

R|A|M

Patterned Circles Inspired by *Watercolor Wisconsin*

Watercolor Wisconsin is an annual juried exhibition at RAM's Wustum Museum that started in 1966. The 2023 exhibition features 96 works by 80 artists from throughout the state. Take inspiration from *Circles*, a painting in *Watercolor Wisconsin 2023* by Elizabeth Sawyer Kelly, to draw or paint an optical illusion using household items.



Elizabeth Sawyer Kelly
Circles, 2023
Watercolor
Photography:
Elizabeth Sawyer Kelly



Supplies

- Paper
- Pencil
- Circular object to trace
- Crayons or oil pastels
- Watercolor paint (optional)



Instructions

1. Find a round household object to trace a perfect circle on your paper.
2. Trace your round object using a pencil to create enough circles to fill the whole page. Layer the circles on top of one another to create a sense of dimension.
3. Draw a unique pattern inside each circle.
4. Use crayons or oil pastels to add color to the designs within the circles.
5. Color in the background. You can use crayons or oil pastels, or paint a watercolor wash over the entirety of the page. A watercolor wash is a layer of somewhat transparent color applied with diluted watercolor paint.

