

Jacksonville Watercolor Society Workshop

Watercolor Artist Bio—Christopher D. Flagg, FASLA

Christopher (Chris) D. Flagg, FASLA, has demonstrated an inherent creativity throughout his professional career. As a Fellow within the profession of Landscape Architecture, he continually blends beauty with functionality in ways that inspire and motivate one's inner sense of discovery. His award-winning design ability has touched the lives of many and his passion for watercolor transcends his proficiency to inspire and instruct.

By understanding the value of graphic communication as a principal component of the design process, his artistry conveys a combination of reality and expression that compliments the beauty of the subject. His ability to teach, to create art, to inspire, to mentor, and to advocate for the values of creative thinking, continually define his everyday approach to his professional, personal and artistic pursuits.



Mr. Flagg continues to give back to the community through multiple organizations, most recently as a MOCA Trustee. He has served on numerous city planning and beautification committees, civic organizations, the City's Downtown Development Review Board (DDRB), has been a member of the Cultural Council's Board, and has served as past Chair of Downtown Vision, Inc. He has taught quick sketching, color techniques, and a variety of watercolor and pen and ink sketching to numerous architectural, landscape architectural, and interior design students at multiple universities. He currently hosts a weekly "Haskell Sketchers" event for all professionals interested in either honing their individual skills for sketching or just observing the techniques the art of the quick sketch. His ability as an artist has made him a popular juror for multiple Art Awards exhibitions, professional and student architectural and landscape architectural design awards, and as a juror for the ACE High School architectural and urban design student mentorship program.

Mr. Flagg's love for watercolor, especially as a plein air artist, enables a sense of spontaneity to flourish in his work, and his command of those skills adds a greater sense of realism and depth. His subjects range from urbanscapes to nautical themes, each demonstrating his keen sense of observation. His works have been highly praised and warrants recognition within the realm of watercolor artistry. He is a member of the First Coast Plein Air Painters, Co-founder of Jacksonville UrbanSketchers, and currently exhibits his work as a member of Southlight Gallery.



His variety of work, including quick sketches, portraits, caricatures and finished watercolors, can be viewed on his Instagram account: [**@FLAGGgallery**](#)



Artist's Statement:

I'm drawn to subjects that present challenging details, but I address it in ways that create the illusion of detail through the use of expressive, quick strokes, contrast, and a focused composition. Interest is peaked by light and shadow, value, and the simplified abstraction of details. This workshop will explore methods to simplify complex scenes through the value of pre-painting sketches, handling "entourage" (people, cars, street "noise", etc.) simplified perspective, focal points and edges; all adding an atmospheric element to the piece.



Planned exercises:

- Observation through quick value studies
- The value of a sketchbook
- 3-value pre-watercolor exercises
- One-color watercolor exercises

Demos and paint-alongs not limited to:

- The “urban landscape”
- Nautical subjects
- Rural scenes
- Historic structures



Supply List:

- Mechanical pencil, medium to soft lead, 2B.
- Kneadable eraser
- Small sketchbook; does not have to be watercolor paper as we will be doing some pencil warmups and Pre-watercolor sketches. Can also be a regular bond paper (8.5"x11" bond works)
- 3- Gray scale markers. Copic, cool gray recommended, cool gray 3, 5, 8. Need to have a light gray, mid-tone and dark.
- Watercolor palette with a good range of cools to warms (recommended but not necessary to have all are):
 - Cadmium yellow
 - Yellow Ochre
 - Yellow Ochre Gold
 - Burnt Sienna
 - Burnt Umber
 - Sepia
 - Cadmium Scarlet or Orange
 - Alizarin Crimson
 - Cerulean Blue
 - Cobalt Blue
 - Ultramarine Blue
 - Indigo
 - Tube of Gouache white
- Brushes (recommended but close to these will work):
 - #8, 10, 12 synthetic
 - Mops, size 12 or 14 will work
 - Sword brushes or fine line for wires, rigging, details...
- Paper:
 - Quarter sheets, or 12"x16" blocks or equivalent
 - Arches, 140# rough recommended or equivalent. Saunders Waterford or Hahnemuhle blocks are also recommended.
- Desk easel or standing easel
- Water container
- Small water spray bottle
- Backer board to tape paper
- Paper towels
- Pen and note pad