone red, yellow, phthalo blue, and other colors as you wish, perhaps yellow ochre, purple, orange, and burnt sienna. Avoid black (ask me why). I suggest 'semi-transparent' colors for superior glazes rather than too many cadmiums and browns (you can mix hundreds of browns).

Brushes: I discourage too many small brushes. A 1" flat and a #12 round are fine for starters. Add as necessary. I recommend a nice 1.5" flat brush for large washes.

Misc. Items: Pen and notebook, spray bottle, paper towels, smock or old shirt. Advanced techniques can employ salt for texture, or masking fluid to save key whites. Use photos for reference only; I encourage personal interpretation, not photo duplication.

We take a casual 30-minute lunch break. I'll have a cold pack in the room for lunch or refreshments. There are vending machines in the lobby, a microwave oven, and tables and chairs. Alternatively, there are a few fast food options nearby.