

# The Creator's Art



**A manual for  
learning art from the perspective  
of God's Creations**

**Julianne S. Kimber, MA**



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by

Julianne S. Kimber, MA

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*These weekly two-hour lessons are designed to cover approximately forty weeks of learning.*

*Lessons can be extended or condensed according to your own interest. You can also use various mediums of art—pencil, charcoal, pen, watercolors, pastels. You may wish to do additional research about the scriptural lessons associated with the various techniques of "the Creator's art."*

*The theme of this course is a quote attributed to Albert Einstein who said:*

**"Creativity is Intelligence Having Fun."**

**- Albert Einstein**

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# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to "Basics for Teaching the Creator's Art"!

This art class is very unique. Since God is the greatest Creator of all, we have taken the position of teaching art from the book of Genesis in the Bible. As you learn to perfect your God-given talents by trying to duplicate what He has created, it is hoped that you, the student, will become more like Him in perfection, knowledge and creativity. And it will be fun as well as educational. As mentioned, the theme of this class is Albert Einstein's quote: "**Creativity is intelligence having fun.**"

## THREE OBJECTIVES OF THIS MANUAL

The 3 main objectives for learning art with this manual is to help you:

1. Appreciate all of God's creations
2. Learn to really observe
3. Practice and develop your own unique and individual creativity

You will expand these three objectives as you learn to draw and paint with various mediums, beginning with pencil and progressing to water colors, acrylics, pastels and possibly oil paints.

## USING YOUR OWN EXPRESSION OF CREATIVITY

Each person has his or her own way to express creativity. Some artists want to be realistic; some people love to study and practice "abstract art," which was introduced in 1863 by Monet and perpetuated by Pablo Picasso. (See Appendix A.)

As pointed out in the article, "modern art" normally does not require as much artistic skill, and this makes it more appealing to people who may feel inadequate in their artistic talent but who wish to express themselves in that mode. However,

"modern art" is not the style that will be taught in this manual. Our objective is to teach you to observe and re-create realism. This course will help you learn how to do realistic art while developing your own creative skill. This technique takes much observation, time, and practice. And you'll have fun doing that!

Remember that you will want to take your time to absorb all the information. For example, learning how to do the observation exercise may take one entire session. Learning how to draw and paint birds could take a month or two. Practicing reflections might take more than one class. Just have fun and do lots of practicing outside of class.

## WHAT IS IN THIS MANUAL

As mentioned, this manual is divided into lessons according to the first chapter of Genesis. Additional scriptures may be cited for Latter-Day Saints - the Book of Moses, the Book of Abraham, Doctrine & Covenants, and the Book of Mormon. These are given for reference and are not designed to offend or convert.

Each part of God's creation of the earth is divided into 4 lessons, making approximately 40 lessons in all. In addition, the Appendices have valuable information that you may want to review before beginning this course:

- Appendix A - Pablo Picasso—The Man who Abandoned his Talent
- Appendix B - Art Class Observation Exercises
- Appendix C - Different mediums in Art
- Appendix D - Art for Young Children
- Appendix E - A Working Memorandum on the Creation Story, by W. Cleon Skousen

To summarize -- just have fun! Every person is born with a love of creativity, and art class is the place to express that love - especially when it comes to creating like Heavenly Father creates.

## PREPARING

Each lesson is designed to last approximately two hours. You should be arranged at a table where there is plenty of room for your supplies - easels, pencils, paints, sketch pads, and other supplies.

### MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED

- Scriptures
- Sketch Pad (8" x 10" or 9" x 12")
- Small sketch pad for pocket or purse
- Kneaded eraser (stretchy - comes in a small, square package)
- Drawing Pencils, at least 2 each: 2-B (soft lead) and 2-H (harder lead)
- Good quality colored pencils
- (Optional: watercolor paints and brushes)
- Ruler
- Observation pages (see Appendix B)

**BE SURE TO KEEP A PORTFOLIO OF ALL YOUR DRAWINGS AND PAINTINGS.**

### INFORMATION ABOUT OBSERVATION EXERCISES

Each session begins with a 10-15 minute "observation exercise." This is a brain waker-upper that is designed to help you learn how to REALLY observe.

Observation is an artist's most valuable asset in drawing and painting.

Please read Appendix B and print out the observation pages, as well as the small illustrations to copy, as explained in the appendix.

Ready? Here we go!      **IN THE BEGINNING...**

UNIT ONE

First Day

Let there be Light

# LESSON 1—FIRST DAY OF CREATION

“And God said, Let there be light;...and God divided the light from the darkness.” (Genesis 1:3-4)

## UNIT 1 - Part 1 -- TWO-DIMENSIONAL SHAPES

OBSERVATION: As mentioned, the most important quality an artist can have, in order to be a good artist, is the ability to OBSERVE. Observing is different from just looking at something. Observing takes in lots and lots of detail. An artist will look at something and take a long time to observe its shape, its shadows, its color, its relationship to other objects, reflections, line, and many other things. Artists sometimes observe for hours before beginning to draw or paint!

At the beginning of every art class, the first ten or so minutes will be spent doing an observation exercise. Quiet music will create a reverent atmosphere. NOTE: You should NOT try to finish your observation drawing in ten minutes, but work on it every class period until you are satisfied that its likeness to the illustration is as perfect as you can make it.

Soon you will begin to understand how your brain works. Sometimes you will look at an object and draw what you THINK it looks like. It may be completely different from what is really there! Observing and drawing will develop the skill to see clearly. In fact, you will be surprised at how well you will be able to draw after practicing observation consistently (every day if you wish) in only a few weeks.

LESSON SUBJECT: **Two-dimensional Shapes**

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Scriptures
- Sketch pad
- 4b and 2b pencils and Kneaded eraser
- Ruler

SCRIPTURE READING: Read Genesis 1:3-4.

Question: What is light? Psalm 43:3 says, "Send out thy light and thy truth." And where would we be without God's light? We learn that, for his people, the word of the Lord is "a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105) When some days seem dark, this is the light we can always look to. God's light chases away the shadows! (Light is truth. LDS - read Doctrine and Covenants 88:7-13.)

LESSON: In the beginning, when God separated the light from the darkness, shadow as well as light was created. This was the very beginning of the concept of "opposition in all things."

Throughout life, you will learn that there is opposites in everything. You will want to remember this concept when you begin to create your drawings and paintings. Like the Creator, you will be separating the light from the darkness in many creative ways. Here are a few opposites that you already know:

Light and dark

Day and night

Happy and sad

Large and small

Up and down

In and out

Fast and slow

Health and sickness

Man and woman

Good and evil

Can you think of anything which does NOT have an opposite? Practice observing the opposites of light and dark everywhere you go, so that you become familiar with how light works as it shows an object's form and shadow. For example, when there is light in a room, where is the shadow falling? What is the shape of the shadow? OBSERVE these things.

You may wish to keep your small sketch book handy for practicing sketches of your observations.

PROJECT #1: Memorize the vocabulary words below. Then draw