Exploring your creative side

Acorn Open Studios was formed in 2024 with the idea of showcasing the creativity hidden in East Berkshire, bringing a greater understanding of what what artists do and improving accessibility to visual art in our local communities. Each artist brings their own expertise in painting, mixed media, drawing, collage, glass, metal, ceramics, sculpture and printmaking and by opening our working studios we provide a unique opportunity for people to talk to and see how an artist works.

'Are you feeling inspired?'. If the art you have seen has made you want to explore your creative side then please check out our local artists-run or on-line courses and local art groups who welcome new members of all ages and skills. To download a copy of this Information Sheet please visit the Acorn Open Studios website via this QR Code.

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Exploring your creative side

Courses, Blogs and other online art resources

The following art courses, blogs and art resources are available from Acorn Open Studio Artists. Please check out their websites for further details.

Jo Hall

https://www.jo-hall.co.uk/

Maidenhead

Jo tutors short courses at Norden Farm Centre for the Arts in Maidenhead, Berkshire. Suitable for adults at all stages in their artistic journey they are designed to be enjoyable but at the same time stimulating creativity and developing each participant's skills. Jo also has an active Blog on her website that explores and explains different artistic approaches.

Julie Gardner

https://juliegardnerart.co.uk/

Maidenhead

Julie runs introductory lino cut classes in her home studio in Maidenhead. Suitable for beginners Julie keeps class sizes small so she can provide individual help and guidance Julie also keeps a Journal on her website that provides useful tips and tricks to lino cutting.

Sarah Luton

sarah_luton@hotmail.com

Maidenhead

Sarah runs various workshops in charcoal aimed at all abilities at her home studio in Maidenhead or at Eton Wick.

Sonia Scott-Job

https://www.soniascottjob-art.co.uk/

Twyford, Woodley, Maidenhead, Wokingham and On-line

Sonia is an artist working mostly in charcoal and soft pastel, finding light in woodland, open seas, and everything in between. She writes about the work, the process, and the adventures that come with being an artist in the world: exhibitions, arts trails, and the occasional creative rabbit hole on her website Blog. Sonia also runs workshops the explore the creative use of charcoal to create seascapes, woodland scenes and landscapes.

Susan Thomas

susanmary797@gmail.com

Twyford

Susan runs an untutored Life Drawing class using professional models between September and July.

Linda Saul

https://lindasaul.co.uk/

Charvil

Linda is a contemporary watercolour painter focusing on landscape. She runs workshops for art societies and groups within an hour's travel time, teaches at Micklem's Farm in Berkshire and can also host a shorter version the workshop with one or two people from her home studio near Reading by special arrangement. Linda also has a Blog on her website covering hints and tips based on her practise.

Liz Chaderton

https://lizchaderton.co.uk

Hurst

Liz works mainly in watercolour, ink and is an avid sketcher. As well as being the author of several practical guides to art techniques she also teaches on-line, runs in person workshops at Micklems Farm. and has an active and informative You Tube channel.

Paula Minekov

https://paola.art/

On-line

Paula is a painter whose work reveals influences of early Modernist traditions, blending abstraction with figuration and she shares her artistic practice experiences on her website Blog.

Emma Major

https://www.llmcalling.com/

On-line

Emma is an artist, poet, author and blind wheelchair user who regularly posts her experiences and insights as an artist on her website Blog and on You Tube.

Martin Rolfe

https://martinsonlinesketchbook.co.uk/

On-line

Martin is a mixed media artist and plein-air sketcher who shares his experiences through his Sketchbook and Tutorials available on his website.

Sayani Drury

https://www.sayanidrurystudio.com/

On-line

Sayani is a figurative artist who works in oils and shares her experiences through her website Blog.

Jayne Kozlow

https://www.jaynekart.co.uk

On-line

Jayne is a Printmaker specialising in animals and birds working mainly with recycled materials such as Tetra Pak and she shares her tips and experiences through her website Blog.

Lisa Binnie

https://www.binniepottery.com/

Wokingham

Lisa organises ceramic events and lessons, nurturing not only our own artistic growth but also sharing our passion for clay with others. Her studio is open for visitors to explore, get hands-on with clay, and gain new skills and she helps potters of all levels thrive during pottery lesson blocks and pottery experiences.

Elizabeth Baldin

https://elizabethbaldin.co.uk/

Spencers Wood

Elizabeth is a painter who has worked in oils, acrylics, watercolours and inks and striven to develop her techniques in all media and to be able to pass on what she has learned to others through her workshops and courses at Beech Hill Memorial Hall.

Exploring your creative side

Art Groups

The following local organisations offer a supportive, social and friendly community. Please check out their websites for further details.

Reading Guild of Artists

https://rga-artists.org.uk

Founded in 1930 the RGA is a diverse group of professional and amateur artists in the Berkshire (UK) area. Membership is open to all and new members are very welcome, from complete beginners to experienced professionals, or those just interested in art. Non-members are welcome to attend our Earley Painters sessions, RGA Fridays, Summer Painting Days and Summer Workshops.

Wokingham Arts Society

https://www.wokinghamartsociety.org.uk

Wokingham Art Society is an active organisation for artists and art lovers open to all. Their aim is to provide all artists and art lovers in the Wokingham area with the opportunity to enjoy and learn about art and to engage in the making of art in a supportive environment.

Cookham Arts Club

https://cookhamartsclub.com/

A friendly, welcoming group of mixed ability enthusiastic artists who enjoy meeting and painting together across a wide range of mediums.

The Arts Society Wokingham (formerly NADFAS)

https://theartssociety.org/wokingham

https://theartssociety.org/maidenhead

Provides welcoming places to hear expert lecturers share their specialist knowledge about the arts.

Maidenhead Painting Club

https://www.maidenheadpaintingclub.co.uk/

Maidenhead Painting Club is an art club catering for all abilities with the only prerequisites being that you are 18+ years of age are interested in painting and drawing.

Artspiration Art Classes for Children and Adults

https://www.artspiration.co.uk/

Artspiration offers structured lessons designed to take your child on an artistic journey from an early age. Lessons and groups are age specific and provide a holistic approach to Drawing and Painting.

Woodley and Earley Arts Group

https://weag.art/#home

This group invites professional artists to demonstrate their painting skills and to hold one day workshops.

Crowthorne and Sandhurst Art Society

https://casart.co.uk/

A small friendly society with members of mixed ability. They aim to enjoy art and to learn more about style, technique and the use of different media through demonstrations and talks.