

# Create an Oil Pastel

Artist Nancy Hannans pays homage to inspirational women and their stories. She celebrates their compassion, courage, strength, wisdom, and pursuit of peace and joy.

- 1 Prepare your drawing surface by applying three coats of acrylic gesso with a small sponge to a heavy sheet of Bristol paper, creating a rough texture for drawing.
- 2 Using a lot of water and a small amount of burnt sienna acrylic paint, apply a wash with a large paintbrush. Remove excess paint by wiping the surface in a circular motion with a clean cloth. Using sketches as a reference, draw the basic shapes of the composition with black oil pastel. To make revisions, use a cloth to wipe away the oil pastel.



Fig. 1-29.

- 3 Add broad areas of light and dark oil pastels to establish your colors. Use the point and side of the pastel, being careful not to cover the black pastel line drawing.
- 4 Continue to add to the range of values and add more color and detail. Refine the black outline drawing with more layers of oil pastel.



Fig. 1-30.



Fig. 1-31.  
Nancy Hannans,  
*Common Thread*.  
Oil pastel. Courtesy  
of the artist.