

The following 29 artists, who are members of the Appalachian Pastel Society, participated in this virtual group activity while “Sheltering-in-Place” at their homes. The artwork they created is shared here. Hugs and best wishes to all until we can meet together safely.

APS Adventures in Pastel...Adventure AAAA2 “Getting a Different Perspective”

Welcome to our second challenge for 2022! Like most artists you have probably noticed how every time you move, your perspective changes. This loss of the proper perspective has caused the demise of many paintings. This frustration has caused some to give up painting altogether! We want this challenge to help change your perspective on perspective.

History reveals that the ancient Greeks, Romans and Far Eastern cultures understood perspective and used this knowledge to produce wonderful art (See the illustration below). During the middle ages however most of these artistic sensibilities were lost. The designer of the dome for the Duomo in Florence, Giotto di Bondone (1277-1337), rediscovered the principles of linear perspective and the art world has never looked back.

In this challenge, you are being asked to explore how to create the illusion of space and distance on a flat surface using 1, 2 or 3 point perspective. You may use a single structure (interior or exterior) or multiple structures in your painting. A well known example of 1 point perspective is van Gogh’s bedroom (See the illustrations below). For this challenge we encourage you to do a little research on linear perspective. The internet has excellent illustrations or just dig out some of those “How To” art books you have tucked away.

Step 1: Select your subject and decide to use 1, 2 or 3 point perspective. This can be an interior or exterior view. You can also decide on a single structure or multiple structures. The choice is yours.

Step 2: You may want to start with some simple forms and add complexity as you proceed. Remember, this challenge is to explore and experiment so feel free to do just that!

Step 3: Take a photo of your painting and send it along with any comments about how you chose the perspective you employed and what experience you had in using it.

Step 4: Send a photo of your artwork **with title and size** along with your remarks to Kay Gordon (ikaygordon364@gmail.com) **by February 23rd at 6:00PM.**

Step 5: Remember, this deadline is firm and nothing can be posted that is received after 6:00PM on February 23rd. NOTE: Your painting does not need to be in its finished form. This adventure is to encourage all of us in exploring new methods and then sharing what we are learning with each other.

On your mark; get set; GO CHANGE YOUR PERSPECTIVE!

Anne Allen, Hendersonville

When Color Dances in the Windows 9 x 7.5



Soft pastel and pastel pencil on sanded paper

My art studio windows overlook gardens of color. Each year I anticipate the first blooms of Spring, the vibrant blue Dutch iris.

Slim emerald green stems are just 12" high in my garden this week. Not even a bud is in view. However, my sketch book is filled with every pose of the Dutch iris including flower stems, buds, and blooms. I recreated the garden in this painting from my charcoal sketches and memory. I included one of my paintings on the easel, inspiring me to paint again. A happy day to paint with pastel but the capturing perspective in the studio was a real challenge for me. Welcome back, Anne.

Catharin McCarthy Banta, Hendersonville

Morning Walk in NYC
12 x 9



I have had trouble in the past trying perspectives so I opted do use this photo of a one point perspective from a trip in New York this fall.

I started out using the complements of the yellow leaves, purples, and then the rest of the painting seemed to evolve on its own with this color palette instead of the grays and neutral colors that were in the photograph.

The road is darker in the front and leads back to the lighter area. This was actually the final one since I changed the sign on the right and darkened up the front some more.

I enjoyed doing this exercise. Thank you!

Jane Best, Morganton



Sentinels

9 x 12

Art Spectrum

Two old silos on a nearby farm.

I particularly enjoyed this exercise as structures are my favorite subjects to draw and paint.

I find perspective to be the most challenging part. One of my go to books is an old classic(1921) called "Perspective for Artists" by Rex Vicat Cole. I've had the book for many years and still have to refer to it often.

Thanks for this interesting challenge!

Beryl Bradley, Brevard, NC



Color Burst
12 x 9
Art Spectrum

Color Burst is on black 9x12 Art Spectrum sanded paper.

I'm not fond of painting flowers but decided to give myself an extra challenge by trying to show flowers in a field, showing close and far away blooms.

Thank you for all you do! These challenges get me painting, and as much as I enjoy it, sometimes it's hard to take the first stroke!

Deborah Chase, Hendersonville

Near the Bay
11 x 8.5



We were in the process of moving when I got the topic for this Adventure.

I located a couple of art books to freshen up on perspective and realized I had had enough of boxes.

Here is my quick study on the subject, now back to painting walls.

Nancy Clausen, Swannanoa

Rudelstadt Castle 9 x 12



Here's my Adventure Painting for February. The first image is of the painting itself. It's more or less finished, but I'm letting it sit for a while. The second image is of using the one point perspective. I thought of where I would have been standing which is in front of the building and that's where I began.

The building is an old castle in Eastern Germany. We looked over the valley many times while visiting. That year some renovations had been completed with a restaurant open. I really liked the colors of the stone work and that part of the building.

The paper I used was Pastel Premier, Italian grey. I used a variety of pastels and pencils, Rembrandt, Great American primarily and Faber Castell pencils. It was a stretch doing this, but well worth it.



Claire Crook, Hendersonville



Into the Sunset 9 x 12

This challenge was great for me. I had studied linear perspective in an art class way back in high school, have used it since, but this was a refresher that was needed.

"Into The Sunset" is 9"x12" on Uart paper.

Not finished yet, but I'm excited to get it done to give to my pilot husband.

Diane de Grasse, Black Mountain

San Gimignano

13 x 9



Nothing says vanishing lines like old Italian cities, so I scoured my vacation photos for this one in San Gimignano.

Not sure I got them all correctly angled, but I'd say it has at least 2 point perspective.

Packing for a trip at the same time, I'm not sure it's finished but I certainly enjoyed the diversion.

I used charcoal, hard and soft pastels on Art Spectrum paper. Thanks again!

Jennifer Donolo, Burlington, ON, Canada

Thank you for this great challenge! I enjoyed it so much! It's been raining here for days so I didn't paint outside with pastels and they aren't allowed to leave the studio and travel around the house, so a photo reference it was.



Backyard Shed

11 x 14

I used UART 400 grit Sand coloured pastel paper, Nupastels and Rembrandts and several different soft pastels—Unison, Terry Ludwig, Richeson, and others. I worked on a full sized sheet of UART, 12 x 18 inches in landscape format, and used the right hand side for my colour testing.

I have always loved this shed in my cousin's backyard, with its clean lines and happy disposition. Its textured board and batten surface and smooth metal roof catch the light.

My vantage point for my photos many summer's ago afforded me several different angles of this rectangular shaped object. I sought to paint it as a two-point perspective, making this rectangle shape recede in space back to the left.

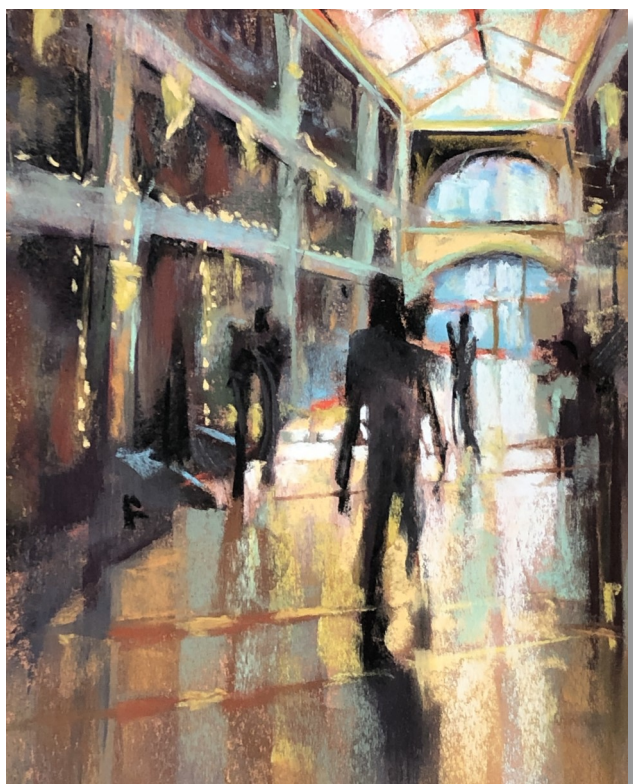
The shed's front corner closest to me bisected my horizon line. The lines of the roof-line, its lower roof edge, and ground line of the rectangle/shed are all parallel to each other and all appear to recede into the distance to their common vanishing point on the left. Similarly, parallel lines to the right of the same corner, such as the top and bottom of the door, also lead out to their common vanishing point to the right.

Thank you for this great challenge!

Terrilynn Dubreuil, Asheville

I chose to work on an image that I've had for a while .. I keep playing with it but, to date, I am not quite satisfied with it as a painting. As a sketch, it's fine.

Here are 2 of my most recent attempts (done after the Call to AAAA-2). The first "Arcade 1" is rather eerie and almost hints of a dystopian zombie existence, so with the second "Arcade 2" I tried to fill it with light and air. Both are done on Lux Archival with an underwash of Golden High Flow Acrylic, burnt sienna.



Arcade 1 10 x 8



Arcade 2 10 x 8

I have NO idea why this image is so frustrating to me. I love using perspective - and in this case it is an off-center, 1 point perspective - but it is not easy for me, perhaps not quite organic enough. I DID try to keep the figures and reflections loose. I have taught perspective for years so it's not the drawing .. but it seems to be something in the painting of the arcade recesses. Who knows? I'm glad I tried it a couple times .. to push through my discomfort zone.

Thanks for the challenge.

Will Evans, Fairview

Attached is my submission for the Perspective challenge.

11x14, two point perspective titled "Survivor" on Pastel Premiere "Italian Clay".

It is constructed on a simple two point perspective but there are many details that play into the whole, creating the challenge of a perspective in a perspective, such as openings and the cupola.



Survivor

11 x 14

Some of you know that my husband, Pete, enjoys cooking. When we built a house many years ago on our farm in Madison County, we designed our own kitchen. We did the construction ourselves...lived there happily for 20 + years...and then sold the farm and moved closer to town.



We have a lovely kitchen in our new house, but Pete has never been satisfied with “his” new kitchen. So, I used this Adventure Challenge to paint a picture for him of his former kitchen. I will hang it in his office where he can always remind himself what he is missing!

The “vanishing point” in this picture is in the wall space above the door. I had expected it to be farther out, and had even initially set up on a large sheet of paper above my piece of burgundy Canson Mi-Tientes to plan the guidelines for the perspective.



I used Pan Pastels, Creatacolor pastels, and then Derwent Pastel Pencils for the fine lines and details.

Alec Hall, Hendersonville

Title: September Gold

Size: 9" x 13"

Surface: UART 500 grit

This is a small study of my neighbor's farm in Michigan.

Painting buildings really is not my thing, so I played with the clouds and the trees as a reward to myself for my time spent on the buildings. Sadly, the old red barn burned down 2 years after I took the reference photo.

Think Spring!

Alec



September Gold

9 x 13

Susan Harkins, Vilas, NC



The Little Chapel

9 x 12

I usually paint landscapes and avoid buildings, so it was good for me to revisit perspective drawing.

After watching a few YouTube videos I chose to do a 2 pt perspective of this chapel in our neighborhood.

I used Mi-Teintes paper and new pastels. I actually enjoyed this exercise and am sure I need more practice. But now I feel more confident to include buildings in my paintings.

Thank you for this challenge!

Mona Hearne, Matthews, NC

Big Talbot Park

4 x 5

This little painting is from a photo I took when I was in Big Talbot Park, Florida several years ago and is a 4x5 on Wallis Museum.

My sticks were a few hard pastels, but mostly Ludwigs.

Linear perspective....I need to practice! :):)

Thanks for the challenge



I actually painted Big Talbot twice.
So amusing...I had a scrap of Wallis and cut it into 4x5 pieces
The Title of each is "BIG TALBOT PARK"
(Different color schemes)

Toni Hutcheson, Pisgah Forest, NC



(no title)
12 x 16

I am not finished with this ...plan to put a banana plant next to bench plus fill in the rest of the leaves, blooms, ect.

Pastel mat...12x16

Kathy Hutchinson, Rutherfordton, NC

I am the Lighthouse
(inspired by the song)
7 x 10



This is a study done on an underpainting of local color.

It is on unsanded pastel paper so the tooth filled too quickly but I will do this again on sanded paper and with a far more vibrant underpainting.

Once again thanks for the challenge .. deadline.. as it got me painting.





I just finished a one point perspective of an apple orchard for the Plein Air entry.

I decided to try another painting to show a multiple point perspective.

6 Feet Apart
9 x 12



6 Feet Apart was inspired by Van Gogh's Bedroom. The light coming through the windows displays a different angle from the position of the chairs which weren't straight, but at different angles themselves. The boards of the floor gradually point towards the windows and meet in the center of the room.

I titled it 6 Feet Apart to illustrate what an impact the Covid virus has on us, as we have to distance ourselves from one another.

Karen Knaub, Lake Lure

Another challenging challenge.

What I learned is that I can't draw a straight line.

I will have to revisit this challenge again.

It was fun. Thank you



Come on In
9 x 11



Afternoon at Biltmore 9 x 9

Attached is my drawing titled "Afternoon at Biltmore."

It is on UART 600 pastel paper and is 9" x9".

My thanks to whoever comes up with these different challenges as it sometimes gets hard to get moving on a painting.

I enjoyed planning this one out, but I still need to make better color choices (or enlarge my pastel collection).

Anyway, thanks.

Regina Linton, Fletcher, NC

Wow, I need practice with perspective, and this challenge excited me!

This is an 11 x 14 on UArt 320.

It is a church in Hobro, Denmark called Rorbaek Kirke. My great grandfather built the church tower around 1910.

The gardens there are beautiful and well manicured.



Morton's Tower 11 x 14

Margaret V Lyn-Soroken, Black Mountain

Stacked Peanuts Drying

5 x 9



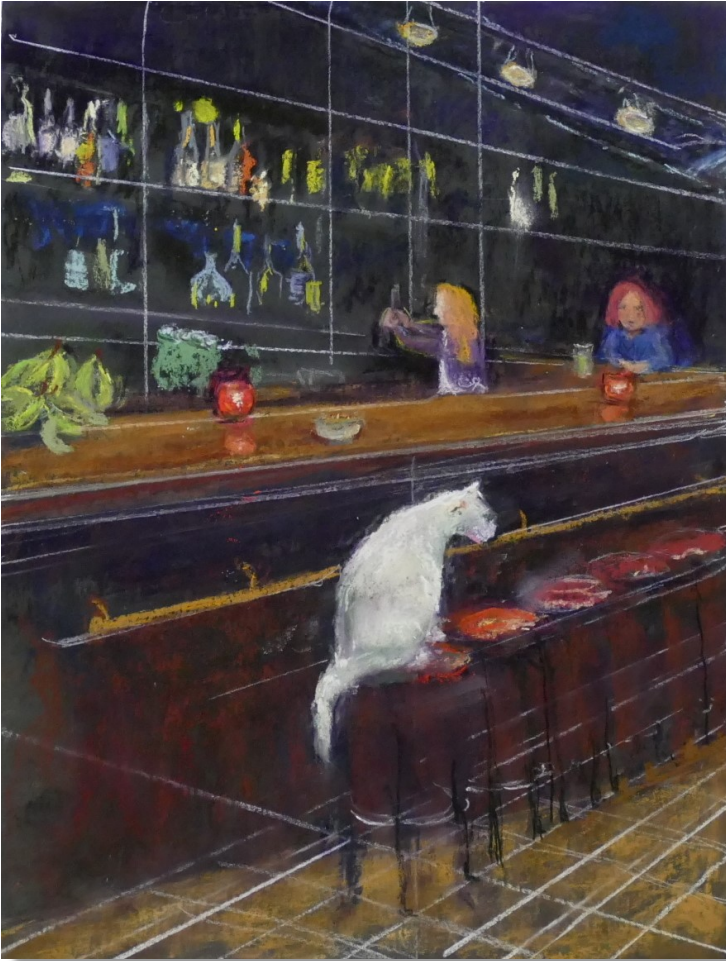
Medium: pastel on paper

Sketch from found photo...

I liked the perspective here.

I'm on the road with limited supplies but appreciated study of perspective.

Meryl Meyer, Weaverville, NC



White Cat in Amsterdam—Study
12 x 9
on Deep Black Art Spectrum
sanded paper

perspective study

I was in Amsterdam about 5 years ago. My husband and I were walking down a side street near our hotel suffering from Jet lag. I saw a big white cat sitting at a bar !

I could not believe my eyes nor resist the photo op. We went in and I ended up buying a "space cake" and We got a good night's sleep.

This one point perspective proposed many challenges. It was an indoor nocturnal scene, the paper did not have enough tooth, and getting everything into perspective required extending my lines outward past my paper. I generally do not do a lot of paintings with perspective which is this complicated but appreciate the challenge.

I plan to repaint this subject using Uart Dark/Black.



Frankie Milhorn, Weaverville, NC



Perspective (aerial)

Title-“ Sweet Home Alabama “

Size- 15.5 x 19.5

Remarks- My dad and his brothers grew up visiting his grandmother each summer out in the country of Notasulga, Alabama, and he had such great memories. He pencil sketched the house, front dirt drive, and dirt back yard, along with the surrounding areas for me as he told me stories of his times there.

I took his sketch and called upon his only living brother and my Mom to help me fill in the gaps to paint and colorize this scene.

My beloved Dad passed back in 2003. I think he would be proud of how it turned out. The fields alternated growing corn and cotton. My great grandmother insisted upon having only dirt (no grass) in the back yard because of her fear of snakes.

Christine Robinson, Leicester, NC

The Old Clock Tower
10 x 8
on sketchbook paper



Attached is my entry for whatever A adventure we are now doing. I've lost track, too many A's. And look, it's not even 5:55 pm.

Because I was short on time I decided to do this as a color study for a larger painting I will paint later. I'm trying to learn to push the colors a bit, from the original photos, for a more interesting painting.

This photo intrigued me because the darks are very dark, the lights bright, but there is also a lot of reflected light that creates interest in the shadow areas. Unfortunately because this wasn't on pastel paper I ran out of tooth before I could put the really light lights, but I learned a lot that will help me with the larger painting by doing this color study.

Still loving how these adventures are pushing me to do things I wouldn't have even thought of on my own. I'm learning so much.

Jack Richeson, Terry Ludwig, and Schmincke pastels

Andrea Stutesman, Black Mountain

Title: Amsterdam Bridges

Size: 16" x 20"

Pastels: Soft - Terry Ludwig and Richeson

Paper: UArt 400

I saw this view on my trip to Amsterdam in 2015. This picture was constructed from two separate photos of the same bridge, upper and lower portions, with people's heads in the way, which increased the challenge. I loved the repeating bridges in the distance.



It is a one-point perspective piece. The upper-level bicycles were also interesting to paint along with the railing on the opposite side of the bridge as my picture had a van sitting in the way.

Amsterdam Bridges

20 x 16

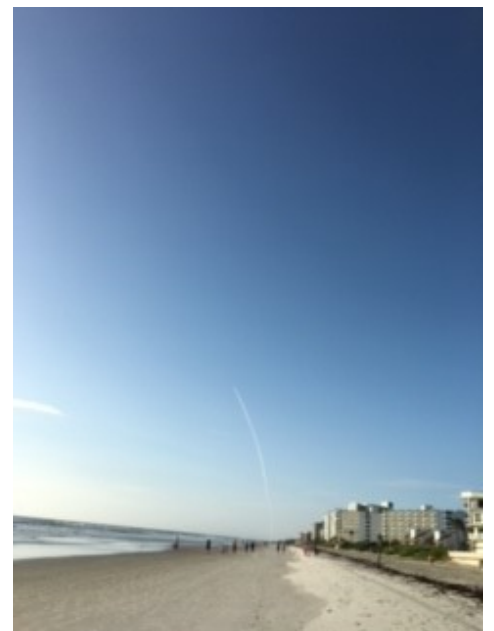
Donna Tweedle, Leesburg, FL

The challenge for me on this painting more to get the perspective right on the figures that I was moving around.

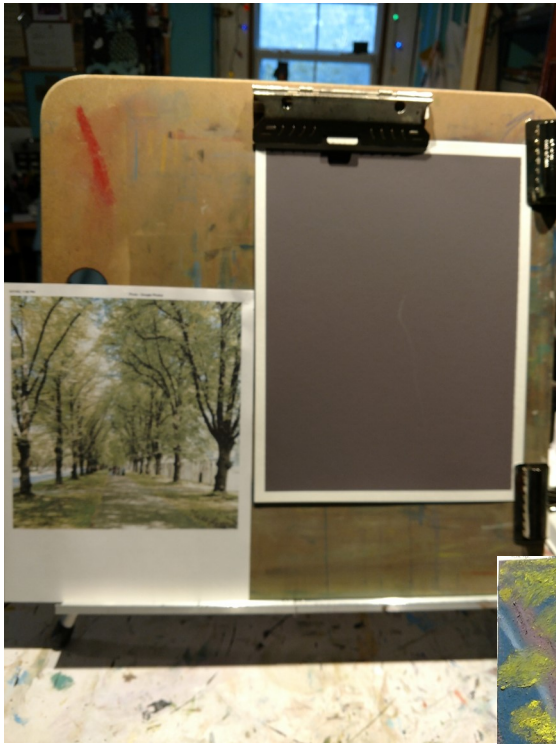
“Watching the Launch” 16x20 on Richeson board, Richeson soft pastels ,Ludwig and Caron ‘D ache hard sticks.

Watching the Launch

20 x 16



Ruth Whitaker, Newnan, GA

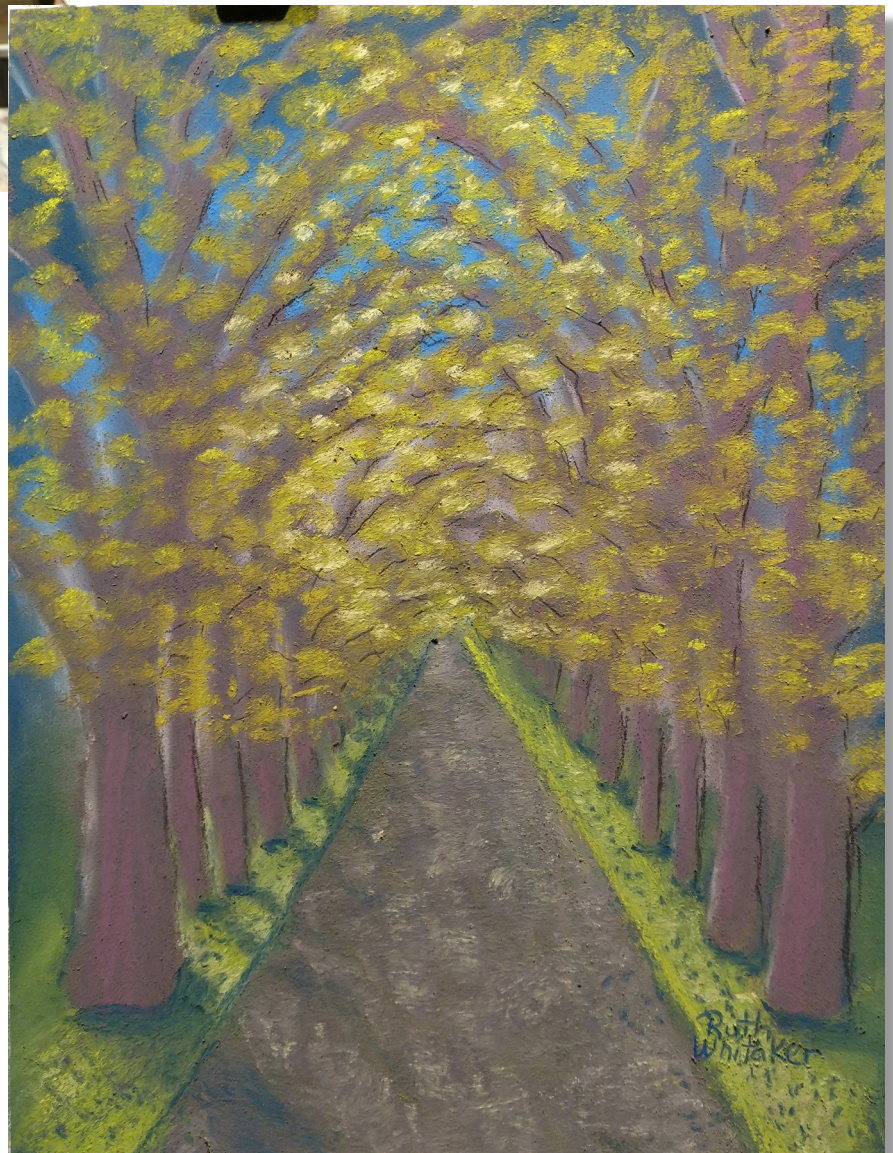


The one photo shows the paper and my reference photo. The photo was taken in Latvia 2 summers ago during a short mission trip.

Next photo is finished painting. I'm hoping this is a one point perspective.

I started with a 9x12 Art spectrum Deep Ultra paper. I used assorted soft pastels and pastel pencil.

I drew the tree trunks and branches in first and then negative painted the sky and background. Then proceeded with walkway and leaves on trees.



A Long Walk

12 x 9

Sawyer Bear Whitemiller, Cape Coral, FL



I had a hard time at first understanding the concept, but when I did understand it, I had a few ideas.

I finally came up with this picture of me when I was competing in trampoline. The apparatus I painted is called a double-mini trampoline, and the rest of the painting is the arena where the competition was held.

I took away a few details from the reference photo to make it less distracting.

The painting was really fun to do.

A Perspective of Gymnastics 10 x 13



Much appreciation to all who participated and shared their paintings and their memories!