PACIFIC ART LEAGUE

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Color Drawing
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For all color drawing media, get a selection of the following basic colors:

ultramarine or cobalt blue
greenish blue such as phthalo
lemon yellow
orangy yellow
orangy red
cool red (rose)
violet
raw sienna
burnt sienna
white (except for inks)
black (except for colored pencils)

Chalk pastels – also confusingly called soft pastels, they range from very soft (Sennelier) to quite hard (Nupastel). Rembrandt is a good medium soft pastel; Nupastel is good for making lines. They are the most brilliant of all colored media.

Oil pastels – bear little resemblance to chalk pastels; they are sticks of pigment in a wax/oil base. Van Gogh has a small boxed set of 12 colors that provides everything you need; otherwise, pick the above colors from open stock.

Colored pencils – very portable and easy to use. Prismacolor pencils are the softest and most vivid of all the brands, also the cheapest. You can get small sets or select from open stock. Also bring a white plastic eraser or kneaded eraser and a small pencil sharpener.

Colored inks – just get a few bottles of inks (not all the colors listed above), plus either a fountain pen or a pen holder with several nibs. Instead of inks, you can mix up watercolors and put them in small bottles (such as pill bottles) to dip the pen in.

Papers – dry drawing media will do best on colored paper. You need a paper with tooth, that is, a slight texture to trap the particles of pigment. There are pads of good drawing paper in different colors by Strathmore and Canson's. You can also buy individual sheets of Canson's Mi-Teintes or Strathmore paper and cut them down. Colored inks will need white paper, either drawing or watercolor (hot-press) paper.