

Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association Class **Beginner Workshops with Mari Solberg Smith**

The Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association is pleased to announce our next set of Beginner Workshops. These classes will be on Zoom, **Wednesday** evenings in October, 2025.

Rosemaling is a Norwegian Folk Art, traditionally done in oil paint on wooden objects such as plates, bowls, boxes and trunks. There are many styles of rosemaling with both common and defining characteristics. Beginning students learn the fundamental stroke work to create designs including scrolls, flowers, linework and borders.

The INRA Beginner Workshops are offered as sets of three classes throughout the year either via Zoom or in-person. Students may take the three classes at any time throughout the year as fits their schedule. Students completing all three classes will learn to create fundamental rosemaling designs including scrolls, flowers, linework and borders. Images used in this announcement are for inspiration. Completing all three classes will prepare students for future rosemaling classes at the advanced beginner level. Students may sign up individually for one or all of the workshops in a series to accomplish their goals and as fits their schedule.



This current offering of classes will be held 10/1, 8 & 15, 6-9pm.

Class Descriptions

Class 1. (October 1, 6-9pm) What is Rosemaling? - The first class in the series describes the history and styles of rosemaling, showcasing rosemaled objects from Norway and America, and includes a demonstration and description of the process and materials involved in rosemaling. No supplies are needed for this first class. (Class 1 may be taken independently of Classes 2 & 3.)

Class 2. (October 8, 6-9pm) Beginning Stroke Work - The second class includes learning and practicing the strokes and linework used in the art of rosemaling. We will learn the basic strokes (C stroke, S stroke, crescent, teardrops) and linework, then move on to creating designs by combining strokes. Students will learn to prepare and transfer patterns, and discuss freehand painting of designs. Our class will finish by preparing a pattern and painting surface for Class 3. (Classes 1 & 2 may be taken independently of Class 3.)

Class 3. (October 15, 6-9pm) Project construction – During this third class, students will paint a simple rosemaling design from either a pattern or of their own design. Students may work on practice boards and/or woodenware. Students will have the opportunity for individual teacher feedback as they work. (Students are to have completed Classes 1 & 2, or the equivalent, before taking class 3. [Contact inrarosemaling@gmail.com](mailto:inrarosemaling@gmail.com) if you have equivalency questions.)

A general supply list of materials that are most often needed by students for rosemaling classes will be presented in class 1 and the list sent to those who register for classes 2 and 3. Students may purchase small woodenware pieces from an outside source or work on practice boards for their final project in class 3. Estimated supply costs for a new rosemaler can vary depending on brands and quality of materials purchased. Supplies needed and woodenware suppliers will be covered in the first class.

These three classes will prepare students for rosemaling project classes at the advanced beginner level. Practicing your strokework/linework is the next step towards improving your skills. Project/Design classes are offered in-person and online throughout the year by various rosemaling groups located around the country.

Registering for your first INRA workshop includes paying your membership dues. As this class is in November the dues payment will apply to 2026. INRA membership includes advanced notice of classes, general meetings with presentation/activities 3x/year, member-only Zoom Studio sessions, opportunities for exhibit and sale of your rosemaling items, access to our library of rosemaling books, and our newsletter, *Avisen*. Additional resources and more information are provided in the classes above to help you continue your rosemaling journey.

TEACHER BIOGRAPHY: Mari Solberg Smith has been rosemaling for ten years, taking many online and in-person rosemaling classes with esteemed rosemaling instructors. She participates actively in the Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association and holds the positions of librarian and education chair. Mari hosts the INRA's Zoom classes and studios, and enjoys painting in oils and acrylics for herself and for family and friends. In addition to teaching beginner rosemaling classes, she has entered pieces into exhibitions and competitions, and has begun to sell her work.



RECAP OF CLASS DETAILS:

- Teacher's Name: Mari Solberg Smith
- Project: Skills and practice, completion of project on practice board or woodenware
- Venue: Zoom
- Medium: Demo will include oil & acrylic paint, all painters welcome
- Level: True beginners and up
- Skills: Basic rosemaling strokes & linework
- Class Hours total: Students may register for 1 – 3 class sessions of 3 hours each
- Dates: Wednesdays, 10/1, 8 & 15, 6-9pm
- Class Fee per class:
 - \$55 for Class 1 (add 2026 INRA membership dues of \$20 if not yet paid)
 - \$55 for Class 2 (once a 2025 or 2026 INRA member)
 - \$55 for Class 3 (once a 2025 or 2026 INRA member)
- 3 students minimum, and maximum 10 for classes 2 & 3, no refunds unless place is filled from a waiting list. The waiting list may be used to offer each class at another time.
- Additional Costs: None for class 1. A general rosemaling materials supply list will be presented in class 1 and sent to those enrolling in class 2 & 3, as part of their registration confirmation. This will include information about painting surfaces, brushes, and oil and acrylic paints. Approximate costs for start-up rosemaling supplies range from \$50-\$150 depending on brands and quality of materials purchased.

REGISTRATION PERIOD:

Registration is open for these classes. Registration ends when the class is full. Students may register for classes as fits their schedule and experience level. Please complete the registration form on page 4. You may use Venmo and email us your registration form and receipts, or mail us the form and a check as described on the registration form.

QUESTIONS: Please contact Mari Smith [at inrarosemaling@gmail.com](mailto:inrarosemaling@gmail.com) for more information or questions regarding these classes.



The Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association, www.rosemaling.org, began in 1977 in Illinois, U.S.A., and its mission is to promote the beautiful and unique art of Norwegian Rosemaling. Now, after close to fifty years of providing educational opportunities and shows of rosemaling in the Chicagoland area, we are proud to offer nationwide classes through the Zoom platform.

INRA REGISTRATION FORM FOR EDUCATION CLASSES AND EVENTS

Your Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Beginner Workshops with Mari Solberg Smith

Please check all appropriate line(s), pay membership fee once:

- _____ Class 1: What is Rosemaling? October 1, 6-9pm
_____ \$ 55 for all (Nonmembers pay INRA dues of \$20 at this time)
_____ Class 2: Beginning Strokework October 8, 6-9pm
_____ \$ 55 (once an INRA member)
_____ Class 3: Project Construction October 15, 6-9pm
_____ \$ 55 (once an INRA member)

Information given below is for teacher's awareness and planning purposes:

Student will be using oils _____ or acrylics _____ in class.

Student's self-reported painting experience level:

True Beginner _____ Beginner _____ Advanced Beginner _____ Other _____

Note: 3 students minimum, and maximum of 10 for classes 2 & 3. No refunds unless place is filled by another student from a waiting list. The waitlist may be used to offer a repeat of this class at a future time.

Please send registration form and check (payable to: INRA), to: INRA, c/o Mari S. Smith, 3625 McCormick Ave, Brookfield, Illinois 60513.

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We are now accepting Venmo payment between friends. Please use the QR code on the right to access Venmo. Our username is inrrosemaling. Send images of your Venmo receipt and your registration form [to inrrosemaling@gmail.com](mailto:inrrosemaling@gmail.com) for registration processing. If assistance is needed, contact Mari Smith at inrrosemaling@gmail.com for more information.

