

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 2024

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.



Inquiries and Deposits Payable to:

Marilyn Johnson
759 NE Pierce St Apt 1
Minneapolis, MN 55413

mjohnson@umn.edu

Please do not call the church.

Twin Cities Twenty-Third Annual Prosopon Iconography Workshop

Basic and
Advanced Workshop
Theotokos Oranta/Tenderness



Oct. 6-12, 2024

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

www.stmarysoca.org/iconography

Instructors

We are privileged to have *Vladislav Andrejev*, founder of the Prosopon School of Iconology, and *Deacon. Nikita Andrejev*.



Vladislav, born in St. Petersburg, Russia, 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 40 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 30 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 family 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, 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 application, along with time for working and personalized instruction as needed.

The Icons

The Byzantine-Russian tradition produces work that is often perceived as the ideal of Eastern Church painting and of Orthodox iconography. The images are deeply rooted in the traditions of the Church, incorporating Old Testament imagery and liturgical hymns and prayers. The beginning students will write the image of The Theotokos of Tenderness.

Beginning/basic students: Everyone who has not previously completed a Prosopon School workshop, irrespective of background or experience, as well as second timers will be working on an image of *Theotokos Tenderness*. Those who have completed this and *Archangel Michael* 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 may vary somewhat from the image on the brochure.

Advanced students Will be writing the icon of *Theotokos Oranta/Sign*.

Orans (Latin, praying), (or Oranta) is a representation of a person in a bodily attitude of prayer, usually standing, with elbows close to the sides of the body and with the hands outstretched to the side and upward, usually represented as a female figure with extended arms. Mary is shown with arms in oranta position, with Christ enclosed in a circle in her womb. "Of the Sign," is a reference to the words of Isaiah 7:14, "The Lord himself shall give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel."

Advanced students will need to purchase their own boards (\$100 tuition decrease) a minimum of 11"x14". Unlike other years, for this particular icon, we will all move together as a big group, with no pre-gilding required. You may wish to bring some of your own tools and pigments, however.

Tuition: \$895

Reservations will be made in order of \$295 deposits (Venmo, PayPal, check) received (refundable until Sept. 20, 2024). Remainder due the first night of class (Venmo, PayPal, VISA, check/cash—not AmEx)

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.)

Inquiries and Deposits Payable to:

Marilyn Johnson
759 NE Pierce St Apt 1
Minneapolis, MN 55413

mjohnson@umn.edu

Please do not call the church.