

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 29, 2023
7:00p-9:00p Introductions, setup, first lesson
Mon – Fri Oct. 30 –Nov. 3
8:45a-5:00p Teaching sessions
Saturday Nov. 4
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 Twenty-Second Annual Prosopon Iconography Workshop

**Basic and
Advanced Workshop
St. Symeon the God-Receiver**



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.

Oct. 29-Nov 4, 2023

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, 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 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. This depiction of the Archangel Gabriel is now maintained by the Russian State Museum in St. Petersburg.

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 *Archangel Gabriel*. 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 *St. Symeon the God-Receiver*.

"There was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon...And it had been revealed to him...that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And...he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus,... he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples,"

This will be an in-depth study of an enlarged, bearded head. The size of the board will be the usual student size. Unlike other years, for this particular icon, we will all move together as a big group, with no pre-gilding required. Your boards will be ordered for you. You may wish to bring some of your own tools and pigments, however.

Tuition: \$800

Reservations will be made in order of \$200 deposits (Venmo, PayPal, check) received (refundable until Oct. 15, 2023). 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.)

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