Beginning Watercolor (and Beyond Beginning) Supply List

PAINTS
We recommend you buy artist (not 'student' or 'academic') grade paints in 15 ml tubes. Artist colors have more pigment and better quality. In general, we suggest using Winsor & Newton paints, although other brands may be chosen if you prefer. Here is a basic palette of colors that will be used in class (see picture resource on page 2):

Opera  New  French  Pthalo  Burnt
Rose  Gamboge  Ultramarine  Blue  Sienna

BRUSHES You can paint using only three brushes, but these must be watercolor brushes. Sable is best, golden taklon also works well and costs less. We recommend these basic brushes (see picture resource on page 2):

1- or 2-inch flat wash brush
#12 round brush; pick one that feels comfortable in your hand
#1 or #2 rigger brush for details

PAPER Most watercolor painters find that a good quality 140 lb cold press finish watercolor paper meets most needs. You can get this in a convenient tablet that will help organize your work:

• Strathmore 400 Series Watercolor Pad 9 in. x 12 in. spiral pad

SOME ADDITIONAL TOOLS
Some of the basic tools to get you started:

• Watercolor palette for mixing colors: white butchers tray (think 'Wegmans') or several small, white dishes, or a closeable artists palette (consult with teacher before buying)
• 2H sketching pencil
• Kneaded rubber eraser
• Artist or drafting tape, 1/2 inch wide
• Plastic water containers (2). Not glass! Cottage cheese or yogurt containers are excellent.
• Four "binder"-style clips. Helps to hold paper flat
• Roll of paper towels. 'Viva' brand is good because doesn't have pattern or texture.
• 5x7 inch sponge

For painting Beyond Beginning, we suggest you extend your paints and brushes and consider 300 lb paper, additional colors and brushes, but ask your instructor for suggestions based on your work thus far.

A suggestion about getting supplies:
It is much easier to find the supplies you need at a good price if you go to a dedicated art supply store such as Rochester Art Supply on Main Street in Rochester or the Art Store in Southtown Plaza, Henrietta. They will be glad to advise you. Be sure to ask if they offer student discounts! In addition there are excellent discount stores on line, such as Dick Blick, Cheap Joes, or Jerrysartarama.com.
Picture resources

Watercolor colors suggested clockwise from top left:
Opera Rose tube, New Gamboge tube, French Ultramarine tube, Pthalo blue sample, Burnt Sienna tube and sample