



# Community Outreach

## Oakland Veterans Project: Arrange it — Draw it — Paint it — Eat it!



Sliced grapefruit was the subject for the Oakland veterans January meeting, though not from a photo as usual, but in a real still life. Each vet was given a zip lock bag of sliced ruby red grapefruit and a plate. They created their own arrangement. Then drew it and painted it with some guidance from Michael Friedland. Participants on Zoom also viewed and participated in this class.



This deceptively simple project was inspired by Heather Martin's General Meeting demonstration last summer. Her paintings featured gorgeous transparency in the fruit and pigment shades in the pith and rind—seen, but not seen at first. Heather's work was not in the classroom to be copied.



The vets were challenged on many fronts: observation, composition, design, drawing, color mixing and painting. The paintings here show how they rose to the occasion.



Eating the fruit was a welcome reward, sweet and refreshing. Plus the vets were excited! A number of them discussed with me after class the supplies we would recommend for putting together their own watercolor kits for painting outside of class.

A CWA mission accomplished!

*Sheila Cain*

Co-Director, Community Outreach



### From Heather Martin...

“ Oh, my gooooodness, Sheila, this is so awesome! What a wonderful surprise! I hope everyone had a lot of fun studying the grapefruit from life. It makes such a difference. I really love all of the different compositions and styles. They're so fascinating and unique!

Thank you so much for sharing. It was a highlight of my day! ”

Artist's website at [www.heatherihnart.com](http://www.heatherihnart.com)



Photo of actual grapefruit slices