Drawing: Portraits

OSHER 688-001
Times: 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Location: Tenth East Senior Center, 237 S 1000 E, SLC
Instructor: Bill Laursen

Course Description:

Drawing the human face is fun and easy when you know the insider secrets! Learning how to recognize the proportions and placement of facial features will enable you to create a likeness relatively quickly. We will begin with rendering the individual features of the face and then move on to rendering of hair, profiles, and three-quarters views of the head as our skills develop. You should expect to make rapid progress. Both experienced and inexperienced students are welcome. Each student should bring a sketchbook, pencils, and erasers to class.

Class Schedule:

Week 1:

Tuesday – Getting started with facial proportions, basic shapes, drawing the eye(s) and vocab terms. Take and keep notes, etc. in your sketchbook for reference.

Thursday – Adding the nose and mouth plus vocab. Terms. (Begin collecting pictures of faces from magazines, etc. for references)

To make the fastest progress, try the same things again at home over the weekend and make sure you know the terminology!

Week 2:

Tuesday – Structures of the ear, placement on the head and vocab terms.

Thursday – How to draw the head in profile (do a weekend drawing).

Week 3:

Tuesday – Fundamentals of drawing hair, types and color.

Thursday – Finish your first ‘complete’ portrait.
On your own (in your sketch book) try some studies of the head at home.

Week 4:

Tuesday – Basics of ¾ views of the head and the four ‘arches’ of the face.

Thursday – Continue working on ¾ view and shading. Introduction Bill’s amazing ‘ART-O-GRAPH’ technique. (Try drawing a ¾ view at home!) Bring the pics you have been collecting to class next week, as one will be selected for use in your final portrait project.

Week 5:

Tuesday – Begin ‘blocking in’ a portrait. A profile or ¾ view would work best and the larger the picture you draw from, the better.

Thursday – Continue the drawing begun on Tuesday. (discussion will cover how to draw teeth and wrinkles) Work on your portrait over the weekend.

Week 6:

Tuesday – Finish portraits you have been working on.

Thursday – Class members will be invited to share with everyone the impressive results of their efforts.

Your drawing supplies should include: several soft pencils (2B, 4B, and 6B) along with a pencil sharpener or x-acto knife.
Erasers (art gum or pink pearl, knead able and retractable) a small to medium blending stomp, some paper towels and a finger or two along with your sketchbook that you should have acquired in a previous class. (If you need additional supplies, or have run out, a group order will be compiled for your convenience during the first class session only).