

## Landscape Painting Field Seminar Overview & Arrival Information August 5 - 8, 2010



Please read the entire information packet carefully. This important information will help you plan and prepare for your time with us. If you have any further questions after you have read this packet, please give us a call at (907) 683-1269. We are here to help.

### *Activities*

This Murie Science and Learning Center (MSLC) course is active and field-based. We will spend the majority of our days outdoors observing wildlife, admiring the spectacular Denali scenery, and painting. We will spend most of our time along the road corridor and/or within one mile of the park road. Hiking will be minimal, covering distances of approximately 1-2 miles round trip with little elevation gain. When we do hike, it will be off trail on rough, uneven tundra, forest, and river bar terrains and we may encounter wet tundra / forest conditions. Participants should be in good physical condition.

In early summer, Denali offers dramatic opportunities to learn landscape painting. With Alaskan artist David Mollett, we'll spend our time in the field looking closely at Denali's landscape as we broaden our understanding and accomplishment in painting. Covering the concepts of space, light, color, composition, and scale, we'll work from drawings and small painted studies to finished oil and acrylic paintings. All levels are welcome!

### *Tentative Daily Schedule*

Our group will be staying together at the MSLC Field Camp. Schedules may be modified somewhat according to weather conditions and to fit the needs and interests of the participants and instructor, such as viewing unique wildlife sightings and/or spectacular scenery.

Thursday	12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Check in at MSLC Introduction, orientation & overview Drive to MSLC Field Camp Dinner and evening discussions
Friday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Exploration of Denali Dinner and evening discussions
Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Exploration of Denali Dinner and evening discussions
Sunday	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Continued exploration of Denali Return to MSLC for course conclusion

### *Weather*

The entire course takes place outdoors and activities will continue rain or shine. Weather conditions are unpredictable year round in Denali and therefore you must be prepared for a wide range of conditions. Temperatures can vary from below freezing to 80 degrees F. Mosquitoes and other biting insects can be numerous anytime during the summer. Be prepared with adequate warm clothing, a hooded rain jacket, and rain pants. Dressing in layers is recommended. **Please review carefully the Clothing & Equipment List provided.**

### *Directions, Parking Area and Meeting Location*

The entrance to Denali National Park is located at Mile 237 of the George Parks Highway. Follow the Park Road for approximately 1 mile to a roundabout, and make the first right turn off the roundabout. The MSLC is the first building on the right. However, because you will be parking overnight, **we ask that you park in the park concessioner's employee lot.** To get to this lot, pass the MSLC and continue to the second right turn. You will see a sign that says 'Service Road Buses Only'. Drive towards the bus yard and park in the first large lot on the left. This is a very busy area, so please yield to any buses or pedestrians. To walk to the MSLC, go back down the drive toward the park road and look for the MSLC in the direction of the roundabout. Please leave your overnight bags in your vehicle. We will load all bags directly into the MSLC van in the parking lot after our initial meeting in the MSLC.

### *Arrival*

Beginning a half-hour before course start time, MSLC staff will greet you at the Center for check-in; your course begins at 1:00pm. The first day will not include lunch.

### *Accommodations in Denali*

Your group will stay at the MSLC Field Camp at the Teklanika River Campground at mile 29 of the Park Road. Our field camp is made up of six tent cabins, one large Yurt (a portable, covered, lattice-framed structure), and a small storage space for group gear. Up to four course participants share space in a tent cabin. Each tent cabin has two sets of bunk beds with foam mattresses and pillows. Each participant needs to provide their own sleeping bag and pillow case. There is no electricity, plumbing or any heated area, i.e., **no hot water and no showers.**

Lodging accommodations before and following the course are your responsibility. We do not endorse or recommend any particular lodge, cabins, or campground, but we are happy to provide you with a list of local accommodations upon request.

### *Meals*

The field camp kitchen has a small propane stove, but no refrigeration. Simple yet hearty meals will be served family-style. Dining may be outside, weather permitting, or in the Yurt. Each morning, along with a breakfast buffet, a lunch spread will be laid out for participants to create their own bag lunches for the day. We have a limited ability to accommodate specific dietary requirements; therefore, **please notify the MSLC several weeks before the course of any specific dietary needs or restrictions.**

### *Transportation in the Park*

We will be traveling as a group in a 12 passenger van when we go into the park. Due to the Park's backcountry limits we limit the number of participants to ten.

### *Your Denali Visit & Your Expectations*

MSLC courses are designed to immerse participants in a particular subject area, and therefore course activities and destinations in the park will be devoted to the course content. **If you are interested in seeing more of the park, please allow for extra time before or after the course for further exploration via the shuttle bus system or on foot.** We particularly encourage first time visitors to plan for extra time, especially if this is a "once in a lifetime" trip. Please contact us for advice or visit [www.nps.gov/dena](http://www.nps.gov/dena) for further information.

### *Cancellation Policy*

If you have to cancel your participation in the course, fees will be refunded for cancellations received in writing 30 days in advance of the course starting date, with a \$25 cancellation fee for each individual cancellation. The entire participant fee will be retained for course cancellations less than 30 calendar days before course starting date, unless we can fill your individual course spot. If we are forced to cancel a course, we will fully refund your fee. Please note: if you purchase a membership with your registration, the membership fee is non-refundable.

### *Insurance and Liability*

Participants should have their own health and accident insurance. Also please consider travel insurance in case you have to cancel your trip due to illness or injury. All participants will be asked to read and sign the enclosed Acknowledgment of Risk form and complete the Health and Emergency Contact form. Please bring these forms with you to the first day of the course. Please contact the MSLC if you have any questions or concerns.

### *Important Phone Numbers*

For the entirety of the course we will not have access to phones or cell phone coverage. Emergency and non-emergency messages can be passed through the MSLC office phone number (907) 683-1269. The MSLC is open daily from 9:30a.m. – 5:00p.m. After-hours emergency calls can be directed to the Denali National Park & Preserve Law Enforcement Ranger Division at (907) 683-9555.

### *College Credit*

Optional college credit, ART 233, is available for this course. By choosing this option at the time of registration, you are officially pre-registered and pre-paid with the University of Alaska – Fairbanks. A registration form will be sent to you prior to the course. Please fill it out and bring it with you on the first day of the course.

### *Materials List*

Please bring the following materials with you to this course:

Oil, Alkyd or Acrylic Paints

- 1 Alizarin Crimson
- 1 Ultramarine Blue
- 1 Phthalo Green and/or Viridian
- 1 Cadmium Yellow Light
- 1 Cadmium Red Light
- 1 Phthalo Blue
- 1 Cadmium Orange
- 1 Titanium White large size tube

Note that alkyd paints are listed in addition to oil paints. Alkyd dries overnight which makes them easier to transport. They are plastic based paints that perform much the same as oils. They are not usually available in Fairbanks so mail order early. Acrylic paints dry very quickly and can be used on canvas or heavy paper.

Portable easel (French easel or light collapsible aluminum)

Small backpack for supplies

Simple camping "chair" or pad to sit on

sketchbook and drawing materials

3 or 4 prepared canvases or boards

20X24" or 16X20" are good typical sizes. If you wish to work in acrylic, watercolor paper is fine.

Something to secure your canvas to the board in the event of strong wind

If using oil paints, a carrying case/rack for wet canvases

1 Quart odorless mineral spirits (for alkyds or oils)

Liquin or other alkyd medium for alkyds if so desired

Cotton Rags

2 small cans for medium or water for brush cleaning

2 jars or cans with tight lids

2 each Bristle Brushes: #1 and #3 rounds, #6 and # 12 flats

Palette

Palette knife

Hand cream

A small lightweight tarp (no larger than 8' x 10') and something to fasten it to your easel (thin rope/cord; hiking poles might also be useful).

Whatever else a student usually takes on a painting excursion. For students who have never done field painting before, contact the MSLC with any questions regarding recommended gear, supplies and materials.