

Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association

Beginner Workshop with Mari Solberg Smith

The Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association is pleased to announce our next Beginner Workshop. This class will be in-person at Good Templar Park in Geneva, Illinois. on October 31, 2026. All supplies and a simple lunch are included in the price of the all-day class.

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.

This INRA Beginner Workshop is offered as a one-day in-person from 9am to 4:00pm. Lunch is included in the cost of the class. Students completing this all-day class will learn to create a fundamental rosemaling design including scrolls, flowers, linework and borders, and will be prepared for future rosemaling classes at the advanced beginner level.



CLASS GOALS:

What is Rosemaling? – We will begin with the history and styles of rosemaling and include a demonstration and description of the process and the supplies and surfaces used. Students will leave knowing the start up supplies and those supplies they can buy as they progress in their new hobby. Students will learn the steps of completing a rosemaling project.

Beginning Stroke Work - The second goal 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.

Project construction – Before the end of the day students will paint a simple rosemaling design from either a pattern or of their own design. Students may work on free practice boards and/or small woodenware pieces that will be available for purchase. Students will have the opportunity for individual teacher feedback as they work.

SUPPLIES: Supplies will be provided by the INRA for this in-person class. Students may purchase small woodenware pieces from the teacher during class or work on free chip board for their final project.

VENUE DETAILS: Good Templar Park is located at 528 East Side Dr, in Geneva, IL, between US 64 and US 38. We will be in the white building at the back of the soccer fields and there is a gravel parking lot just outside the building. There will be soccer games during the day but our class begins at 9AM so feel free to arrive any time after 8:30am. Use the center door for the classroom.

LODGING and RESTAURANTS: Lodging is available at several hotels within 10 minutes of the venue near the intersection of US64 and S Tyler Rd. A simple lunch will be provided. There are many restaurant options in downtown Geneva and St. Charles for your dinner dining.

RECAP OF CLASS DETAILS:

- Teacher's Name: Mari Solberg Smith
- Project: Skills and practice, completion of project on practice board or woodenware
- Venue: Good Templar Park, 528 East Side Drive, Geneva, IL 60134
- Medium: Student choice of oil &/or acrylic paint, paints supplied, all painters welcome
- Level: True beginners and up
- Skills: Basic rosemaling strokes & linework
- Class Hours: 7
- Date: October 31, 2026, 9am – 4pm including 30-minute lunch
- Class Fee: \$100 (includes a simple lunch and 2027 INRA membership dues)
- 6 students minimum, and maximum of 12 students, no refunds unless place is filled from a waiting list. The waiting list may be used to offer the class a second time later in the year.
- Additional Costs: The INRA will provide painting supplies needed, except for the final project piece. Woodenware options (\$5 to \$10) will be available for purchase during class but students may use supplied practice boards.

QUESTIONS: Please contact Mari Smith at inrarosemaling@gmail.com for more information or questions regarding this class.

TEACHER BIOGRAPHY: Mari Solberg Smith has been rosemaling for more than 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 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, recently winning blue ribbons at the Wisconsin Syttende Mai 2026 competition and an Honorable Mention ribbon at the 2026 Vesterheim National Norwegian-American Folk Art Exhibition.



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: _____

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Please check all appropriate line(s):

_____ \$100 (includes 2027 dues and lunch)

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: 6 students minimum, and maximum of 12 students, no refunds unless place is filled from a waiting list. The waiting list may be used to offer the class a second time later in the year.

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



OR

____ Cash or ____ Check or ____ Venmo with ____ completed registration form at Vasa Park or CITW event

OR

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