



Painting with Enamel

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Saturdays, March 15 – April 12, 6:30-8pm

Marianne Goodell



Course Overview: Enamel—applying tiny glass particles to metal using heat—is luminous, colorful, and long-lasting. It has been used throughout history and across cultures to express, illuminate, and decorate. Start with learning about safety, application, the kiln, and substrates. You'll make a test plate to practice color and blending; try your hand at adding, overlaying, and using sgraffito, and create and prepare a metal base for your work. Finally, with guidance from our expert instructor, you'll draw and paint your own design, firing the enamel between layers to build up the desired richness. You'll walk away with a timeless art piece ready to hang and pass down for generations!

Course Objectives: Upon successful completion, the student will be able to:

1. Use enamel colors, including various methods of blending color
2. Use mediums, substrates, and the kiln
3. Create an enamel blank
4. Paint and fire enamel
5. Mount and display enamel work

Course Outline:

Session 1

- Painting enamels
 - Definition
 - Application
 - Mediums
 - Kiln Settings
 - Substrates
- Test Plates
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 - Color Test Plate
 - Blending Test Plate
- Writing
 - P3 and Line Making
 - Oil Mixture for Fine Line
- Make a test plate of colors
- Time permitting - start a blending test plate



Session 2

- Finish the blending color test exercise
 - Dark to light (3 colors)
 - One color to another (3 colors)
 - Overlaying colors (3 colors)
 - Creating a blended square and using sgraffito to move enamel around



Session 3

- Finish the blending color test plate
- Make Enamel Blank
 - Learn how to dome copper
 - Sift counter enamel and fire
 - Sift base coat of white and fire
 - Repeat for a second layer of white
 - Learn to grind out any imperfections
- Transferring your design
 - Saral Paper
 - Line Work
- Draw your design and start painting



Session 4

- Continue painting the design on copper firing between layers. It may take as many as seven layers to build up the desired richness.



Session 5

- Finish the painting
- Mounting enamels
 - Prep the wood (cover the wood with desired paint)
 - Varnish the wood
 - Add any hanging hardware
 - Affix the enamel to the wood block
 - Affix the block to a decorative coaster (optional)
 - Affix the entire unit to the wood
 - Allow it to dry 24 hours before hanging
- Show and Tell

“Marianne is a very knowledgeable and pleasant artist that took her time to make sure we got all the information she had planned to teach. Her teaching was super, and I learned so much. Looking forward to other classes.”

-Sandra B.