

Capturing the Mono Basin in Pastel



pastel by Ane Carla Rovetta

July 12–14, 2024 • Ane Carla Rovetta

\$310 per person / \$295 for Mono Lake Committee members*

*Optional \$50 materials fee to order a set of 72 chalks
enrollment limited to 12 participants

The rich light and deep colors of the Mono Basin are a perfect subject for the brilliance of pastel chalks. The goal of this weekend is to work outside, on location, to make landscape studies in pastel. We will be challenged by wind, weather, and our copious gear, however, the exuberant brilliance of “plein air” paintings make them worth the effort. We will concentrate our vista paintings in the morning when the wind and insects are most likely to cooperate, and then move inside for after lunch lectures. Our late afternoon painting will be of a smaller scene in a sheltered place. Each participant will go home with at least one small finished painting and several sketches, color studies, and value experiments that will fuel future artistic endeavors.

Landscape painter Ane Carla Rovetta is known for her realistic depiction of our golden western lands. She has won numerous awards, including the Terwilliger Foundation’s Environmental Educator of the Year Award, the Green Art Grant, and first place in the plein air competition of the San Francisco Flyway Festival. Ane Carla will demystify the overwhelming hues of the summer by sharing a value system for color that she has modeled after Ansel Adams’ “zone system.” Check out her website at: AneCarlaRovetta.wix.com/anecarla

ITINERARY

Friday, July 12, 6:00pm: Meet at the Mono Lake Committee Information Center & Bookstore in Lee Vining. After a brief introduction, Ane Carla will hand out supplies and lead participants through several practice activities to demonstrate the use of the zone system. *Please bring all your supplies to this evening session.*

Saturday, July 13, 8:00am: Meet on the back patio of the Scenic Area Visitor Center just off Highway 395 on the north side of Lee Vining. Ane Carla will start with a brief demonstration of your morning "assignment." We will work outside until lunch, which will be an extended break out of the sun. At 3:00pm we will gather again in the Mono Lake Committee gallery. After a brief lecture on capturing the elements of landscape, we will head to a sheltered location to paint in the beautiful late afternoon light. Although the class officially ends at 7:00pm, the waxing gibbous moon is sure to lure many participants into painting until dark.

Sunday, July 14, 8:30am: Meet at the Old Marina parking lot (\$3 per car fee) off Picnic Grounds Road north of Lee Vining. Here we will paint tufa towers and the marshlands of the lakeshore until lunchtime. Meet back at the Mono Lake Committee at 2:30pm for our final critique and lecture. The class will end at 4:30pm so participants can make the drive home.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: EASY

This seminar's activity level: *easy*. We will be walking from cars to painting sites in the field, no more than half a mile from the cars. Participants will need to carry all their art supplies from the cars to field locations and back. Some of the painting locations may be in the sun.

WEATHER & ALTITUDE

Temperatures in summer will be hot during the day and drop to chilly at night, with possible windy conditions and afternoon thunderstorms. Average temperatures in June in Lee Vining are 76°F (max) and 47°F (min).

This seminar will take place at elevations ranging from about 6,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level. It is a good idea to acclimate at the elevation of Lee Vining for at least 24 hours prior to the start of the seminar. Those with a history of heart, ear, or respiratory problems should consult their doctors before attending. Anyone restricted to lower elevations should not enroll. *Note: If you have residual respiratory effects from having Covid-19, activities at altitude may be particularly difficult for you.

Remember to bring (and drink!) lots of water because your body loses more water at the higher altitudes of the Mono Basin. Begin drinking extra water as you drive to higher elevation in order to prevent dehydration and headaches. Also, the sun is intense at high elevations, capable of burning even on cool and cloudy days, so be sure to protect yourself thoroughly using sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat.

MEALS

The midday break will be the longest break on both days. Supplies for sack lunches can be obtained at the Mono Market, or you can use the break time to visit a local restaurant. On Saturday we will work until almost sunset to catch the beautiful light, so bring lots of snacks. Don't forget—your hands will be dirty, so take that into account when planning your snacks.

TO BRING

Ane Carla will provide a gray scale, a value finder, a set of grayscale chalks, charcoal, practice rosen paper, and one sheet of high-quality sanded pastel paper. You must bring your own set of pastels (a minimum of 36 colors, but the more chalks, the better) and any other art supplies you already own. *For a \$50 materials fee, Ane Carla will provide you with a set of 72 pastel chalks. *You must reserve your set ahead of time when you sign up for the class!*

- a set of at least 36 pastel chalks
- tablet of newsprint measuring 18" x 24"—you will be taping your paintings to this tablet
- any pastel paper that you like (dark colors are especially effective for sun drenched views)
- 1 roll masking tape
- pencil & erasers
- 2" flat house-painting brush to brush off paintings (get an inexpensive one)
- a small hand mirror
- notebook for taking notes
- 1 small package of baby wipes for cleaning hands on location
- 1 favorite art book/scenic calendar/photograph to paint from in case of inclement weather
- folding chair (will be dragged about)
- canvas bag to hold all your things
- sun protection (sunscreen, sunglasses, hat—these are *essential*)
- insect repellent
- lots of water



Mono Lake Committee Field Seminars

P.O. Box 29 • Lee Vining, CA 93541 • (760) 647-6595 • monolake.org/seminars