



The Royalston Cultural Council Offers “Van Gogh’s Starry Night,” a Free Pastel Painting Workshop For Adults With All Materials Included

The Royalston Cultural Council is hosting artist Gregory John Maichack who will present a free adult workshop, “Van Gogh’s Starry Night: How to Pastel Paint Expressively” on Saturday, February 20, from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm at the Town Hall on the Common, Royalston. This pastel painting workshop is designed for sheer beginners to advanced participants. Seats may fill quickly so please call Elizabeth at 978-249-6771 (before February 10) or Lorraine at 978-249-5151 (after February 10) to pre-register for this free class. All supplies provided.

Maichack, a faculty member of the Springfield Museum Studio School, will explain van Gogh’s expressive methods. All will develop their own pastel paintings exploring many decorative qualities such as energetic line and bold color. All will work in tandem with the artist to begin “Starry Night” with white charcoal pencils on black paper.

Participants will freely experiment with hundreds of artist’s professional grade hard Nupastels and soft Rembrandt pastels, pastel pencils and professional Canson pastel paper in this fun pastel painting workshop.

Maichack, nominated twice for a Massachusetts Gold Star Program Award, will individually demonstrate the essentials of painting with pastels, and he will display his original pastel artwork to illustrate his talk. His demo on techniques explores edges, scumbling, blending, slurring, and layering as well as tips on creating impact.

Mr. Maichack’s workshops have been so well-liked, many libraries and senior centers have booked and rebooked him, often twice a year. “What I heard through students’ comments reflects a teaching style that is rare: encouraging, positive and constructive, with information given in a style that students find approachable, accessible, and clear,” wrote Melinda Georgeson, Director of Education, Norman Rockwell Museum.

Artist Gregory John Maichack lives in western Holyoke. He is a portraitist and painter working primarily in pastels. Winner of the Award of Merit from the Bennington Center for the Arts: Impressions of New England Show 2003, he also was awarded the Savoir-faire Pastel Award from the Great Lakes Pastel Society. He has been in many national juried shows and was awarded numerous Massachusetts Cultural Council grants. In addition to portraiture, his still-lives and landscapes are represented by galleries from Kennenbunkport, Maine to San Francisco, California. Maichack is accepting requests to do portraits, and various commissions to do pastel paintings. Please call (413) 532-3667 or e-mail Mr. Maichack at EmJay7@aol.com. Visit his new web site at www.GregoryMaichack.com.

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