Drawing in pastel pencils is easier than you think! Pastel is a forgiving medium that's easy to layer, and in pencil form, easy to control. In this class, we'll cover the subjects of people, pets, and things as follows:

People Portraits in Verdaccio Technique

This unusual pastel pencil technique makes portrait drawing seem almost magical. Learn how an "underdrawing" in green values can make finished skintones look natural and luminous. Students will learn best practices and watch an instructor demo. Students will then work from their own photo reference, learning how to transfer an initial drawing to pastel paper, and how to build skintones in a step-by-step process. Attention will be paid to drawing accuracy and rendering light effect.

Pet Portraits

Students will learn best practices specific to pets such as rendering black fur with highlights, achieving realistic fur effects for long and short hair, plus details that make pet eyes and whiskers come to life! Students will learn a step-by-step process, watch an instructor demo, and then transfer and render a pet portrait from their own reference photo.

Portraits of Things

Students will apply all of the techniques they've learned to rendering a favorite still life object with attention paid to drawing accuracy, light effect, and detail.

* A materials list will be posted well before class so students can purchase their own materials, or the instructor can provide materials kits for purchase.



Instructor Portrait in Verdaccio Technique



Instructor Pet Portrait in Pastel Pencil



Instructor Portrait in Verdaccio Technique – with Still Life Aspects