

Berrien Springs Partnership Syllabus and Instructor Qualifications

Class Title: Watercolor Essentials

Grade Levels: grades 7-12

Spring Start Date: January 6th, 2026 (3:00pm-5:00pm) **End Date:** March 17th, 2026

Weeks Total: 10 weeks in spring **Weeks Off:** No School on February 3rd

Required Hours: 16 **Possible Hours:** 20+

Address: 2642 W John Beers Rd. Stevensville, MI 49127 **Main Instructor:** Julie Nitz

Additional Instructors (background checked): Cassie Bolt

Contact Information: Julie Nitz

phone: 269-598-2464

email: julie@jlnstudio.com

INSTRUCTOR QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Western Michigan University with over 14 years of teaching children and adult art classes.

Course Description: Students will learn watercolor techniques on watercolor paper, mixed media paper and watercolor canvas.

SYLLABUS/OUTLINE: WEEKLY BREAKDOWN OF PROJECT-BASED LEARNING ACTIVITY

Class Materials

*All materials will be provided

Session summary:

Week	Class
Week 1	We will learn about different types of watercolor, create a test sheet of colors on different paper, and trace an image for the following week
Week 2	Create a step by step watercolor flower painting on a traced image
Week 3	We will create an abstract with watercolor

Week 4	Special project TBD
Week 5	We will create a mixed media piece with watercolor, gel pens and oil pastel.
Week 6	We will work with masking fluid
Week 7	We will create cards with watercolor and mixed media.
Week 8	We will work chalk pastels and watercolor
Week 9	Special project TBD
Week 10	Step-by-step watercolor painting

Schedule is tentative.

*There may be 1-2 make-up classes

STUDENT ASSESSMENT:

The students will work on a sketchbook each week outside of class. Fail/Pass option: Pass: Students cooperate during class time, practice at home, and demonstrate progress to receive a passing grade.

All classes abide by the following:

1. The student must agree to attend at least one 2 hour class a week. Attendance is kept online and tracked by Partnership staff. Failure to meet 80% or be on track to meet 80% may result in program discontinuation.
2. The Partnership Student Assessment or Performance Form is filled out by the teacher and turned in to Partnership staff. Failing marks for lack of participation, behavior issues, , etc. may result in program discontinuation.

CLASS POLICIES: ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR, WEATHER, ETC.

Attendance: Students must meet on time.

Behavior: Respectful towards teacher and peers.

Weather: Classes may be canceled due to weather. Classes are excused when school is canceled.