



UKRAINIAN HISTORY & EDUCATION CENTER  
FOLK ARTS @ UHEC

# Virtual Pysanka Demonstration

*Guest Instructor:  
Andrea Kulish Wilhelm*



**Tuesday,  
March 3, 2026  
6:30 - 9:30 PM**

Learn how to create Delft-inspired pysanky eggs. We will use various shades of blue and vinegar etching to create these blue and white designs inspired by the renowned hand painted Dutch earthenware designs. Supply list provided at registration.



UHEC arts programming and activities are made possible by funds from the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

**Register Online:**  
[www.ukrhec.org/events](http://www.ukrhec.org/events)



# Delft design-inspired pysanky workshop

Ukrainian History and Education Center  
ukrhec.org  
March 3, 2026

Artist: Andrea Kulish Wilhelm  
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*Delft tiles*



# Delft design





# Delft pysanky by Irene Chewchuk

*Used with permission—thank you Irene for the use of your images!!*



# Delft-inspired pysanky

## List of supplies:

1. Prepared clean, raw egg at room temperature or emptied eggshell. If eggshell is empty, be sure to plug up the hole with beeswax or a silicone plug (so that the dyes don't go into the shell.)

To clean: soak egg in a jar of water with a tablespoon of vinegar for about 2 minutes, or until small bubbles appear on the shell. Let air dry.

2. Prepared dyes, at room temperature:

ROYAL BLUE - full strength

ROYAL BLUE TINT- "MEDIUM BLUE" 1/3 royal blue dye, 2/3 distilled water

BLACK (optional)

3. Spoons for dyes

4. Vinegar rinse for cleaning egg - 1 tbsp vinegar to one pint water

5. Vinegar for etching- jar- about 1 cup of 5% white vinegar

6. Beeswax

7. Stylus - Kistka - medium

8. Candle and holder or plate

9. Matches or a lighter

10. Hard pencil - 6H is best (H, 2H, 3H, 4H, or 5H also work)

11. Paper products- thick paper towels (VIVA have no texture, cheap tissue or Kleenex with no lotion)

12. Q-tips or paintbrush

13. Small amount (teaspoon) of vegetable oil (olive, canola, etc.)

14. Running water or bowl/jar of room temperature water for rinsing egg

15. Soft toothbrush or paintbrush



**\*In step one,  
for darker blue outlines,  
dip the egg in black for 5-10 seconds  
after dying in royal blue.**



**\*For brighter blue outlines,  
dip the egg first in royal blue,  
Do not dip in black.**

# Delft pysanky process

## DARK TO LIGHT METHOD

1. Dye egg in darkest blue (royal blue). If a darker blue is desired, dip in black for 5-10 seconds after royal blue. Pat dry with VIVA paper towel and let air dry for a minute or two.



2. Pencil your outlines, then wax any outlines and fill in any areas you'd like to be dark blue. Use black wax, or with electric kitska, you can use black or white wax.



For the bird, I referenced Irene's design and also this Delft design.



For the flowers, I referenced Irene's design and Delft patterns.



4. Rinse the egg in running lukewarm water until you get a pleasing light blue.  
If the egg turns too light, or if it is too streaky, dip in your 1/3 blue dye for 10 second intervals until you like the color. My light blue was a little streaky but I didn't mind.  
Pat dry with VIVA paper towel and let air dry for a minute or two.



5. Wax the areas you would like to remain light blue.



reference:



6. Dye the egg in the 1/3 blue dye (medium blue) (1/3 royal blue, 2/3 distilled water).  
Pat dry with VIVA paper towel and let air dry for a minute or two.



7. Wax the areas you would like to remain medium blue.



reference:



8. Rinse the egg in lukewarm water for a minute or two to rinse off excess dye.

9. Submerge the egg in full strength 5% vinegar for a minute or two. Remove from vinegar and gently rub the egg with a soft toothbrush, paintbrush or with your finger, to reveal the white.



10. Pat dry with paper towel and then let the egg air dry for a few minutes. Put about 2 drops of oil on the egg, cover the egg evenly with the oil, and then remove the wax using the candle flame and tissue.



11. Varnish with oil-based polyurethane varnish (optional)

12. Enjoy!

## LIGHT TO DARK METHOD

1. Dye egg in the 1/3 Blue dye for 30 seconds.
2. Write any outlines and fill.
3. Dye in 1/3 Blue dye for 3 minutes.
4. Wax in any areas desired to remain medium blue.
5. Dye egg in royal blue.
6. Write/fill any desired areas with wax.
7. Wash excess blue dye off of egg.
8. Soak egg in full strength vinegar for 1-2 minutes.
9. Submerge the egg in full strength 5% vinegar for a minute or two. Remove from vinegar and gently rub the egg with a soft toothbrush, paintbrush or with your finger, to reveal the white.
10. Pat dry with paper towel and then let the egg air dry for a few minutes. Put about 2 drops of oil on the egg, cover the egg evenly with the oil, and then remove the wax using the candle flame and tissue.
11. Varnish with oil-based polyurethane varnish (optional)
12. Enjoy!

*Delft Blauw Porcelain in Delft, The Netherlands*

