

Cheap or Free Digital Art Tools

SENIOR SUMMER CAMP

PIGMENT: ADULT COLORING

One daily freebie + one free design in each category. Tip: when you open the app, it will display you a screen that makes you think you have to choose between three paid subscriptions. Click the x in the top-right corner to bypass that. Free with in-app purchases.

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP SKETCH: TURN YOUR FINGER INTO PAINTBRUSH OR DRAWING TOOL

Turn your finger or stylus into a pencil, pen, paintbrush, or watercolor brush. Add layers for each object you add (so if you make a mistake, you can just edit or erase that layer). You can also upload an image from your phone as background or foreground. Share on social media or save to your camera roll. Check the gear icon to access tutorials. Free with in-app purchases.

WATERLOGUE: CONVERT PHOTOS TO WATERCOLORS

\$4.99 (iOS only)

For when you really don't want to paint at all! Upload a photo from your camera roll and then apply one of the built-in digital effects to convert it to a watercolor. \$4.99. iOS only.

SNAPSEED BY GOOGLE: PHOTO EDITING

Start by choosing a "look," a general edit, to your photo. Then use "Tools" to crop, rotate, or otherwise edit your image. (Then pick Export to share or save your image in multiple ways. Free.

CANVA: GRAPHIC DESIGN

Eye-catching posters, social media posts, postcards, letterhead, t-shirt designs, eBook covers, Premade templates that you can just fill in. You can also easily change graphics elements, upload your own images, change fonts and colors, etc. Saves your designs in the cloud so you can access from your smartphone or laptop. Download your completed works in various file formats or share with collaborators. Lots of great designs are free, but some of the hippest designs may charge \$1 or so for particular images or designs. Hover over a template and if it doesn't say "free," it's not. Non-profits can get a free Canva for Business account to unlock more features for free.

TYPORAMA: PUBLIC DOMAIN PHOTOS + TEXT

Uses the enormous public domain image repository Pixabay to offer you tons of backdrops as well as some text stylings you can superimpose on the image. You can rotate and zoom the images and text as well as change the text color and size. Export to camera roll or social media. Free w/in-app purchases.



Senior Summer Camp is made possible in part by the U-M School of Information's Making in Michigan Libraries project, the YDL Michigan Avenue Branch, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services RE-05-15-0021-15.

Digital Art Ideas

SENIOR SUMMER CAMP

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE -- TRY ONE OF THESE DESIGN IDEAS!

Relax. (Pigment)

Draw one thing. Hand the stylus to a friend to add something. Go back and forth until you've got something ... amazing. (Adobe Photoshop Sketch)

Play hangman to get used to the stylus. (Adobe Photoshop Sketch)

Create a gift card or gift tag. (Typorama, Waterlogue, Canva)

Scroll through your phone's photos and make a few look spiffy. (Waterlogue, SnapSeed).

Make a poster for your favorite Presidential contender. (Canva)

Create a poster reminding a loved one to start/stop doing that one thing. (Canva)

Use the watercolor brush to gently paint a background. Then add a new layer to use some of the other tools to write your favorite spiritual or inspirational quote. Or snark. (Adobe Photoshop Sketch)

Add an "image layer" of a photo. Create a second layer. Have your inner 7th grader add sunglasses, a hat, or a mustache to the photo. Or add hand-drawn borders. (Adobe Photoshop Sketch)

Make an ad for your favorite Michigan location. (Typorama, Canva)

Create a social media graphic or a love note. (Canva, Typorama, others)

Mash up tools! For example, edit an in Waterlogue, then upload it into Canva or Adobe Sketch and keep creating!

WANT SOMETHING PRINTED AND RETURNED TO YOU NEXT WEEK?

Email it to font@umich.edu.



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