American Society of Botanical Artists

25th Annual Meeting and Conference Pittsburgh 2019

Relative Values Make a Realistic Painting Lee McCaffree

Thursday, October 17, 2019 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm



Realism is determined by illustrating natural volume through tonal variation. The student will develop a graphite map of values as a step in the journey for a painting. A record of light and shade of a plant leads to good composition and accurate representation even after the plant has wilted. No experience necessary.

Supply List

• Drawing paper; 9 x 12 inches, 6 sheets

• Tracing paper; 9 x 12 inches, 6 sheets

• Pencils: 2H, HB, 4B

Pencil Sharpener

• Erasers: Kneadable, white plastic

· Black permanent pen: fine or medium point

• Light source; battery operated

Instructor's Bio

Lee McCaffree shared the coordination and implementation of the Filoli Botanical Art Certificate Program and is a primary instructor. She has taught classes around the US and at ASBA annual meetings. Relying on the basics improves the final work of an artist. She has exhibited across the USA and in the U.K. including the Hunt Institute and the RHS.