



YELLOWSTONE FOREVER

DRAWING YELLOWSTONE'S LANDSCAPES

Itinerary & Details

FIELD SEMINAR - SUMMER 2023

INSTRUCTOR: Alan Petersen, M.A.

INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHY: Alan Petersen worked at the El Tovar Hotel on the South Rim of Grand Canyon for three years before moving to Flagstaff Arizona in 1980 to attend Northern Arizona University. He recently retired from a faculty position at Coconino Community College in Flagstaff, where he taught drawing, painting, and art for thirty years. He is working on a book about Swedish-American painter Gunnar Widfors and published a catalogue raisonné of Widfors' paintings in 2020. Alan's own paintings are inspired by the light, space, and landforms of Grand Canyon and the Colorado Plateau region. He loves working with students outdoors and helping them develop the skills and confidence to draw the subjects that interest them.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: This course is an activity **level 1** and students enrolled in this course are expected to be active participants. Be prepared to hike up to 1 mile per day, comfortably. Some off trail hiking possible.*

**All field activities will be conducted as a group. If you cannot meet the activity level expectations during your program, you may be restricted from participation in daily outings. We will not alter program itineraries or activities to accommodate participants who cannot meet the expectations of the stated activity level.*

LOCATION: Lamar Buffalo Ranch – Yellowstone National Park, WY

PROGRAM DATES & TIMES: The program begins at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2023, and ends on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

LODGING CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT: Lodging check-in begins at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2023, and lodging check-out is at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 18, 2023.

MEALS: You will need to bring your own food; lunch should be able to travel in the field with you.

For general information about the facilities, preparing for classes, what to expect, cancellation policies, and more, please see the [Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Summer General Information](#) document.

FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

Drawing the Landscapes of Yellowstone is a fun program that gives you a solid foundation of essential drawing skills, and we'll do so while immersed in the beauty of Yellowstone's incomparable environment. Geared toward beginners, but also a great refresher program for those with drawing experience, this program will provide you with the skills and confidence to draw realistic landscape scenes wherever you are. We'll start out with a couple of hours of classroom instruction in basic techniques and then move outdoors for the rest of the program. In our discussion of techniques and materials, we'll look at examples of drawings by two of the greatest draughtsmen to visit the Yellowstone region in the past, Thomas Moran, and William Henry Holmes, both associated with the Hayden Surveys in the 1870s.

I've included a list of materials and other supplies that you'll want to equip yourself with. If you already draw regularly, I'm sure that you have your favorite versions of this list and I'd encourage you to bring them. An important consideration when working outdoors is keeping things simple and light.

One of the key aspects of successful landscape drawing is observation. We'll cover techniques that will improve your ability to really see and understand what you're looking at. This translates into one of the greatest benefits of drawing your surroundings—you get to know them in a much more intimate way than when you simply drive or even walk through them.

I'm looking forward to working with you in the magical environment of Yellowstone. I love working with students outdoors and enjoy helping them develop the skills and confidence to draw the subjects that interest them, all the while immersed in the beauty of the natural world. I can't think of a richer and more intriguing subject to draw than the variety of sites that we'll visit and draw in Yellowstone.

- Alan Petersen, M.A.

PROGRAM ITINERARY

The itinerary is designed to take advantage of the best opportunities in the park, but may be adjusted to adapt to weather conditions, wildlife activity, holidays, and road construction. *The details and timing of the agenda are subject to change.*

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| Day 1 | Participants are welcome to check into the Lamar Buffalo Ranch starting at 4:00 p.m. |
| | 7:00 p.m. Evening – Introductions and overview |
| Day 2 | Morning Classroom instruction Afternoon Drawing around Lamar Evening Slide talk on early Yellowstone artists |
| Day 3 | Morning Drawing at Mammoth Afternoon Drawing at Slough Creek |
| Day 4 | Check out by 9:00 a.m. |

PROGRAM EQUIPMENT

For a full list of recommended equipment for all courses see the [Lamar Buffalo Ranch - Summer General Information](#) document.

Items specific to this course are:

- Sketchbook**, with white drawing paper - 11" x 14", minimum, to 18" x 24
- Large spring clips**, to keep your paper from blowing, at least 2
- Graphite drawing pencils**, 2 of each – HB, 2B, 4b, 6B, 8B
- Small box or bag for supplies**, doesn't need to be large but you need to protect your pencils
- Pencil sharpener**, one that catches the shavings in a little container
- Sandpaper pad, Small X-acto knife**, or pen knife with a sharp blade
- Lunch and snacks** sufficient to keep your metabolism enthusiastic, 2 quarts of water
- Small lightweight stool, chair, or pad** to sit on (optional but comfy)

RECOMMENDED READING

No prior reading is required, but participants might enjoy the following publications, that complement the program. Most publications are available at Yellowstone Forever's online store at shop.yellowstone.org Yellowstone Forever supporters receive a 15 percent discount and proceeds directly support the park.

- Hassrick, Peter H. *Drawn to Yellowstone: Artists in America's First National Park*. University of Washington Press, 2002.

WHOM TO CONTACT

For any questions, concerns, or additional information please contact the following:

- Program itinerary, health forms, payment, and activity questions please contact Yellowstone Forever at institute@yellowstone.org or 406-848-2400
- Road updates, park conditions, and general park information please contact Yellowstone National Park Service at <https://www.nps.gov/yell/contacts.htm>
- If running late for a program, please contact 406-848-2400.