

**Abington Art Center Spring 2021**  
**Class Title: Still Life Painting: Session 1**  
**Instructor: Barbara Zanelli**  
**Location : Online**  
**Time: 2-4 pm**  
**April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6**

Class Description

My aim for this class is to not only have you gain more technical mastery with your materials, but also to see painting as a fun inner journey that you embark on with yourself.

Still life painting is a time-honored way of capturing the light/mood/atmosphere of a certain space/time. It's also very convenient because you can set up anywhere in your home or studio. All you need is a light source...the objects are already all around you.  
Week 1 & 2: We will explore the process of color study.

Color study is a way to focus just on seeing color and not on drawing. The use of simple shapes will encourage you to see just the color and not get distracted with drawing. Color is often a difficult thing for artists to 'get' because there are multiple principles involved: hue, value, temperature and opacity/transparency. With color study we will tackle all of this in a fun way. We will learn about the pigments we are using, and their properties (cool/warm and opaque/transparent) We will learn this by spending time using them. Color can not be matched to nature, rather the colors must be used to replicate the lighting condition that you are seeing and we do this by relating colors to each other on the canvas.

Week 3: We will progress to painting a single object: a donut. I have found donuts to be perfect for studying these various aspects of color and their amorphous shape and fun connotation help the painter relax and not worry so much about the drawing.

Week 4: You will select a single man-made object to paint. (I will give recommendations) Now we will begin to talk about drawing as part of painting. Don't worry if you don't have a lot of drawing experience, I will be talking about why this is OK. Your homework will be to set up a still life at home.

Week 5: We will review your still life set up and make any necessary modifications if need be. In the ensuing classes I will guide you through the process of painting your at-home set up. I will meet you where you are at as a painter. My expertise is to guide you in the direction that you are naturally drawn to. My main concern is helping you gain mastery in color mixing, color/value harmony, composition, edges, paint handling and focal point.

Class Outcome

Participants will complete 1-3 paintings and 2 or more studies over the course of the 5 week workshop.

