



Hello High School Students!

School is back in session at Pinole Valley High and CWA was there on November 5 with a Community Outreach. The Outreach team was volunteers Michael Friedland, Georganne Zaro-Eddy, and myself, Sheila Cain. We met in the administration office to check in, receive our passes, and be guided through the empty, quiet halls to the art room. We explored the silent, empty classroom. CWA provided everything needed for this project except water and water buckets. Georganne and I were the assistants and set up



Evening Flight from Buck's Landing by Michael Friedland

supplies. Michael went to the front of the class and prepared to lead the painting of *Evening Flight from Buck's Landing*. It was quiet and peaceful as we anticipated the student's arrival. Mars, the art teacher, arrived, and we introduced ourselves.

The bell rang, then boom! Everything changed. The students filled the halls and started pouring into the classroom, chatting, wandering around, studying their cell phones, and checking us out politely. Meanwhile, Mars suggested Michael use the projector so his demo would be shown on the whiteboard at the front of the class. With the second bell, Mars asked all the visitors to depart and the class size looked a lot more like the number we had anticipated. Then announcements began.

The announcements went on. There was one hour for our watercolor "paint along." Would there be enough time? Finally, the announcement concluded and the students filed by to pick up their supplies. Michael explained the project.

Stage one: We started by painting the warm color in the sky, washes of orange, blending into yellow with the paper upside down, letting the color flow up into the sky. Letting that dry, we painted a graded wash of Cobalt Blue from the top-down, overlapping (and glazing) the warm color, that created the sunset sky.

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Stage two: We repeated the same warm sky colors in a graded wash over the bottom 2/3 of the paper creating the reflection of the warm sky in the bay water. We ended that graded wash with blue, blue-green so that when we painted the landmass, we could leave the (blue) puddles showing through.



Classroom students painting

Stage three: We painted the dark silhouetted mountains right down into the foreground as one large shape, coming right down into the marsh and puddles. Using two large brushes, we mixed darks, one warm and one cool. We painted the landmass starting on the right side of the mountain moving towards the left, and then right down into the marshy foreground mixing color on the paper to create dimension and visual interest. The final calligraphic marks were the sticks, grasses, and fine linear branch shapes.



Sheila in a field of color awaits the students and demonstrates an alternative way to hold a brush



Michael moved the students through the painting as he painted. Georganne and I moved through the classroom encouraging, clarifying, and observing. One student used the brush to apply the paint and the sponge to mix and blend it on the page. Most were used to painting with acrylics, so we coached them on filling the brushes with water and pigment then brushing across the page going back to pick up more water and pigment. The time flew. Clean-up time came



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Community Outreach

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too soon, but we finished the painting and then immediately started setting up for the second classroom of students.

The second class was easier than the first as there were no announcements and we had experience. It was fun just to be with high school students and most enjoyed their first experience with watercolor painting. In the end, the teacher Mars expressed how pleased she was to have us visit and suggested we return. The assistant principal escorted us towards our cars all the while thanking us and CWA for expanding the school's reach into arts. What a highly gratifying Community Outreach event. Georganne and I offer a special thanks and bravo to Michael Friedland for creating the project and leading the "paint along."

Sheila Cain

CWA, Co-Director
Community Outreach



The Team, Michael Friedland, Mars Tremor, Sheila Cain, Georganne Zaro-Eddy



Michael shares some wise words

Let's share with our communities!
Call Sheila Cain at (510) 845-0863,
or Georganne Zaro-Eddy at (925) 980-7722