

## Printing on Fabric the Colors of the Sea

September 15-19, 2025 Santa Fe, Bar Harbor, Maine  
[Madeline Island School of the Arts \(MISA\)](http://www.madelineislandartschool.com)

Questions? Contact Pat at [PatPaulyArt@gmail.com](mailto:PatPaulyArt@gmail.com)



### Class Description

Take inspiration from the land, folk patterns, and architecture of Bar Harbor and transfer them graphically with textile dyes to cloth. This workshop offers direct printing processes that will capture the motif and hue of the oceanside. We will use thickened dyes to print with silkscreens, monoprint, rubbing, stencils and other techniques that will take advantage of the environmental cues of the sea. The finished fabric can be used from abstract wall art to garments.

### Materials Fee: \$80

#### All Levels

**Materials** 30" x 60" (old OK) piece of batting (low loft) or fleece, or flat blanket to pad table for printing  
Old clothes to wear, apron, rubber gloves

4 washcloths or towels sized as washcloths for cleanup (no paper towels)

Small high density foam paint roller 4-6", optional large foam paint roller about 8"

3 Wide scrapers 4"– 6" –like Bondo brand putty scrapers (paint department of home store)

9 long handled spoons (approx. 10") like kitchen baking size – to stir dye. NO Stir sticks!

Partial Roll of blue masking tape, roll duct tape for taping silkscreens

Two sharpie markers

9 yogurt or plastic food containers (16-32 oz) with lids (tall, not shallow containers)

Scissors for cloth and paper, optional rotary cutter for paper or plastic

Notebook, pencil/pen, 6 sheets of copy paper

Camera, phone camera, or something to remember processes!

Optional if driving: One small 2-3 gallon bucket

**Things for printing:** 1-2 yards of string, thin plastic premade stencils, cutouts from plastic (under 1/16"). Please just bring a handful – not a boxful!

**Notebook** of ideas for graphic motif IMPORTANT TO HAVE SOME READY See my Pinterest board <https://www.pinterest.com/patpaulymotif-for-surface-design/>

**Silk screens** 4 (or more) 16" x 20" or similar size. (order from Dick Blick <http://www.dickblick.com/products/blick-cord-stretched-frame-with-110-monofilament-polyester-mesh/>) or purchase \$35 from Pat Pauly at the class. *Try your luck, or send Pat an email to [reserve patpaulyart@gmail.com](mailto:patpaulyart@gmail.com)*

## Materials for workshop with Pat Pauly page 2

**Fabric: 15 yards minimum**, cut 5 into ½ yard pieces, leave 10 as whole yards (feel free to bring more like 20 yards) of pfd 100% cotton. I order from Test Fabrics #419. Call for prices and availability.

**To prepare fabric for printing for this class: To see videos on my blog [piecesanresistance.blogspot.com](http://piecesanresistance.blogspot.com) , search in the group of words at bottom of blog for “video” to see all the printing videos, and suggestions on how I soda soak.**

<https://piecesandresistance.blogspot.com/2020/06/how-i-soda-soak-fabric.html>

1. **This is really important! BEFORE SODA SOAKING YOUR FABRIC** (step 2) **Sew tags with a sewing machine (not pinned or stapled) to your fabric** with tyvek (old US mail envelopes, add in sharpie marker your *first name and last initial* . These tags should hang off one corner, can be larger than 3” x 4”, but not smaller
2. **Soda Soak** Make ahead of class, soda soak your fabric. In a large bucket add one gallon warm water to one cup sodium carbonate (soda ash), add fabric loosely (a few pieces at a time) to this solution and soak 15 minutes or more. Longer is ok, so chill! Also, please use gloves for anytime you handle soda soaked fabric, both wet and dry! The soda ash is corrosive to metals like aluminum, but doesn’t effect glass, plastic. It will dry your hands considerably, so wear gloves wet or dry.
3. Ring out by hand, hang on a line to dry, **do not dry in dryer**. Here’s a tip: after soaking, ring by hand slightly, then place in the bottom of a laundry tub or bathtub or shower, or similar (I’ve even used an empty bucket) to let “drain” for a while or overnight, and then when hanging up fabric there is a minimal drip of soda ash solution.
4. Smooth by hand and fold. They do relax and are fairly flat. Don’t worry about wrinkles! We’ll talk about how to deal with that, so ironing isn’t necessary.

