



Beginner Encaustic Painting

Instructor	Kris Straukas
Course Overview	<p>What is Encaustic Painting? The word “Encaustic” is a Greek word meaning “to heat or burn in”. Encaustic medium is made of natural Beeswax and Damar Resin (crystallized tree sap). The beeswax and resin is melted, pigment can be added, and applied in layers to a porous surface with brushes and other tools. Wax layers are then reheated to fuse it to the previous layer. Encaustic mediums and paints are a versatile, spontaneous medium. They can be re-melted to create different effects, layered in opaque or translucent layers, modeled, textured, scraped, sculpted, polished, or combined with a variety of materials to create collage works. Unlike other paints, encaustic is never wet or dry – it goes from a liquid to a solid state and back again in seconds, allowing additional layers to be added immediately.</p> <p>This class will teach you the basics in Encaustic painting. Learn how to melt the medium and keep it within a safe working temperature, tools required and safety precautions to get you started. Experiment with different materials to create an 8 x 8 collage.</p>
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Class Date/Time	August 15, 2019; 10 AM – 3 PM September 17, 2019; 10 AM – 3 PM
Office Location	Brannon-Heard House 111 Pilgrim Mill Rd, Cumming Ga 30040. Second floor class rooms
Level	Beginner

Material List

None.

Kris Straukas Bio

Kris was born and raised in the Chicago suburbs and moved to Forsyth County in 2006. She started taking drawing and painting seriously during high school in the early 1980's and continued with a few classes in college and private instruction. As an artist, Kris' specialty are color pencil drawings with focus in portraiture, animals and floral pieces, recently, she has expanded to working with mixed media with emphasis in ink, acrylic, and encaustic mediums.

“For over 30 years of learning and experimenting I have found that a simple pencil or brush are powerful tools of self-expression with infinite possibilities.”

Kris is currently an art instructor, past president, board member and event co-chair of Sawnee Association of the Arts, all are positions which she loves and takes very seriously. She has truly enjoyed learning the history of SAA, getting to know each SAA member and is in awe of the talent of all the local artists in Forsyth County. Kris has won numerous awards in art organizations in Illinois and Georgia and had several private art commissions. Blessed to have a wonderful, supportive husband, two beautiful grown children, which she is incredibly proud of, and four adorable grand dogs.

Favorite quote is “Learning never exhausts the mind”...Leonardo de Vinci.