



Art Retreat with Lora Spielman

Please bring all the supplies you'll need for this workshop with you to the park. Happy Isles Art & Nature Center only carries a limited supply of student grade materials and may not have everything listed on this packing list.

ART SUPPLIES TO BRING (suggested by Lora)

SKETCHBOOK of your choice! Bring a watercolor sketchbook with paper suitable for pen ink and thick enough for watercolor (140-lb minimum). Any format is okay: portrait, landscape, or square. When thinking about sketchbook size, think about giving yourself space to practice and play! A 7" x 10" sketchbook is ideal, but no smaller than 5.5" x 8" (larger is fine, but keep in mind you're carrying all your supplies). Brand suggestions: [Stillman & Birn \(Beta Series\)](#), Strathmore, and Moleskine watercolor notebooks.

BRUSHES: Two round watercolor brushes: At least one larger brush (size 10 or 12) and one smaller brush for details (size 4 or 6). You can bring additional sizes and brush shapes if you have them! Flat brushes are optional, but not necessary. Water brushes work great for traveling since you can fill the plastic barrel of the brush with water and paint anywhere. Recommended brands: [Faber Castell](#), [Niji](#), or [Pentel](#).

PAINTS: Students are encouraged to bring their tried-and-true watercolor palettes with them for this retreat. Those looking for basic recommendations: watercolor tube paint that's been squeezed and dried in a palette is great for saving space outside! Lora recommends [Winsor & Newton Cotman watercolor tubes](#) for those starting out with watercolor. Some of Lora's color recommendations are as follows:

- New Gamboge or Cadmium Yellow
- Quinacridone Magenta or Quinacridone Rose
- Cerulean Blue (optional)
- Cobalt Blue
- Ultramarine Blue
- Sap Green
- Perylene Green or Hooker's Green Dark (optional)
- Raw Umber (optional)
- Neutral Tint or Payne's Gray (optional)

PALETTE: You can either purchase an [Art Toolkit Palette](#) or [similar empty watercolor tin](#) to setup your own that has both space for mixing your paints and placing colors. [Folding palettes](#) also work well!

PENS: The most important thing is that your pens are waterproof! At minimum, bring at least one black ink pen and one white gel pen. Recommendations below:

- [Sakura Fudenosuke](#) (soft and hard tipped) brush pens
- [Uniball Vision Pen](#)
- [Micron Pens](#) (there's also a [PN version](#) with slightly different nibs)
- [White Gel pens](#) are great for highlighting

PENCIL: Mechanical is preferred, but regular pencils work well too! Don't forget a pencil sharpener if you bring a regular pencil! A small plastic baggie to catch pencil shavings is recommended as we practice "Leave No Trace" during all art programs.

ERASER: kneaded or white plastic

WATER CUPS: Two sealable, leak-proof containers for paint water (one will be for dirty paint water and the other for clean water). Some artists use Talenti (ice cream) containers to carry clean and dirty paint water!

BINDER CLIPS are optional, but great for holding your sketchbook pages down!

PAPER TOWELS, a sponge, or fabric to help clean your brush between colors.

SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT & GEAR TO BRING

You'll need to be prepared to paint comfortably outdoors. Common sense prevails, but here are some specifics that will be helpful:

- **Backpack** to hold all your supplies! This will help keep your hands free as you walk around.
- If your sketchbook does not have a hard cover, it can be convenient to have a support under your sketchbook while working in the field, such as a **clipboard or piece of foam board**.
- **A portable stool, camping chair**, sitting pad, towel or plastic trash bag to sit on.
- **Water bottle** for drinking water
- **Weather appropriate attire** (packable waterproof jacket for unexpected rainstorms)
- **Sunscreen/hat and sunglasses**
- **Lunch/snacks**
- **Bicycle** (optional; but can be helpful to bring to get around Yosemite Valley to different class locations!)