

# Christkindl

Peni Powell © 2004

You have my permission to enlarge or reduced any part of pattern.  
Photos and Color Swatch Chart, best printed on photo paper.

With Christmas just around the corner, it gives me the opportunity to paint my favorite subject “**Santa**” to share with you.

As a teacher of the Decorative Arts, nothing I enjoy more than to see the creative juices flowing and for a painter to add their own embellishments to a pattern I have designed. So consider painting this project with your special colors, change background or even different toys to the sled.

The surface I chose to paint this pattern on is a Bentwood box but you might consider using this pattern on any surface of your choosing. Some suggestions would be a sled or a signboard to welcome people to your home during the holidays.

The patterns background and Santa easily could be revised to fit many surfaces by just adding a few more trees to background and enlarging Santa. .

I find the boxes a wonderful surface to paint on and when completed it can make an ideal gift box filled with Christmas goodies for that special family member or friend.

## ***Surface:***

Bentwood *oval* Cheese Box. 15”1 x 9x3”deep  
Several wood supply companies stock this item.

David Jansen, Traditions is the palette of colors used in this project. You can find a conversion for some of the palette on Mr. Jansen’s website in to Americana- Deco Art or in his publication Artist’s Technical Guide.

I highly recommend buying David Jansen’s technical guidebook it is an asset to mixing any brand of paint for it is packed, with knowledgeable information.

A supplier for Traditions can be found at the following websites.

<http://www.viavon.com/>

<http://jansenartstudio.com/Americana.htm>

I hope you will try this new Acrylic the colors have a wonderful brilliance. A few basic colors can make a multitude of colors. Has a longer open time for blending and flows of your brush with great ease.

My students and I have nothing but good things to say about Tradition Acrylics. We found they work as well for beginners as advance painters. If I had one word of caution it would be that you need to use much smaller amounts of paint on brush and palette and that the colors dry a bit darker than what you have experienced with other brands.

I have painted color swatches that you may download and print that you might find useful in creating some of the mixes that I made for this project. Because of scanner, monitor settings as well as printers. The colors on charts may vary from my mixes to the printed page but they will give you some idea of the color palette.

**Color Chart Swatches:**

1. Swatch for sky to mix and blend with Warm White
2. A swatch of Blue –Green's for shading hues in snow& trees in background and foreground.
3. Flesh swatch. For mixing faces shades.
4. Red swatch. For reds used in gown, cape, dolls, dress and outlining

***Palette:*****Jansen Art Traditions:**

Multi- Surface Sealer

Glazing Medium

Extender & Blending Medium

Burnt Sienna

Black

Diarylide Yellow

Naphthol Red

Naphthol Red Lt.

Phthalo Blue

Phthalo Green-Blue

Red Violet

Raw Sienna

Ultra Marine Blue

Warm White

True Gold (metallic)

***Brushes:***

**I encourage you to use brushes you prefer and are more comfortable with or have on hand. Just be sure to use a good quality brush.**

My suggestions for brushes list.

LoewCornell

# 3/4" Shader

#12 Shader

#8 Shader

#2 Shader

#6/0 7350 Liner

#1 Script Liner

2" Soft, natural bristle brush for blending.

***Supplies:***

Tracing Paper

Sanding Disc

Stylist

Stay Wet Palette

Graphite Paper White and Grey

Water base varnish or finish of your choice

Acrylic paper palette

Most any regular supplies you have on hand use in painting or preparing a project.

### ***Preparation:***

Sand and Seal box and Sand lightly again.

Apply basecoat of Warm White. Apply two or more coats as needed.

Sanding lightly between coats using a fine sanding disc.

Then apply a horizontal pencil line to surface so that you will know where the tree line starts and ends.

**Have fun with this and create your shades of winter sky.**

### **Blended Background:**

Once basecoat is dry, apply your blended background to area above and below the horizon line

At this point, you may either add pattern for trees or free hand in the background.

I prefer to do it free hand. It gives a looser unrestricted quality to background so it does not end up competing with foreground subjects

### **Upper portion of background:**

#### **About Blended backgrounds:**

I find they are best done with a good quality 2" natural bristle brush. A suggestion is using Purdy china bristle brush.

While experimenting, I have found this brush works best for most surfaces and you might find it a wonderful addition to your painting tools.

Most important is using a good quality brush and a brush large enough that it will cover a large part of the surface as you blend. This will help ensure a nice blend of all the colors.

#### **Blending Background:**

Mix on palette the following three hues using color chart swatches as your guide

Pick up very small amount of color with palette knife adding color to Warm White. Such as,

Warm White + Phthal Blue

Warm White+Naphthol Red LT.

Warm White+ Diarylide Yellow

Mix Extender& Blending Medium and Warm White. Apply to surface generously. .

While the area is still wet, apply each of the prepared mixes to the Warm White blending.

**“Working as quickly as possible”.**

Brush blend wet on wet covering the area. Starting from the right side of sky using the Diarylide Yellow mix adding the Naphthol Red Lt mix, following with Phthal Blue mix. If your shades appear dark, do not be afraid of just picking up more Warm White on the brush.

Keep the sky pastel in tone.

Wiping your brush as you blend on a paper towel as you go will help keep colors blending without mudding...

Brush across surface, clean brush, then brush up, down and across, blending as you work across surface. Repeat this process until you have a soft transition of color for sky... **“Be careful now it is easily to over blend and get a muddy unattractive sky”**. You might even want to try experimenting on a prepared cardboard surface or piece of wood to get the feel of blending several colors.

**“Now!” that you have sky in place.**

#### **Applying the background below horizontal line:**

Using same technique and referring to blue-green swatch chart.

Apply a basecoat of Warm White + blending medium. For shading, use #3 in swatch chart of Phthalo Blue+ Burnt Sienna+tad of Black and Warm White.

**Bottom of Box:** Basecoat: Naphthol Red+ Red Violet. Swatch #2 on red swatch chart.

Let Dry.

Using Stencil tape or Scotch Magic tape mask off for stripes. The width of tape used will depend on width of stripes you prefer or size of box. After masking is completed paint open area with True Gold Metallic

**Band:** True Gold (metallic)

### ***Background Trees:***

Make hue of very light blue-green + blending medium as seen on swatch #5 from Blue Green chart...

Using script liner, Stroke long strokes that almost fade in to the background. Let dry. Add a few trees over top in Warm White.

**Fir Trees:** Refer to swatch #2 in Blue-Green swatch chart.

Phthalo Blue+ Burnt Sienna+tad Black + Warm White.

Be sure color is light in value so that they fade into the background and not compete with Santa in foreground.

Use a Rake, Fan or even an ugly flat shader that has frayed. Just be sure and keep branches light in value, airy and frosty in appearance.

### **Snow in foreground:**

Referring again to swatch chart, blending as you go. Use several shades from the Blue-Green swatch chart. #1. #3. #6. Load brush with Warm White then pick up each shade one at a time and blend with the Warm White. Keep lighter shades in background and darken as you blend coming forward. Adding Warm White as needed to created depth to the snow. Keep colors light in value you may add more shading and snow as needed.

**After background has been finished and dried, trace on the rest of pattern for references.**

### ***Santa:***

**Face:** Make three hues of skin tones. Light, Medium and Dark values. As shown on flesh swatch chart.

Mixing, Warm White+Raw Sienna+Naphthol Red Lt.+Burnt Sienna.

**A trick to painting small faces:** You will find this will help keep detail for reference lines on face with out having to retrace face on to basecoat. Using a liner brush loaded with Burnt Sienna following traced lines.

Be sure that lines are very thin and light in value but with enough color that they maybe seen through the basecoat of skin- tone.

Apply a basecoat of medium value of skin tone over detailed lines. Now you should barely see lines but they will give you a form of reference to shade and highlight with the hues you have mixed.

For depth in areas on face place light washes of Burnt Sienna.

**Rosy cheeks:** with medium skin tone mix + Naphthol Red Lt.

**Eyes:** Red Violet+Black. Whites of eyes use, lighter skin mix. Be sure and float some shading under lid so that eyes have a softer quality... Because eyes are looking down no small white highlights are needed.

**Beard and Hair:** loosely basecoat with a mixed shade of grey. Warm White + Black + Burnt Sienna.

At this time do not do any detail on beard and hair areas until you have completed the gown and cape. This will give a more natural flow to the hair and beard.

**Gown & Cape:** Mix several hues referring to Red color swatch.

With Naphthol Red, Naphthol Red Lt. Red Violet Warm White and Black

Basecoat: Naphthol Red. Shade: Naphthol Red + Red Violet. **In depth shading:** Shade mix with a tad of Black added to mix shade mix. **This can get muddy if you add to much Black to mix.**

Highlights: Naphthol Red Lt. Velvet Glow to gown is a mix of Naphthol Red Lt + Warm White.

**Inside lining of Cape and Gown:** Basecoat of Phthalo Green-Blue. Shade: Phthalo Green –Blue +tad of Black. Highlights: Phthalo Green-Blue + Warm White.

**Tassels, Trim and Hooks on Gown:**

True Gold.

For coverage and depth in painting with the metallic gold.

Apply Red Violet + Black, under these areas first. When dry apply True Gold over the top.

**This will give the feeling of texture and keep the metallic gold bright.**

Paint a thin line then dropped very small dot along side of the line.

The tassels are an elongated dot and than pull wisps from the dot.

Shade the folds of the trim where it dips with the fabric with Burnt Sienna.

Detail under the True Gold down shadowed sides of trim, and loosely out lining very fine lines on tassels for dimension with Red Violet+Black.

**The Green Trim:** Same hues used in lining of cape and gown.

**Gloves:** Basecoat: Raw Sienna+Warm White. Shade: Burnt Sienna. Highlight: Add more Warm White to basecoat.

**Boot:** Basecoat: Burnt Sienna+ tad Black. Detail: add more Black to Basecoat mix. Highlights: Burnt Sienna+Raw Sienna+ Warm White.

**After all the steps for cape and gown have been complete and dry finish beard hair and mustache:**

Stroke in the beard, hair etc over the basecoat. Applying Warm White, using liner, rake or any brush, you desire to get the affect of hair. Paint in a lose style as not to get a heavy filled in look.

Be sure and stroke some hair outside of basecoat so that you have a natural flow to beard, hair etc.

Let beard and hair dry and apply some very transparent washes to beard and hair areas using a few shades from your working palette in this pattern.

This technique will add depth and reflective hues to the beard etc. Once the washes have been applied accent, some of the hair on beard etc with Warm White. If needed add more than one layer with out covering all of the wash.

**“I often find my self-doing several layers when painting Santa beards and hair to get the richness and fullness that pleases me.”**

**Sled:**

Basecoat: with mix of Burnt Sienna+Raw Sienna and tad of Diarylide Yellow. Shade: with Burnt Sienna , Burnt Sienna+ Tad Black. Highlights: Add Warm White to basecoat mix.

**Detail and Runner:** Black+Ultramarine Blue.

**Toys in Sled:**

**Package:** Naphthol Red. **Stripe,** True Gold and Red Violet. **Bow,** Phthalo Green -Blue. Add Black for Shading. Warm White for Highlights.

**Feather Tree:** Trunk: Burnt Sienna+Warm White.

**Feather Needles:** Phthalo Green-Blue. Add Black for darker shades and Diarylide Yellow Highlights.

**Doll:** Face and Hands use same palette as Santa face.

Hair Burnt Sienna.

**Dress and Bonnet:** Mix Naphthol Red Lt. + Warm White. Making several shades, dark, light and medium value .Accent on Dress and Bonnet: Warm White.

**Boat: Hull of boat:** Basecoat: Phthalo Blue+ Warm White. Shade: Phthalo Blue+ Burnt Sienna. Highlights: Add more Warm White to basecoat. **Inside of boat and Mast:** Burnt Sienna and Warm White. **Sail:** Warm White, Shade mix a warm grey from palette of Warm White, Black and Burnt Sienna.

**Jack in the Box:** Face and hands use same palette as Santa.

**Clown Suit:** Basecoat: Ultra Marine Blue+ Warm White. Shade: Ultramarine Blue. Highlight: Add more Warm White to Basecoat.

**Dots:** Warm White. **Trim:** Diarylide Yellow, Warm White and Raw Sienna. **Box:** Red Violet +Black. **Stripe on Box:** Naphthol Red. **Handle:** Burnt Sienna, Warm White and Black.

**House: Base of house:** Warm White. Shade: Burnt Sienna+Warm White and Burnt Sienna+Warm White and Tad of Black.

**Roof:** Basecoat in Burnt Sienna+ Black + Warm White.

**Detail Windows and etc.** Burnt Sienna+ Black.

**Bear:** Basecoat: Burnt Sienna+ Diarylide Yellow+ Raw Sienna. Shade Burnt Sienna+ tad Black. Highlights: Add Warm White to Basecoat. **Eye and Nose:** Black

**Ball:** Basecoat: Diarylide Yellow. Shade: Raw Sienna. Highlight: Add warm White to basecoat.

**Stripes on Ball:** Phthalo Green- Blue, Warm White. Naphthol Red and Red Violet.

#### **Finish for Toys:**

After all toys have been painted and dried in the sled, seat each toy by washing shadows light with Phthalo Blue- Green+ Black + Burnt Sienna+ Warm White. Blue -Green Swatch #1 on Chart

#### **Finishing Touches:**

1. Add a shadow float down right side of Santa using Blue –Green swatch chart #2.
2. Add Warm White where needed for additional snow.
3. **Option:** Outline around Santa with mix of Red Violet + Black in a thin consistent with line. This will give more dimensions and bring Santa forward from background.

**Often Greeting cards and graphic artist use this technique to in enhance subject matter.**

4. Apply falling Snow: Mix warm white generously with Extender blending medium. It should have an almost transparent look to the Warm White. Drop dots off end of Script liner uniformly. Let set a few minutes and tap lightly with cushiony part of your finger. Making a smudge. Inside of smudge, place dot of Warm White.

After project is completed, let dry completely before applying a finishing coat of one or more using matt water base varnish or finish of your choice.

Enjoy! Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have regarding the pattern.

# Color Chart Swatches

## Sky background Swatch



Warm White

Warm White

Warm White

Phthalo Blue

Naphthol Red Lt

Diarylide Yellow

## Blue-Green



#1.

#2.

#3.

#4.

#5.

#6.

Mix these hues using Phthalo Blue+ Burnt Sienna+Tad Black and Warm White

#4. is Warm White

## Flesh Tones



#1.

#2.

#3.

Light

Medium

Dark

Mixes of Warm White+ Raw Sienna+ Tad Naphthol Red Lt+ Burnt Sienna

## Red Chart Swatches



#1.

#2.

#3.

#4.

#5.

#1. Red Violet+Black #2. Naphthol Red+ Red Violet

#3. Naphthol Red #4. Naphthol Red Lt.

#5 NaphtholRed Lt.+ Warm White

*Creative Greetings*  
*Toy*  
*Peni Powell*  
*(c) 2004*





*Have a very ....*

*Happy Holiday !*

*and when the Christmas  
season has passed.....*

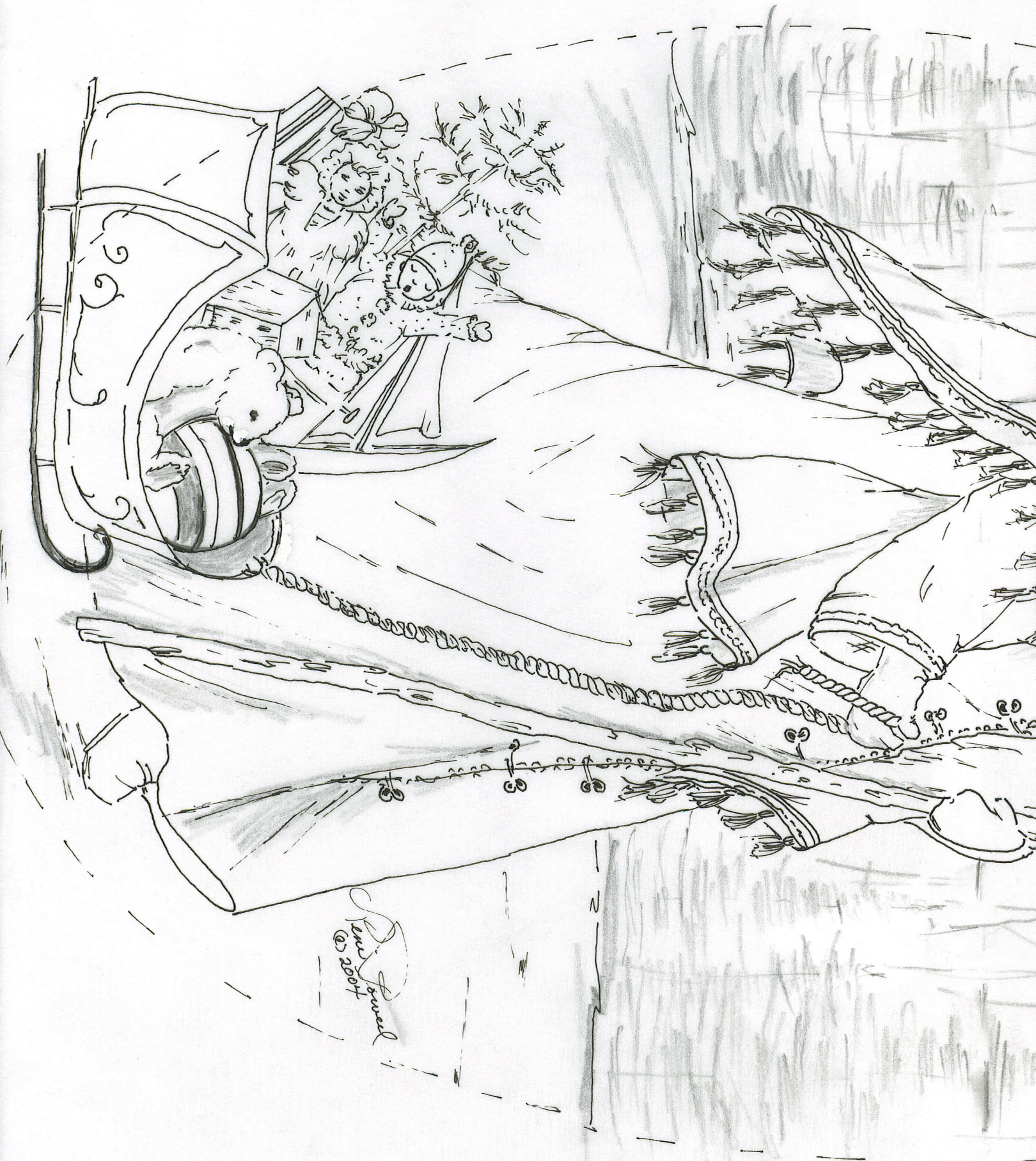
*May all it's warmth  
and happiness Continue  
On and On.*











Sara Fennell  
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# Peni 's Palette of Colors

## Painting Tips & Tricks



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Maybe some of you already have knowledge of these, but if not, I hope you will find these tips helpful in your painting.

1. If you ever get build up of acrylic paint in your brushes, here is a suggestion: Soak your brush in vodka, do not let the tip sit in the bottom of the container for over an hour. Then, remove the brush and work the bristles back and forth gently in the palm of your hand. Wash the brush with Murphy's Oil soap, working it into the fibers, rinse in lukewarm water and reshape your brush. Then, you are ready to use it again or store it. I have saved many a student's brush in this manner and have also removed those drops of paint on that favorite blouse.
2. Oops! You have that bent brush! Try swishing it in hot coffee and then reshape it. Hot water doesn't work as well for some reason, but the coffee will fix that long liner 8 out of 10 times.
3. Most colors of bottled acrylics have been tinted to create the colors, as you well know. When you start adding black or white to them, they can get muddy (or chalky in the case of light values). Instead, try using Dioxazine Purple to gray colors and Light Ivory or some other Off-White to

lighten the values. Dioxazine Purple will gray or soften any hue on your palette, but when doing this, use these brands: Folk Art Pure Pigment or Jo Sonjas Dioxazine Purple. Delta will work, but it does have some tint to it and it doesn't work quite as well as the other brands. When lightening colors, use the Off-White, then if you need it even a lighter value, add Titanium to that mix. I have all my students keep these colors along with the primary colors. Then, we can usually mix any color they might need in a pinch.

4. Remember to always keep those Baby Wipes in your paint carrier to wipe off that "oops"!

Happy painting to each and every one of you!



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