Portrait Commissions
offered by Amanda Scharf

Pet Portraits

Pet Portrait (1 Pet) $150-$300
   Choose between full-body or portrait crop with a simple background. Any additional pet included in the artwork will be an additional $75.

Pet Painting (1 Pet) $250-$500
   Full-body portrait of your fuzzy family member with a defined background/scene. Any additional pet included in the artwork will be an additional $75.

Couples & Family Portraits

Singular Portrait $200-$400
   Portrait of an individual with a simple background. Add a fuzzy family member for $75 each.

Couples/Wedding Portrait $300-$800
   Choose a favorite photo (or set of photos) to use as the reference source to create a truly memorable piece of art. Add a fuzzy family member for $75 each.

Family Portrait $600-$1,500
   Choose a favorite photo (or set of photos) to use as the reference source to create a truly memorable piece of art. Depending on your preferences, the background can be simplistic or have a more defined scene.

*All portrait options are Black & White digital paintings by default.
Color and personalized accents can be incorporated for an additional fee, which is also based on the complexity of project.

*Available slots are 3 at a time; first come first serve basis. A waiting list will be generated if necessary. Please email at ascharf.1@go.ccad.edu
An invoice will be sent via Paypal and a deposit of the first half of the quoted artwork price will be required to secure your slot before work is started on your project.
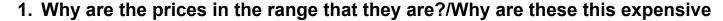Failure to pay the deposit in a timely manner forfeits your slot on my work list. A contract will be generated to secure both parties' understanding of payment, production time, etc. Work will begin once both signatures are fulfilled on the contract. Turnaround time is

A digital copy will be provided via Email or Google Drive to the client as part of the package, giving the client the option to print it out at their convenience. A physical copy of the finished artwork can be produced by the artist and shipped to the client for an additional fee. Standard size is 11x14" at 300 DPI.

***Watercolor portraits are available as an alternative to digital for an additional fee. Anyone choosing the watercolor option will have their finished artwork shipped to them, with a high-resolution scan of artwork provided via Email or Google Drive.

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Commission FAQ

1. **Why are the prices in the range that they are?/Why are these this expensive**

   Answer: The prices range based on the complexity of the project. If all that I am asked to paint is pulled from 1 image source, and I'm asked to "recreate" it by giving it a painted finish and quality to it, then it will be on the lower side of the listed price points. If several photos are used to create a new scene/image, then I'm constantly referencing from several different sources and constantly checking my drawing for accurate likeness of the subject matter, color and lightsource, etc. Since I'm creating a completely new image from several sources, it natually takes more time. Black and white vs color is also a huge factor. However, each project I undertake is truly unique, and several different factors are ultimately based on the price. I will do my best to work with you and discuss your options so you can be confident that you are getting a fair price for your project.

2. **Why would I want to use multiple images/references for a portrait if it's going to be more expensive?**

   Answer: Let's say it's your wedding day, and as good of a job as your photographer did, they just didn't couldn't capture that one magic moment between you and your partner you wanted. Maybe they got that one photo of you that makes you look fantastic, but not so much for your partner. Maybe the photographer got this endearing photo of you two laughing and having a special moment, but it's in a hotel hallway and not your lovely decorated venue. I can redraw people and environments from adequate references and work with you to create that one-magical moment you wanted out of your photos. Or, if you have a pose that you really like, but didn't care for the background, or for the one uncle who photo-bombed you, the background can be changed and the uncle removed.

3. **Will you paint same-sex couple and anyone else from the LGBTQ+ community and their families?**

   Answer: Yes! I do not discriminate my clientele.

4. **Will you paint me and my partner portraying an intimate sexy moment or nudity for that matter?**

   Answer: No. I'm more than okay with painting an embracing/kissing couple, but let's keep it clean enough that we could hang your finished art on the wall, and proudly show it off when family comes over. Swimsuits on beach day is completely different; those are okay!

5. **But I really really like this idea and want you to do it? Can you do something with underwear/lingerie?**

   Answer: If you have something tasteful in mind feel free to shoot me an email and we can talk. But I'm going to stress that I will only work on the project if it's *tasteful*. Also, I will require confirmation of age for all persons who I'm portraying if I do agree to work on your project.

6. **Digital vs Traditional-which should I choose? Do I have the option for acrylic or oil? What if I really wanted my project on a canvas?**

   Answer: It really comes down to your personal preferences and budget when choosing which medium you want. My digital style has a painterly/semi-photo realistic quality to it. As for watercolor, a lot of people (including myself) love watercolor for that unique, delicate and loose quality that watercolor has to offer. The Digital option will by default be cheaper overall, but going with Watercolor the original physical painting is included in your charge (not including shipping).
   I'm not outfitted to paint in oils in my studio, and honestly, I haven't touched them in over a decade. If you really want acrylic, we can talk but I will most likely turn your project away if you are adamant about acrylics. There are options to have your digital project printed on canvas, but I don't have the time and resources to help you fulfill that part of the order.

7. **My portrait project is finished and I love it! Why should I have you print it for me instead of me taking it to an on-demand place to print it out?**

   Answer: Getting things printed can be a tricky business, especially if you don't know where to go or what types of finishes are best. I can't guarantee the quality of the physical product or how vivid/accurate the colors will be if it's printed anywhere outside of my studio. I have a large-format professional-quality Epson photo printer in my studio that I use to print out my illustrations, and the quality dwarfs many on-demand print services.

8. **Alright then, what type of paper and sizes can you print on? Why is this an additional charge and not included?**

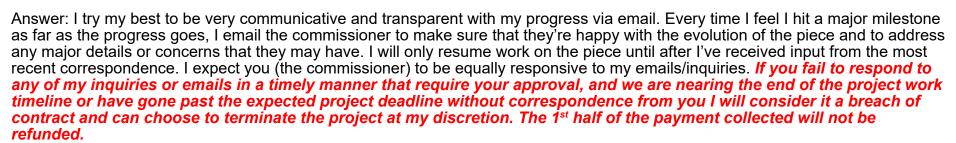   Answer: I use Epson paper to get the best results with my Epson printer. I have Matte and Semi-Gloss finishes that I can print an 11"x14" image on. This is an additional charge because A) I'm investing more time and materials to print, and B) some people are just happy with the digital formats and don't need a physical copy. Plus, some people may want to print the finished project out themselves at their convenience.

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9. What can I expect in terms of communication from you during the commission process?

Answer: I try my best to be very communicative and transparent with my progress via email. Every time I feel I hit a major milestone as far as the progress goes, I email the commissioner to make sure that they're happy with the evolution of the piece and to address any major details or concerns that they may have. I will only resume work on the piece until after I've received input from the most recent correspondence. I expect you (the commissioner) to be equally responsive to my emails/inquiries. *If you fail to respond to any of my inquiries or emails in a timely manner that require your approval, and we are nearing the end of the project work timeline or have gone past the expected project deadline without correspondence from you I will consider it a breach of contract and can choose to terminate the project at my discretion. The 1st half of the payment collected will not be refunded.*

10. What is the typical process for a commission from start to finish?

Answer: We'll exchange a few emails regarding price, use of artwork, description of project, and once the contracts are sent and signed and the 1st half of payment received, you can expect: 1) a set of sketches will be drafted and sent to choose from 2) you will choose which sketch you like best 3) I will begin officially working on your project, and you will be updated with progress and revisions as necessary 4) When we've reached the end, you'll approve 5) After 2nd half of payment is received, high-res files will be released. *Based on the complexity of the project, I will guestimate how long it will take to finish it. If for some reason there is a delay or the project cannot be finished, I will communicate with you and do my best to resolve the matter as best I can.*