



## Williamsburg Spring Design Seminar

March 26, 27, 28, 29, 2015

Optional watercolor day March 25, 2015

At the September seminar last fall, we took a survey, asking the students to write down what they would most like to paint and study. There were so many requests for design and color theory that I felt it was time to offer another creative experience this March.

Over the years, I have conducted a number of design seminars. They have been some of my favorite seminars to teach. Anyone who has taken a design seminar previously can tell you that the flow of creativity during a design class is amazing. The students have always far surpassed what they thought they could do. The design seminars are planned so that each student is able to start where they are comfortable and progress from that point.

At the spring seminar, you will be given a still life and a floral line drawing that you may

use. These designs will fit on the medium size tray we will be using for our seminar surface. You may work with one of these designs or you may wish to develop your own design from scratch. Regardless of whether you do your own design or work with one of the ones provided, everyone will develop the color composition for their particular painting.

Some of the topics we will cover during the seminar are:

- Setting up, lighting, and photographing a still life study

- Working from nature photographs

- Composition topics

  - Line of design

  - Color theory

  - Value study

- Working with a camera, I-Pad, computer, Photoshop and other apps and programs

There will be lecture, demonstration, and active participation throughout the seminar. Though some opt out of evening sessions, we will also offer amplified evening sessions. Painting time will be scheduled into the seminar. You may or may not complete the painting of your project during the seminar, depending on your painting speed and how much time you spend on design development. Everyone will leave with a color and mixing plan completed. You may paint in the medium of your choice; bottled acrylics, tube acrylics, or oil/alkyd. We will have a large selection of Americana acrylics available for your use in the classroom. If you chose to work in tube acrylics or oil/alkyd mediums, you will be given a list of suggested colors to bring in the resource and supply list.

Participating students will be asked to bring ideas and design resources to the seminar....color wheels, photographs, fabric swatches, still life objects (if you are driving), etc. You will receive a detailed resource and supply list a little earlier than normal so that you can begin gathering ideas and design aids. I will also have additional items in the classroom for your use.

If you wish, you may bring your digital camera, and your I-Pad or lap top. Even if you plan to work with one of my designs, I think you will gain a lot from learning how to work with images. If you plan to work with your I-Pad, we will be sending some suggested apps for you to download prior to the seminar. We will also have a couple of wireless printers in the meeting room and have been assured by the hotel that with their new upgraded wireless connections we will have no difficulty using them. The wireless printer app for I-Pads is free! For those of you who do not have or cannot bring your cameras and tech toys, we and several of the other students will share if you wish to set up and photograph your own designs.

Our normal watercolor class will precede the design seminar. We will be painting a simple little still life called Winter Blue and White. The design is two white camellias tucked in a blue and white china piece. I am also planning to include this design as a lagniappe project (painted in oils) in your design seminar notebook. On a lighter note and for a little fun, there will also be a lagniappe project called Buster Bear's Picnic....a nice project for

young children, grandchildren, or for a baby gift.

Some of you are already registered for this seminar. We hope all of you who are not registered, will consider joining us for this special creative time. Due to the nature of this seminar and to allow Brenda to spend creative time with each student, we are limiting the student count to 20. Register soon to insure you get a seat.

You may register on the [web site](#) or by phone.

A reminder... to assure receiving the seminar rates at the hotel, your reservations need to be made one month prior to the seminar dates.

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