

# Rocky Mountain Hi Artist Newsletter

**September 2025 Newsletter**

**September Project -Andrene Schmelzer**



**Palette colors:** *All colors are Americana Deco-Art*

- moon yellow
- honey brown
- taffy cream
- tangerine
- burnt orange
- burnt sienna
- banana cream
- raw sienna
- honey brown
- burnt umber
- Victorian blue
- midnight
- white
- Hauser medium green
- Hauser lt. green
- Hauser dk. green
- antique maroon
- Georgia clay

As far as brushes for the basecoats I used older brushes and fabric or stiffer brushes, since the screen can be a little rough on your good shaders. Any flats or angles work well.

If you have a sheet of 12 x 12 black card stock, they are helpful to see your pattern after you use a chalk pencil or even a piece of chalk to do your outline on. Also bring your regular supplies.....paper towels etc.

As always if you don't have all the colors, we can share the ones we have.

Here is the pattern we will be doing for our scarecrow. If you want to print it before class, it makes a nice reference to have close by.





# Tole Chatter-Melinda Barnes

**Wisteria Painting...** If you like painting on glass be sure and take a look at this website. Tami Carmody designs and teaches beautiful things. Her surfaces are unique and available on her website or adaptable on other pieces of glass. Patterns and recorded videos are for sale.

<https://www.wisteriapainting.com/>

**Scheewe Publications...** Sue removed her website the end of August.

**Beacon Adhesives...** Many different products to choose from. Sandy McTier is using some of these.

<https://beaconadhesives.com/>

**Nancy Scott, CDA...** I love this ladies' patterns. She has a new pattern for an ornament that was featured on the Decorative Painters Academy.

<https://www.nancyscottcda.com/>

**Stencilsmith...** I may have mentioned this website before, but it is becoming more and more popular on Facebook and with designers. You might want to take a look at what is available. There is a discount available when you visit the website, there is also a couple of videos available to watch.

<https://thestencilsmith.com/>

**Dot Art Depot...** If you enjoy dotting this is a must-see website. All kinds of tools, patterns and more.

<https://dotartdepot.com/>

**Bruce's Woodworks...** This site has wall paint racks that are very nice. There are also dozens of nutcrackers by well-known designers.

<https://www.bruceswoodworks.com/>

## TRACY MOREAU'S SPOT

**Recipes....** Tracy has a variety of recipes you might enjoy trying.

<https://tracymoreau.net/recipes>

### Painting Tip:

To help deep clean your brushes, keep an old Mascara brush in your painting tool kit. They are very handy for getting out those stubborn little bits at the Ferrule and for removing dried paint.

### Painting Tip:

Put a marble in your matt / satin varnish bottle and stir or swirl well. Let it sit for 5 minutes before applying. Letting it sit for a few minutes will let any bubbles that form, dissipate.

The flattening agents in the varnish settle over time, a good remix once in a while will help keep a nice uniform finish.

### Painting Tip:

When painting with Metallics... to get a nice uniform finish, apply the paint in one direction only, overlapping each stroke slightly. This will help arrange the metallic particles and create a smooth, lustrous, and metallic look.

Did you know...

The term "**illumination**" is used to describe the art of decorating manuscripts through the application of gold or silver. Literally to "light up" or "enlightenment", the tradition of illuminating manuscripts exists across many cultures and religions and extends to both sacred and non-sacred texts.

As there were few means of printing During the Middle Ages , Members of monastic orders, transcribed biblical text or manuscripts by hand and decorated the valued pages with gold or silver leaf, and decorations in color along with the

calligraphy of the written word.

Did you know....

**Japanese ink painting**, or sumi-e, is the embodiment of Japanese aesthetics. Using just simple black ink and carefully curated white space, sumi-e captures the timeless beauty and complexity of the natural world.

Zen Buddhist monks from China introduced this style of ink art to Japan in the fourteenth century where over time the brush strokes were reduced in number and simplified and were often combine with poetry to create the sumi-e style that we know today. The focus of the art of ink painting since its inception has been on the quality of the line; this is what captures the form.

Did you know...

**Michelangelo** di Lodovico Buonarrotri Simoni, known magnanimously as Michelangelo, March 4 1475- February 18 1564. Besides his visual art, Michelangelo was also a skilled poet, writing over 300 sonnets and madrigals. His skills extended beyond the artistic realm. He played a significant role in designing military defense fortifications for Florence, showcasing his versatility.

Far from being just an artistic genius, Michelangelo was also a successful businessman, managing his finances and investments well, and He left a considerable estate when he died.

Though he painted the Sistine Chapel ceiling, Michelangelo considered himself primarily a sculptor and even stated, "I am not a painter,

Did you know...

**Lilian Snelling** (1879–1972)

was "probably the most important British botanical artist of the first half of the 20th century". She was the principal artist and lithographer to Curtis's Botanical Magazine between 1921 and 1952 and "was considered one of the greatest botanical artists of her time" – "her paintings were both detailed and accurate and immensely beautiful". She was appointed MBE in 1954 and was awarded the Victoria Medal in 1955.

In 1915–16 Henry John Elwes commissioned her to paint flowers (which he had gathered on his travels), at his home Colesbourne Park in Gloucestershire.

Snelling worked at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh from 1916 to 1921 painting plant portraits for Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour, Keeper of the Botanic Garden and Professor of Botany at the University of Edinburgh.

She left in 1921 to work at the Royal Botanic Gardens, as principal artist and lithographer to Curtis's Botanical Magazine which had recently been bought by the RHS. After 30 years she retired in 1952 having produced over 830 paintings and plates.

Did you know...

**Murano (Venetian glass)** (Italian: vetro veneziano) is glassware made in Venice, typically on the island of Murano near the city. Traditionally it is made with a soda–lime "metal" and is typically elaborately decorated, with various "hot" glass-forming techniques, as well as gilding, enamel, or engraving. Production has been concentrated on the Venetian Island of Murano since the 13th century, though Venetian glass making dates back to the 8th Century. (city leadership placed all glass making factories on the island of Murano; to protect Venice from the very high risk of fire)

Today Murano is known for its art glass, but it has a long history of innovations in glassmaking in addition to its artistic fame—and was Europe's major center for luxury glass from the High Middle Ages to the Italian Renaissance. During the 15th century, Murano glassmakers created Cristillo—which was almost transparent and considered the finest glass in the world. Murano glassmakers also developed a white-colored glass (milk glass called lattimo) that looked like porcelain. They later became Europe's finest makers of mirrors.

Did you know...

**John James Audubon** was an American painter, naturalist, and ornithologist. His unique combination of interests led him to plan a pictorial record of all North American bird species.

Born on April 26, 1785, Audubon studied North American birds from an early age. He documented native species and depicted them in their natural environments.

His work, "The Birds of America," contains his beautifully detailed, color illustrations and is still held up as one of the worlds greatest ornithological works.

During his research, Audubon identified 25 new bird species native to North America, and “The Birds of America” became a treasured handbook in scientific communities. He is held in high esteem by the National Audubon Society and ornithological circles worldwide.

Dozens of his original scientific names for North American bird species are still used by contemporary scientists. Throughout the United States, many streets, neighborhoods, and towns bear his name in his honor.

Did you know....

**Cubism** emerged in the very early 20th century, introduced by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, it used multiple viewpoints within a single painting. This style of art sought to break down objects into their basic geometric shapes and analyze them from multiple viewpoints.

The artists would then reconstruct the objects in a two-dimensional space, creating a new, abstracted version of reality. This technique allowed them to explore three-dimensional space on a two-dimensional picture plane.

Modeling, shading, and textures were not as important in Cubism as they were in other styles of art. Instead, the artist focused on the basic structure of the object and how it could be broken down into simple shapes. This resulted in a flatter, more abstracted image.

Newsprint was often used in Cubism as a way to add texture and depth to the artwork. Cut into varying shapes and glued to the canvas, layers of paint were applied over it, to create dimension and structure.

Cubism was a groundbreaking style of art that pushed the boundaries of traditional representation, and the artists created a new way of looking at the world.

Did you know...

### **Vincent Willem van Gogh**

30 March 1853 – 29 July 1890

was a Dutch Post-Impressionist painter who is among the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art. In just over a decade he created approximately 2100 artworks, including around 860 oil paintings, most of them in the last two years of his life. They include landscapes, still life's, portraits and self-portraits, and are characterized by bold, symbolic colors, and dramatic, impulsive and highly expressive brushwork that contributed to the foundations of modern art. Only one of his paintings was known by name to have been sold during his lifetime.

Van Gogh's early works consisted of mostly still lifes and depictions of peasant laborers. In 1886, he moved to Paris, where he met members of the artistic avant-garde, including Émile Bernard and Paul Gauguin, who were seeking new paths beyond Impressionism. Frustrated in Paris and inspired by a growing spirit of artistic change and collaboration, Van Gogh moved to Arles in south of France in February 1888 with the goal of establishing an artistic retreat and commune. Once there, Van Gogh's art changed. His paintings grew brighter and he turned his attention to the natural world, depicting local olive groves, wheat fields and sunflowers.

Van Gogh became famous after his suicide, aged 37, which followed years of poverty and mental illness.

Tracy shares her talent with a free project almost every Saturday on Facebook and YouTube.com.

Tracy's website: <https://tracymoreau.net/>

## **Computer Security Stuff**

**Security alerts** from tech companies are supposed to warn us when something might be amiss—but what if the alerts themselves are the risk? Scammers have long impersonated tech companies' security and support staff as a way to sniff out our information.

Example: Victims get an email or phone call allegedly from Google support that warns someone has tried to hack their account. The best way to protect themselves is to reset the password, the scammer says.

**AI-powered stuffed animals:** A good alternative for screen time? If you are going to give one of these toys to your children or grandchildren you might want to read this article.

[https://www.malwarebytes.com/blog/news/2025/08/ai-powered-stuffed-animals-a-good-alternative-for-screen-time?utm\\_source=iterable&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=b2c\\_pro\\_oth\\_20250825\\_augustweeklynewsletter\\_no\\_npaid\\_v4\\_2\\_175584140964&utm\\_content=Stuffed\\_Animal](https://www.malwarebytes.com/blog/news/2025/08/ai-powered-stuffed-animals-a-good-alternative-for-screen-time?utm_source=iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=b2c_pro_oth_20250825_augustweeklynewsletter_no_npaid_v4_2_175584140964&utm_content=Stuffed_Animal)

Apple has released security updates for iPhones, iPads and Macs to fix a zero-day vulnerability that is reportedly being used in targeted attacks. To read more you can click on this link.

[https://www.malwarebytes.com/blog/news/2025/08/all-apple-users-should-update-after-company-patches-zero-day-vulnerability-in-all-platforms?utm\\_source=iterable&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=b2c\\_pro\\_oth\\_20250825\\_augustweeklynewsletter\\_nonpaid\\_v4\\_2\\_175584140964&utm\\_content=Apple\\_logo](https://www.malwarebytes.com/blog/news/2025/08/all-apple-users-should-update-after-company-patches-zero-day-vulnerability-in-all-platforms?utm_source=iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=b2c_pro_oth_20250825_augustweeklynewsletter_nonpaid_v4_2_175584140964&utm_content=Apple_logo)

Keep your brushes moving,  
Melinda