

Kathy Waltermire

Portraits and Pastels

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ARTIST STATEMENT

My early travels in Japan, Hawaii and elsewhere awakened my love of beautiful scenes and color. Nature in all its forms fills me up and encourages me to paint.

I must have fallen in love with soft pastels about twenty years ago and have never been tempted to leave them. The hues can range from a purple that's darker than black to the palest yellow. And they range in hardness from a pencil to a stick that is soft as butter. So I work almost exclusively in soft pastel or graphite and strive for work that is appealing to the viewer and is full of pure, lively color. Favorite subjects include people, pets, still life, florals, and landscapes.

I paint en plein air and in the studio, using reference photographs I've taken of scenes or of portrait subjects, or live set-ups for still life. I build up a painting using many layers of color to achieve the form, color and amount of detail desired. This part is the most fun—solving problems of space and color to finish a pleasing painting.

You may see my work at JarrettThor Fine Arts in Colonial Beach, Virginia, or in my studio. I offer workshops in portrait drawing and pastels and tutor students individually. I occasionally judge area shows.

