

IN PERSON: Shape + Form: Draw, Paint, Collage & Construct

Instructor: Nancy Gruskin

List of Supplies

Diary of Shapes: I will email everyone a few weeks prior to the start of the workshop to explain how to make a “diary of shapes,” which you will be making BEFORE the workshop begins. This is an easy, no-stress, no-wrong-way-to-do-it, exercise. You can easily make a diary from paper you already have (loose or in sketchbook or pad form) and any drawing or painting supplies you have on hand. If you want to get fancy, you could purchase a dedicated sketchbook for the project.

Collage Materials: Pretty much anything that can be glued down is fair game: found papers (e.g., wallpaper, newspaper, magazine pages, recycling); purchased papers (e.g., kids’ construction paper, Color-Aid paper, colored pastel paper, scrapbook paper); hand-painted or hand-printed papers; fabric, etc.

Scissors/Blades: You’ll need (1) a pair of scissors that is good for cutting paper; (2) a pair of scissors that is good for cutting cardboard (I recommend [Fiskars PowerCut Softgrip Shears](#), although left-handed people report they’re rather bothersome); and (3) an x-acto knife (and a small cutting mat; alternatively, a piece of cardboard to protect the work table).

Stencil brush: Like this [one](#).

Palette knife: Any size or shape. If you don’t already own one, don’t bother buying one. I will bring several and we’re only doing one short exercise with palette knives.

Stencil film: There are specialty products like [Grafix Stencil Film](#), but any piece of clear or semi-clear mylar or thin plastic will do. For example,

something like this [mylar](#). You can use a heavy manilla folder or cardstock for stencils as well, but the transparency of mylar is nice because it allows you to see exactly where you've placed the stencil on the substrate.

Glue: You'll need (1) glue for adhering paper to paper (e.g., Elmer's glue, PVA adhesive, matte medium, YES! paste) and (2) a glue gun (and glue sticks) for adhering cardboard to cardboard. The other option for adhering cardboard to cardboard is strong masking tape, but hot glue from a glue gun is better in my opinion.

Paint: Water-based paint. I recommend acrylics or acrylic gouache. You can bring whichever colors you like, but it would be nice to have at least the three primaries plus white. You should also bring brushes, a plastic container for water, and a palette or disposable palette paper (Reynolds Freezer Paper is an excellent disposable palette).

Paper: Bring paper for making paintings (mixed media paper, watercolor paper, and bristol board all accept acrylic paint well). One pad is enough. A pad that is 11" x 14" or so is a nice happy medium for exercises, but if you'd like to go a little smaller or a little bigger, that's fine.

Cardboard: Raid your recycling box for cardboard, particularly corrugated cardboard. The equivalent of 3 medium-size boxes should be more than enough. You can flatten them or break them down before the workshop.