

# OLUWATOYIN AND TAMARA

PAINTING NATURE WITH TEACHING ARTISTS AT THE WATER LILY FESTIVAL, AT D.C.'S AQUATIC

## DRAWING & PAINTING FROM NATURE--ALL AGES AND SKILL LEVELS



Experience artful relaxing in one of the most beautiful places in Washington D.C. It's not your average sip and paint but rather "en plein air", as the French say, or in other words, capture nature in natural light, by outdoor painting.

### ABOUT THE TEACHING ARTISTS

#### • **Tamara De Silva, MA, BFA**

De Silva is a painter and ceramicist living in the DMV for 15 years. Along the way she has worked collaboratively on curriculum development and very detailed lesson planning. Currently she is an art and art history instructor Bowie State University. African American art history, painting and drawing, ceramics, and mixed media. Previously directed art camps for Maryland National Parks and Planning MNCPPC.

Participants will be guided and encouraged to take time to sketch and observe the landscape first. Grab some paint and canvas and make memories while you paint and experience the wetlands. Teachers will provide as much assistance you need while you create your vision, plan the composition, and paint. Give yourself time to enjoy every step of arranging your painting experience in a serene environment.

#### • **Oluwatoyin Tella, Howard University graduate.**

Tella is an artist with a unique affinity towards mathematics and the visual arts. She has lived in the DMV for 18 years. She received both her MFA & Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Howard University. Currently, Tella creates Curriculum for Pro-ject A.S.E, an organization that teaches students from a wholistic approach.

### A BIT ABOUT THE FESTIAL:

Waterlilies and lotuses sprout from the ponds of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens in such multitude that it's hard to believe you're still within the District's borders. During the steamy summer months, the view from the dikes separating each pond resembles a lush, tropical land unknown in these parts. The Anacostia Riverwalk Trail is a great way to get to the Lotus and Water Lily Festival. Enjoy a 20-minute bike ride along the scenic Anacostia Riverwalk Trail, starting from the Anacostia Skating Pavilion (1500 Anacostia Drive SE) to the festival site. You can also bike the Anacostia River Trail from Bladensburg, Md., to Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens.

<http://www.friendsofkenilworthg>

**Benefits of the painting experience** Many of us attempt to spend more time in nature. Here is an opportunity to truly soak-in the beauty that exists in N.E. and S.E. The natural landscape along the Anacostia River is here waiting for you. Come out and paint! Painting in a natural environment is relaxing! If you've put off trying to paint or simply feel it's time to refresh your skills, this workshop is for you. Create new neural pathways, heal an over active mind like meditating and recharge. This is a perfect way for you alone or, maybe you and your teen need time away from tech devices.