



Garden of MEMORIES

Karen Brouwer

Photos/Steve Gerig

ACRYLIC ARTISTRY TODAY

Painter's Checklist

SURFACE

Laser-cut Dates to Remember Panel, backboard, laser cut, month squares, letters, bees, butterflies, dragonflies, flowers, ladybugs and circles Hanging Accessories

PALETTE

DECOART AMERICANA ACRYLICS

Black Green	Red Alert
Bright Orange	Sprout
Country Red	Strawberry
Irish Moss	Sunset Gold
Lamp (Ebony) Black	Titanium White
Hauser Dark Green	Vivid Blue
Hauser Medium Green	Warm Sunset
Primary Blue	Warm White
Purple Iris	Yellow Light

DECOART METALLICS EXTREME SHEEN

Emerald
Garnet
Lavender Frost
Pearl
Pink Tourmaline
Ruby

DECOART ENCHANTED IRIDESCENT

Blue
Gold
Green
Magenta

DECOART ENCHANTED SHIMMER

Extreme Sheen 24K Gold
White

DECOART NEONS

Electric Blue	Thermal Green
Fiery Red	Torrid Orange
Scorching Yellow	Ultraviolet
Sizzling Pink	

BRUSHES

No. 2 or 4 Filbert Brush
Favorite Liner
No. 1 or 2 Round Brush
1/4", 3/8" Angle Shader
3/4" Flat Brush or Roller

SUPPLIES

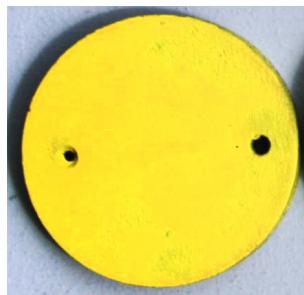
Basic painting supplies (pg 81)
Black and white graphite
Wire rings and thin wire
12x Hooks
Cling wrap and tissues
Wood glue (E6000)
Chalk Pencil

Let's make a beautiful "Remember Board" and display it in your room, so that you won't forget important dates and anniversaries.

PREPARATION

Basecoat REMEMBER, DATES, TO, the month squares and circles in Sprout. Basecoat the backboard and the area around REMEMBER in Black Green. Allow to dry and lightly sand with fine sandpaper. Paint a second coat of both colors.

MONTH SQUARES ————— CIRCLES



FRONTBOARD

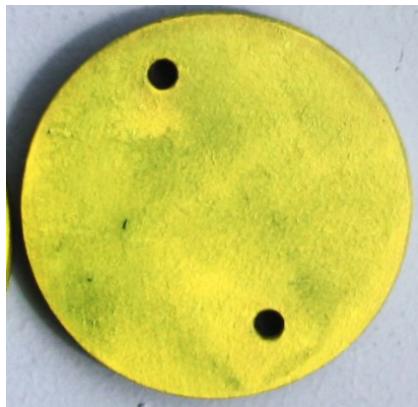


Place the Dates to Remember panel over the backboard and using a chalk pencil, mark the gaps/spaces where you can see the backboard.

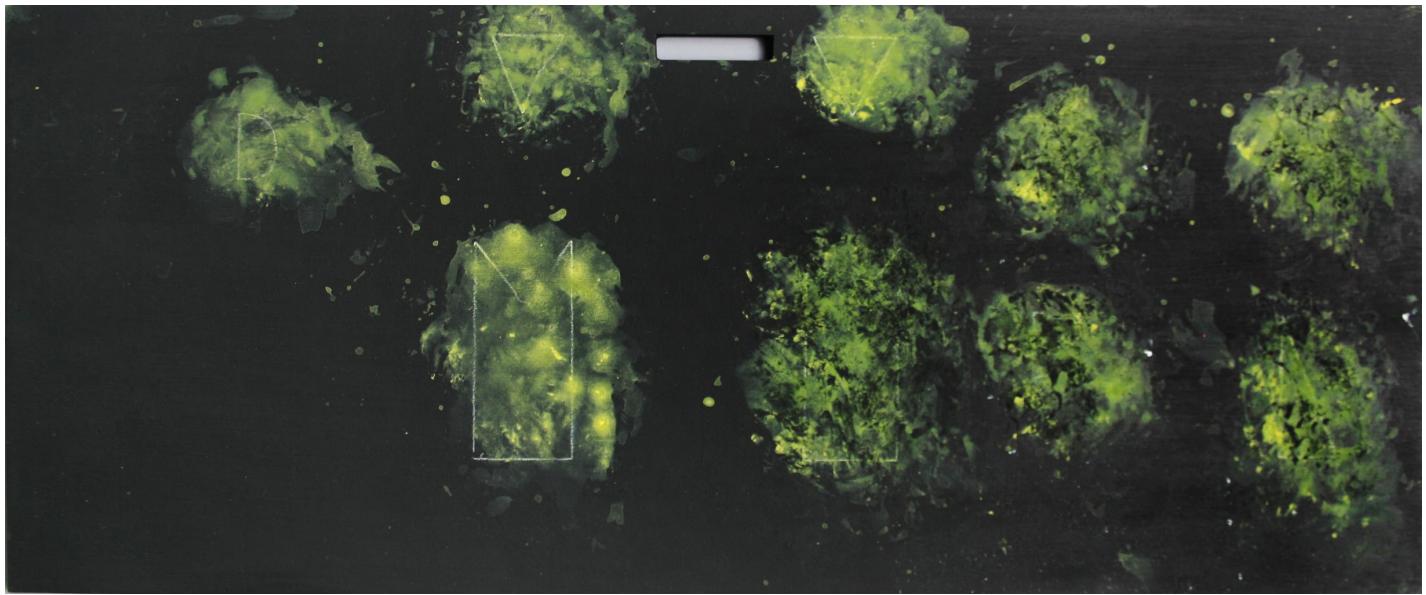
Put out Black Green, Hauser Dark Green, Hauser Medium Green and Sprout. Add water to all these colors making them into a inky/watery consistency. Crinkle up cling wrap making it very scrunched and uneven or you could use a sponge.

Mix Sprout and Hauser Medium Green together. Dab the scrunched up cling wrap into this watery mix and dab over REMEMBER, DATES, TO, the month squares, the circles and also into the spaces on the backboard that are visible when the Dates to Remember panel is over the top.

MONTH SQUARES ————— CIRCLES ————— LETTERING —————



BACKBOARD —————



FRONTBOARD —————



I used tissue paper to pick up the excess watery paint or to pick up color you may not want. Allow to dry. Repeat with a mix of Hauser Medium Green and Hauser Dark Green. Allow to dry.

MONTH SQUARES



CIRCLES



FRONTBOARD



Repeat with a mix of Hauser Dark Green and Black Green. Allow to dry. I kept the top half of REMEMBER lighter than the bottom half. This is your panel so you can make as light or as dark as you like.

I darkened the outside edges of the squares and circles keeping the center lighter. I washed watery Black Green into the etched letters on the squares. Load liner in watery Black Green and paint in the stems that the 3D flowers will attach to.

Outline the etched outlines on the word REMEMBER with Black Green.

MONTH SQUARES



CIRCLES



FRONTBOARD



Basecoat butterflies, dragonflies, bees and flowers in Warm White.

Basecoat ladybugs in Country Red and Warm Sunset.

Basecoat flowers and wings of butterflies, wings of dragonflies and wings of bees in Titanium White.

Basecoat bees' bodies in Sunset Gold. Basecoat flowers and bee wings in Pearl.

Paint ladybugs' heads and bodies, butterflies' bodies, dragonflies' bodies and the bees' heads and stripes in Lamp Black.

FLOWERS



BUTTERFLIES



BEES



LADYBUGS



LET'S PAINT

FLOWERS

Sideload 1/4" angle shader in *Pink Tourmaline* and float shadows onto flowers. Deepen the shadows with *Garnet* if preferred.

Load liner in a mix of *Titanium White* and *Pearl*. Paint white highlights onto the petals, pulling from the outside of the petal to the center and lighten with *Pearl*. Stipple center in *24K Gold* and highlight with *Titanium White*.

FLOWERS



LADYBUGS

Highlight red ladybugs with *Red Alert* and *Fiery Red*. I just swirled these colors together. Highlight orange ladybugs with a mix of *Bright Orange* and *Torrid Orange*.

Load liner or stylus in *Lamp Black* and paint dots onto ladybugs. Highlight head, body and wings with *Titanium White*.

RED LADYBUGS



ORANGE LADYBUGS



BUTTERFLIES

Transfer on line drawing with black graphite paper. Load liner in *Lamp Black* and paint all lines and black areas onto wings. Tidy up white areas and dots on wings with *Titanium White* if needed. Please remember these are your butterflies and you may paint them in any colors you like.

Pinks: *Strawberry, Pink Tourmaline, Sizzling Pink*

Blues: *Vivid Blue, Sapphire, Electric Blue*

Yellow: *Yellow Light, 24K Gold (if you like), Scorching Yellow*

Reds: *Red Alert, Ruby, Fiery Red*

Oranges: *Bright Orange and Torrid Orange*

Purples: *Purple Iris, Lavender Frost, Ultraviolet*

Greens: *A mix of Primary Blue and Irish Moss, Emerald, Thermal Green*

BUTTERFLIES

Load no. 1 round brush into the acrylic colors first. I like the colors to be of a watery/inky consistency. Paint these watery colors into the corresponding areas on the wings. Paint over the same areas with the corresponding watery Metallic colors. Brighten the wings by painting over the corresponding colors with the watery Neon colors.

You don't need to make the wings as bright as mine – remember, this is your piece.

Repaint *Lamp Black* lines if needed. Highlight wings with a mix of *Titanium White* and *Pearl*. Lighten with *Pearl*. Highlight bodies with *Enchanted Gold* and *Pearl*. If you like you can paint over wings with *Enchanted Shimmer White*.

Glue thin wire antennae to butterflies.





DRAGONFLIES

Use the same colors as the butterflies and wash the three layers onto the wings. Load liner in *Lamp Black* and paint fine lines onto the wings.

Highlight wings with a mix of *Titanium White* and *Pearl*. Lighten with *Pearl*.

Highlight bodies with *Enchanted Gold*, *Blue*, *Green* and *Magenta*. Lighten center of bodies with *Titanium White* and *Pearl Mix*.

If you like you can paint over wings with *Enchanted Shimmer White*.



BEES

Highlight the yellow lines on the bodies with *Yellow Light* and *Scorching Yellow*. Paint stripes in *Lamp Black* if needed. Load watery *Lamp Black* shadows onto wings.

Highlight with the *Titanium White* and *Pearl Mix*.

If you like you can paint over wings with *Enchanted Shimmer White*.



ASSEMBLING THE BOARD

Using wood glue, adhere the top panel to the backboard. Glue DATES TO and the month squares into place. Glue the butterflies, bees, dragonflies, ladybugs and flowers anywhere on the Dates to Remember that you like.

Screw 12 hooks into their places which will be directly under the middle of each month square. You may leave the hooks gold or paint them.

HEARTS

Paint in Country Red. Swirl Red Alert and Fiery Red onto the hearts.

TREE

Paint in Hauser Dark Green. Swirl Irish Moss and Thermal Green onto the tree.

EASTER EGG

Paint in any colors that you like.

PUMPKINS

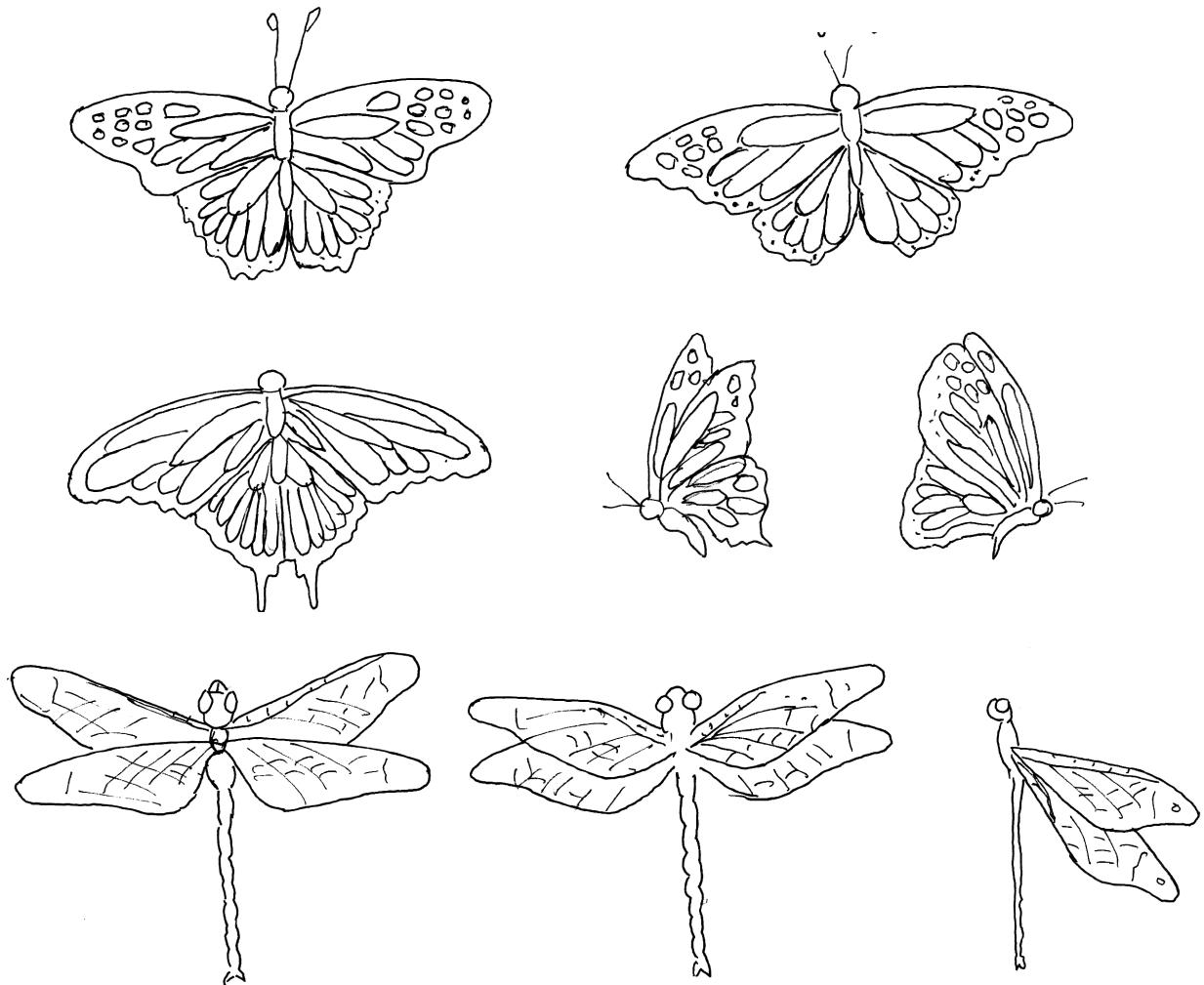
Paint in Warm Sunset. Swirl Bright Orange and Torrid Orange onto pumpkins.

CIRCLES

Paint the dates and names into the middle of circles. Attach the rings to the circles and hang onto the hooks.

I hope your Dates to Remember – Garden of Memories helps you to remember all the special events in your lives.





Design is 80% of original | Enlarge 125% for original size



Karen Brouwer's mother would say she has been drawing since she could hold a pencil. She started teaching in 1998 and, in 2001, Karen taught at her first SDP convention. Since then she has taught at conventions and chapters in the USA, New Zealand and, of course, Australia where she lives. As bad as COVID has been, it allowed her to teach via ZOOM and FB Lives. When Karen's husband bought a laser it opened up a whole new world of designs. She is thankful to work together with Minecraft Inc., who sells all her woodwork and patterns in the USA. You can follow Karen on her Facebook page at Karen Brouwer Pearly Designs or on Etsy at [Etsy.com/au/shop/KarenBrouwerDesigns](https://www.etsy.com/au/shop/KarenBrouwerDesigns). Email: KarenBrouwerPearlydDesigns@gmail.com.