



## Practically Painting with O'Keeffe

G26090310

with Anna Koster

September 20–September 26, 2026

### Greetings!

I'm excited about our adventures together in the land that Georgia O'Keeffe loved and made famous with her paintings. We will walk in her footsteps, literally, along paths that she trod. Inspiration will follow us indoors as we immerse ourselves in the creative techniques studied and practiced by O'Keeffe. I'll explain how Arthur Wesley Dow's teaching liberated O'Keeffe and freed her to express herself. Then I will help you apply the same principles to your work as I lead you through the distinct steps O'Keeffe employed before putting brush to canvas.

This course is designed for beginners but open to all skill levels, to anyone who wants a fresh approach to their artmaking or a special "O'Keeffe perspective." I encourage individuality, creativity, and finding your own creative center for making unique works while using O'Keeffe's approach, not slavishly copying her art. Together, we will foster a positive learning environment where all can explore.



About me: I served as Georgia O'Keeffe's weekend companion in 1976, then went on to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree and enjoy a long museum career. I have studied O'Keeffe's art and life and visited the archives at the O'Keeffe Foundation Research Center. Since 2014, I have been leading art workshops at Ghost Ranch. I have also taught at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum (Santa Fe), Nevada Museum of Art (Reno), Stanford University (CA) Continuing Studies Program, and San Jose (CA) Museum of Art. My museum career spanned 35 years, the last 15 at Stanford University's Cantor Arts Center. Learn more about me at [annakoster.com/resume](http://annakoster.com/resume).

Optional [Georgia O'Keeffe Landscape Tour](#) is set for Tuesday, Sept. 22 (3:30 p.m.) with an added cost. Registration and payment for this private tour are required in advance. A discounted rate of \$25 is offered to anyone taking this course. (Companions must pay the regular rate of \$42.) Deadline to ensure a seat for this tour is Sept. 21 at noon. Details and registration info are at [annakoster.com/GR2026](http://annakoster.com/GR2026).

Questions specific to this workshop are at [annakoster.com/GR2026](http://annakoster.com/GR2026). For questions about Ghost Ranch food, lodging, and how to get there, visit <https://www.ghostranch.org/faqs/>.

Workshop details are online at [annakoster.com/GR2026](http://annakoster.com/GR2026), including updates, frequently asked questions, a course schedule, what to bring, and an optional reading list. After checking that, let me know if you have questions.

I look forward to seeing you in person on Sept. 20!



Anna Koster (she/her)

You can contact me through my website: [www.annakoster.com/](http://www.annakoster.com/)

Go to my contact page at [www.annakoster.com/contact](http://www.annakoster.com/contact)

Your class details are here: [www.annakoster.com/gr2026](http://www.annakoster.com/gr2026)

## Materials to Bring

- Sketching supplies: graphite pencils (or sticks) in graduated degrees of hardness (I suggest HB, 2B, 4B, 6B, 8B), sketch pad, and any other drawing or sketching materials you prefer
- Scissors and glue stick
- Your favorite painting medium (acrylic, pastel, watercolor, oil, gouache, etc., even collage) and all related supplies: brushes, palette, thinner, rags and cleaner for brushes; canvas, board, or other surface to paint on, and anything else you will need.
- If you are just beginning and do not own paint supplies, I suggest buying acrylics (red, blue, yellow, and white; or purchase a set offered for landscape); paint brushes, in at least 3 sizes (medium to medium-large); pad of 9x12-inch, 140-pound watercolor paper
- Bring a camera (a phone camera is fine)
- Optional: Purchase a ViewCatcher or make a viewfinder
- Optional: A portable, rechargeable LED desk lamp for extra light during evening work
- This is not a plein air painting course. But if you want an easel for painting outside, bring one.



ALSO BRING comfortable walking shoes, a brimmed hat, sunscreen, clothes for changeable weather (warm/hot days, cool evenings, and possible rain), and a water bottle.

Workshop Itinerary:

General Workshop Hours

Sessions in the studio mornings (9 a.m.–noon) and evenings (7–8:30).

Afternoons free.

Meals at 7–8 a.m., 12–1 and 5:30–6:30 p.m.

The studio will be open all hours for those who want to work during free times.

Course Itinerary and Activities (subject to change)

Sunday, Sept. 20 – Check-in begins at 3:00 p.m. at the Welcome Center; Dinner is 5:30–6:30; Orientation, introductions, and course overview begin at 6:45 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 21– 9 a.m.–noon in studio for an intensive "O'Keeffe exploration"; afternoon free; 7–8:30 p.m. studio follow-up on morning activities, presentation of O'Keeffe's guiding principles

Tuesday, Sept. 22– 9 a.m.–noon in studio for experiments with composition; 3:30 optional O'Keeffe Landscape Tour by van (details below), otherwise afternoon free; 7–8:30 in studio learn about O'Keeffe's step-by-step preparation for painting



Wednesday, Sept. 23 – 9 a.m.–noon in studio exercises using O’Keeffe’s “steps”; afternoon free; 7–8:30 p.m. in studio slide show illustrating color theory using O’Keeffe’s art

Thursday, Sept. 24– 9 a.m.–noon in studio apply lessons and exercises to complete final works; afternoon free; 7–8:30 p.m. in studio share work done so far, get special “O’Keeffe challenges”

Friday, Sept. 25– 9 a.m.–noon complete paintings in studio or outdoors; afternoon free; evening celebration and display of art

Saturday, Sept. 26– No scheduled activities. Breakfast, then room checkout at 10 a.m.