

The Studio Incamminati story

Founded in 2002 by Nelson and Leona Shanks, Studio Incamminati is an advanced art academy - known as an atelier - distinguished by its rigorous curriculum and teaching methods which fuse the classical traditions of the Renaissance-era masters, the luminous color of the Impressionists and a fresh, contemporary sensibility.

Under the guidance of instructors who are themselves accomplished artists, students progress through a series of increasingly difficult disciplines which hone both artistic skills and the ability to convey meaning through their paintings.



The curriculum core stems from Nelson Shanks' unwavering commitment to the belief that mastery of technique is the essential prelude to creative expression.



Even the name "Studio Incamminati" is filled with symbolism. In Italian, "Incamminati" means "moving forward." The name also invokes the spirit and practices of its namesake - the studio founded by the great Renaissance artist, Annibale Carracci.

The name also reflects Founder and Artistic Director Nelson Shanks' commitment to handing his philosophy and techniques to a new generation. Studio Incamminati helps fulfill his vision through its full-time Professional Program, its workshops for the general public and art educators and its award-winning outreach programs for school-age artists.



Nelson Shanks is a world-renowned artist famous for his portraits of international luminaries ranging from Pope John Paul II to Princess Diana. His philosophy and techniques are the culmination of decades he has spent seeking and learning, painting and teaching.