

Enameling

Mesa Arts Center
Instructor- Jewel Clark
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6-9pm

Materials List

We will be learning and practicing the basics of enameling: enamel properties, metals, sifting and firing. We will cover basic decorative techniques like sgraffito, stencils, foil, wet-packing, torch-firing and raku. This is a hands-on class and we will go at the pace of the class. I recommend holding off on getting anything until after the first class where I will demonstrate and go over the list.

Materials/ Supplies:

- Apron or old shirt
- copper sheet in the range of 22- 18 gauge- it shouldn't be any thinner than 22 to start. Remember we can always make metal thinner but not thicker. You can purchase pre-cut shapes from Thompson Enamels or Metalliferous (online) and a limited number from Lonnie's if you do not want to cut your own. You can cut discs or squares in the studio
- Dust mask (I like the 3M N-95 but any one will do)
- 20-18g Copper sheet or pre-cut copper shapes
- Enamels- You will need to supply most of your own enamels. The studio has a supply of clear, white and black and a few other colors to get started with. You can order enamels from Thompson or purchase a jar or 2 locally at Lonnie's. Bring extra airtight containers to trade colors with fellow students if you like. Remember, this is a learning class so unless you have a specific project in mind, any 2-3 colors will work for getting the techniques down.
- Large/ Medium brush with a pointed tip (a "China" or calligraphy style brush is my favorite)
- Smaller brushes- sable is considered best but anything is fine to start as long as the bristles come to a point
- Paper and pencil/pen for note taking and designing
- Scrapbooking punches of varying designs for stencils (if you have them)
- Any little (2oz or less) airtight containers you might like to bring to trade enamels
- Jeweler's saw blades for cutting copper shapes if you plan to cut your own (we have frames and bench pins)
- Mica ~4x4, 4x6 or 6x6" (can be purchased in the studio or from the supplier's below)
- 18- 20g fine silver sheet is optional and I don't recommend it until you have worked with the enamel for a while on copper
- Fine tweezers
- Small painting tray with concave depressions- round shapes are better
- Any jewelry tools you have such as pliers and files. We have pliers and a limited number of files available.
- Magnification such as an Optivisor

Suppliers

Local- Lonnie's

1436 N 44th St Phoenix, AZ 85008-5605
(602) 220-0494
(metal, enamel, metal shapes, etc.)

Online:

Thompson Enamels

<http://www.thompsonenamel.com/>

Exclusively for enamels (lead free) and enameling supplies

Metalliferous

<http://store.metalliferous.com/>

Copper shapes only

Recommended Reading/ Owning:

The Art of Enameling by Linda Darty (the best enameling book out there at the moment, in my opinion)

The Thompson's Workbook (practically everything you need to know about working with Thompson's Enamels)

You can find additional links to all kinds of metals suppliers and organizations at www.macjewelryclasses.com