

A watercolor painting of a woman's face and upper body. She is wearing a light-colored headscarf. The background features soft, blended colors of green and yellow, suggesting foliage or a natural setting. The style is soft and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and a gentle use of color.

Watercolor Portraits with Karen Noll Schaaf

Class size is limited to 10 students per session

10 AM - 3:30 PM each day

In this **2-day online workshop**, you will learn how to paint a watercolor portrait from a reference photograph, including how to:

- Mix a triad of watercolor pigments to create a variety of skin tones
- Breakdown and simplify the major features of the face (eyes, nose, and face)
- Use contour and form to capture the light to dark values of facial features and planes of the human head.
- Loosely render supporting portrait features such as clothing, jewelry, and backgrounds.
- Manipulate your reference image using a digital device (ipad, laptop, phone)

You will need:

- Access to a reliable internet connection and Zoom conferencing software
- A way of to take and send digital photos to me (by text or email)
- Standard watercolor supplies (*a suggested list of supplies will be sent to you after enrollment*)
- A basic knowledge of watercolor painting

Each day is broken into a series of live demos, followed by time for you to paint.

After each segment, we'll take time for discussion and feedback.

Day One (Breaking it down)

- Mix realistic skin tones
- How light interacts with the planes of the head and face
- Simplifying the facial features

Day Two (Putting it together)

- Mapping the face
- Layering with local & arbitrary colors
- Hair & background
- Checking your contrast & values

Videos of each day are made available at the conclusion of the class for future reference.

Additionally, I will provide a private digital critique of your finished portrait upon request.

Have a question? Write to me at watercolors@karenschaaf.com

To enroll in a workshop, visit: karenschaaf.com