BEGINNING WATERCOLOR
Memorial Art Gallery / Creative Workshop
Eight Tuesdays, 6:30–9:30 pm, April 12–May 31, 2016

Taught by Laurence E. Keefe
larry.keefe@gmail.com

PAINTS
We recommend Artist or Professional grade (not 'student' or 'academic') paint in 15 ml or 37 ml tubes. Artist grade colors have more and better quality pigments. Winsor & Newton paint is a good choice; other brands may be chosen if you prefer. Buy transparent watercolors, not gouache. Colors that will be used in class:

- Opera or Permanent Rose
- New Gamboge Yellow
- French Ultramarine Blue
- Pthalo or Winsor Blue (green shade)
- Burnt Sienna

BRUSHES
You can paint well using only three brushes, but these must be watercolor brushes. (Sable is best, golden taklon also works well and costs less.) The ability to retain their shape and hold a point are the most important characteristics to look for. Get "short handle" brushes. We recommend these to start:

- #8 or #12 round brush
- 3/4 or 1-inch flat wash brush
- #1 or #2 rigger brush

PAPER
Good quality 140 lb cold finish watercolor paper meets our needs. You can get this in a convenient tablet that will keep your work organized. Buy the best grade tablet:

- Strathmore 400 Series Watercolor Pad 9 in. x 12 in. spiral pad (not 300 Series)
- Later in the course you may need an additional full (22x30-inch) sheet of Arches 140-lb cold finish watercolor paper, but this will not be needed to start.

TOOLS
There are many tools you will find helpful. Some basic ones 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
- Plastic water containers (2). Not glass! Cottage cheese or yogurt containers are excellent.
- Roll of paper towels. 'Viva' brand is good because it doesn't have pattern or texture.
- 3x5 inch sponge
- Artist or drafting tape, 1/2 inch wide
- Four "binder"-style clips to hold paper flat

Suppliers
It's easier to find what you really need at a fair 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 help you. Be sure to ask if about student discounts! In addition there are excellent discount stores online, such as Dick Blick, Cheap Joes, and Jerrysartarama.com.