

Prosopon School of Iconology

The Prosopon School of Iconology was founded by Russian Master Iconographer Vladislav Andrejev after his immigration to the United States. Over the years, Vladislav Andrejev's iconographic technique and teaching method have undergone development and standardization resulting in a distinct "school" of painting and interpretation which introduces students to the practice and theory of the ancient Christian art of icon-writing in the Byzantine-Russian tradition as well as a contemporary step in its living development.

Subsequently, Mr. Andrejev, his sons Dmitri and Nikita, and some of his other students, formally organized the Prosopon School of Iconology with the blessings of the hierarchs of the Orthodox Church of America.

The iconographic method of the School is characterized by a process in which a succession of steps are concrete and definite, as are the liturgical services of the Church. Although striving for a high artistic level, the focus of the icon-writer is nevertheless on personal spiritual discipline and growth within the guidelines of the Orthodox Church teaching, that Icons are the 'Gospel in light and color'. The Prosopon School welcomes inquiring students from all backgrounds.



www.prosoponschool.org

Daily Schedule

Sunday, October 6, 2019

7:00p-9:00p Introductions, setup, first lesson

Mon – Fri Oct. 7-11

8:45a-5:00p Teaching sessions

Saturday Oct. 12

8:45a-2:00p Teaching session



Location

St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral, a parish of the Orthodox Church in America and cosponsor of the workshop, is located in Northeast Minneapolis, about 2 miles north of downtown. Sessions will be held in St. Mary's Parish Center, which is handicap accessible.



Twin Cities Twentieth Annual Prosopon Iconography Workshop

Basic and
Advanced Workshop
St. Romanos the Melodist



Inquiries and Deposits Payable to:

Marilyn Johnson
759 NE Pierce St
Minneapolis, MN 55413

Phone: 612-378-0606 (lv msg)
mjohnson@umn.edu

Please do not call the church.

October 6-12, 2019

St. Mary's Orthodox Cathedral
1701 Fifth St. NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413

www.stmarysoca.org/iconography

Instructors

This fall we are privileged to have *Vladislav Andrejev* founder of the Prosopon School of Iconology. Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, he received a formal education in fine art when he



became interested in religious art, which was impossible to express openly at that time in the Soviet Union. The search for deeper meaning in art and life led him to solitary travels in parts of the Russian wilderness, and to independent study of icon and fresco painting with a monk icon-writer. A prolific iconographer, immigrating to the United States in 1980, Mr. Andrejev has been teaching iconography in North America for more than 35 years, and during this time, a growing number of students have been introduced to this ancient Christian art.

Nikita Andrejev, Prosopon School Instructor and Master Iconographer, was born in St. Petersburg, Russia. He started on the path of icon painting with his father, Vladislav Andrejev,



and has been painting and teaching for the past twenty-five years in the US and Europe.

Nikita received his Master's degree from St. Vladimir's Seminary. Previously he studied four years of theological education at the Saint Sergius Institute in Paris. He holds a B.A. in Classical Greek from Yale University,

paints private and church commissions, and continues to work closely with his father. He and his wife have three children and make their permanent home near Tallinn, Estonia, despite frequent travels.

For Whom:

This is a professional level workshop in traditional Byzantine-Russian iconography based in a living Orthodox spiritual tradition, but no previous experience, religious background, or training is assumed. While taught from an Orthodox perspective, the workshop is open to people of any faith.

The workshop, limited to 25 participants, will include previous students of the Prosopon School, professional iconographers, other professional artists or people with some art training, as well as people with little or no art training or background.

The workshop will consist of lectures on the theology, theory, and technique of iconography, demonstrations of painting in egg tempera medium and other technical procedures such as gold leaf technique, along with time for working and personalized instruction as needed.

The Icons

St. Andrei Rublev, an iconographer canonized as a saint, produced work that is often perceived as the ideal of Eastern Church painting and of Orthodox iconography. His images are deeply rooted in the traditions of the Church, incorporating Old Testament imagery and liturgical hymns and prayers. His depiction of the Archangel Michael is now maintained by the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow.

Beginning/basic students: Everyone who has not previously completed a Prosopon School workshop, irrespective of background or experience, will be working on an image based on Rublev's *Archangel Michael*. Second timers will work on *Archangel Gabriel*. Those who have completed the above two but not yet comfortable writing the complex image done by advanced students will discuss images with the instructors.

All materials—a gessoed board, paint materials, brushes, a palette, and gold leaf—and tools will be provided. No preparation is expected before the workshop begins. You may want to bring a desk lamp, pen, notebook, coffee/tea cup, and a cloth to cover your icon. Basic students should return home with a completed icon.



Note: For various reasons, the icon produced will vary somewhat from the image on the brochure.

Advanced students will be writing *St. Romanos the Melodist*. This saint is known for composing the most hymns used in the Orthodox Church. Technical emphasis will be working on the white garments and highlights. The drawing and other details will be sent to you upon registration.

Preparation to be done by advanced students before arriving include obtaining your own board, transferring the image, drawing the lines, completing the clay surface for gilding, and gilding the halo. The intermediate and advanced students may choose their own size, but it shouldn't be smaller than the sketch—a minimum of 12x16 board. Two possible places to obtain boards are <http://iconboards.com/index.php?cid=43> and <https://www.stjohnsworkshop.com/product/iconboards/> (must be gessoed, rectangular, and larger boards need braces).

Advanced students will probably find it helpful to bring their own tools and pigments, etc.

Tuition: \$800

Reservations will be made in order of \$200 deposits received (refundable until Sept. 15, 2019). Remainder due the first night of class. (Advanced students: tuition will be adjusted \$100 for obtaining your own board.)

Tuition does not include accommodations. Those in need of **accommodations** may want to check the following: <http://www.stmarysoca.org/iconstay>

Prosopon classes fill quickly. A limited amount of funds may be available for partial scholarship. Inquire of Marilyn Johnson.

Meals: Snacks and lunch (Mon – Fri) will be provided. (Participants will help with meal cleanup.)

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