

# Impressionism Style

## using Oil Pastels

*use oil pastels to imitate a famous art style*



Impressionism - The basic and most steadfast principle of the Impressionist movement is that each work of art is based on the artist's immediate visual impression of a scene at a particular time of day or year or in a particular type of weather. In order to capture changing reflections and shadows, Impressionist artists often painted the same scene or landscape over and over in different conditions. Each Impressionist's work is a study of light and atmosphere and the play of reflections and color.

Complimentary Colors – These are two colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel. Impressionists often incorporated this color scheme within their work. The above example uses the compliments violet and yellow in the composition

### Guidelines:

- 1) Choose ordinary subject matter. Impressionists liked painting scenes of everyday life.
- 2) Try not to blend colors too much. Instead of blending blue and yellow, impressionists would put blue paint next to yellow paint to create the optical illusion of green.
- 3) Use short, quick strokes. Detail was not as important as the initial impression of a scene.
- 4) Do not use strong lines. Dark colors are placed next to light colors to create the illusion of an edge.
- 5) Avoid using true black. True pieces of impressionism had very little black paint. When dark is required, combine dark values with a strong color for the impression of black (read as black).
- 6) Cover as much of the page as possible. Do not leave a lot of gaps in the color.

### Process:

- 1) Choose an appropriate subject or scene. You are using the Impressionist style to change the impression of the picture.
- 2) Lightly sketch out your design on the paper.
- 3) Decide what colors you will use. They do not have to match the original picture. Make sure to choose at least one complimentary color scheme within the painting.
- 4) Work from the background towards the foreground. You don't want to be filling in big areas of background around the objects in the front.
- 5) Use short, well defined strokes of your oil pastel. This is not about smooth blending. Avoid long defined areas of line.

