

## **Introduction to Pastel**

This introductory workshop will be helpful to those individuals new to or with little experience working with chalk pastels. Through a combination of talks and demonstrations we will cover various elements of the medium including: **Types** of pastels (soft, hard, pastel pencils, etc.) and different brands, **Surfaces** to work on (paper, sand board, home made, etc.) and different brands, **Application**, the various techniques of applying the pastel to your surface, **Color** (which may be limited to the number and variety you have), but can be supplemented by layering, mixing and blending to create new tones and values. We will also discuss the **Care and Protection** of your finished work. We will be using “still life” subjects or objects as a means to demonstrate the various techniques and principles presented. However, the information may be applied to any subject such as figures, portraits, landscapes, seascapes, animals, etc.

### **Supplies**

Students should have materials by or before the second session including:

- Basic set of soft pastels (any brand).
- Basic set of hard pastels (Nupastel brand most common), and, or a basic set of pastel pencils (any brand).
- A few individual sheets of pastel paper of various tones and colors or a pad of pastel paper that provides a variety of colors and more importantly values (light, middle, dark). Pads come in 8x10, 11x 14 and larger, (the 11x 14 or larger is preferable).
- A piece of heavy cardboard, foam core or backing board, in the size you will be working in.

Other optional supplies include: clips to attach work paper to backing board, an xacto knife or single edge razor blade, kneaded eraser, blending stump or tissues, charcoal pencils and small can of workable fix. We will discuss supplies in more detail the first class.