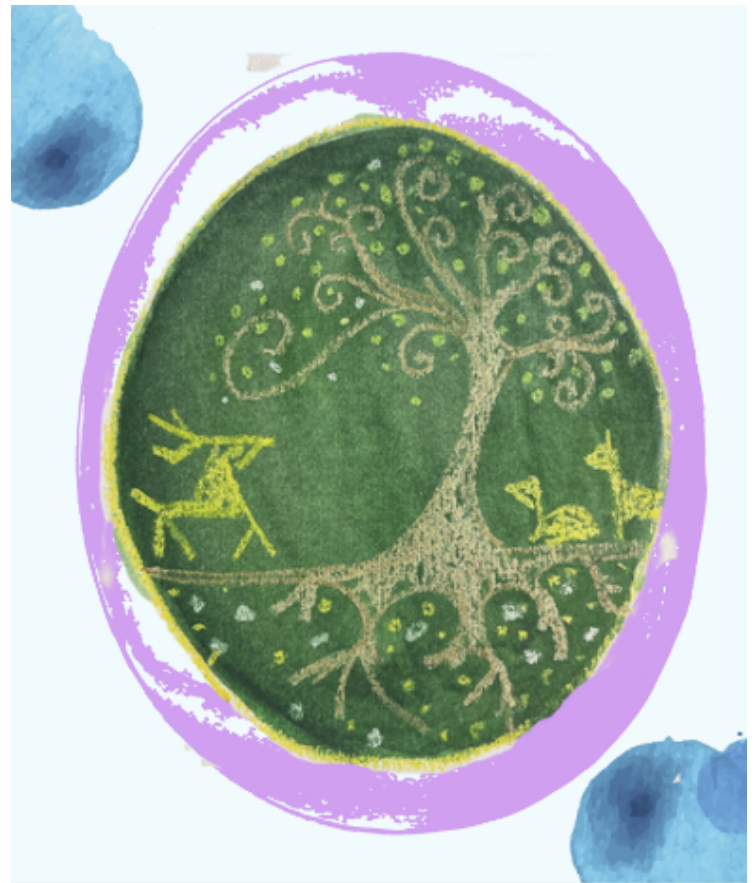


UKRAINIAN HISTORY AND EDUCATION CENTER

# WAX RESIST PYSANKA GREETING CARD

VIRTUAL CRAFTS FOR KIDS @ UHEC

SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023 1:30 PM



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## Wax Resist Pysanka Greeting Card Workshop

Pysanky (pronounced: “PYH-sahn-kah”, singular: “pysanka”) are Ukrainian decorated eggs, usually made during Easter time or the weeks leading up to Easter. The word pysanka comes from the Ukrainian “pysaty”, “to write”. The design and symbols are written using hot wax and colored dyes in a wax-resist method. A clean, fresh egg is used. The white egg symbolizes purity and cleanliness. The egg is then dyed in a succession of colors, from light to dark. At the end, a colorful egg is revealed!

The tradition of decorating eggs stems from ancient Ukrainian pagan traditions. Many of the symbols seen on pysanky had pagan meanings for earth, life, pagan gods, the harvest or prosperity, but after the conversion of Rus'-Ukraine to Christianity in 988, the pysanky began to take on religious meanings.

Legends exist regarding their purpose and how they came to be. One religious story says that a basket of eggs was colored by the tears of Mary as she wept after the death of her son, Jesus Christ. As she walked with her basket of eggs, she tripped and fell, dropping her basket of now decorated eggs (pysanky) which rolled away to all parts of the world. Another legend reflects their pagan origin: farmers would bury a pysanka in the field for a good harvest or place one in their barn and bee keepers would put one under the hive for a good year ahead.

**In this workshop, young artists will learn about the symbolism, colors and legends of traditional pysanka egg designs. We will use a wax resist method (using crayons) to make your own pysanka themed greeting card, inspired by the cards of pysanka designs in the museum collection.**

## Crafts for Kids with the UHEC

Sunday afternoon workshops will provide a hands-on opportunity for kids to learn about Ukrainian art, culture and history based on objects found in the UHEC Museum Collection. Participants will go home with a craft at the end of the workshop. Suitable for grade school aged children.

# Supply List for Workshop

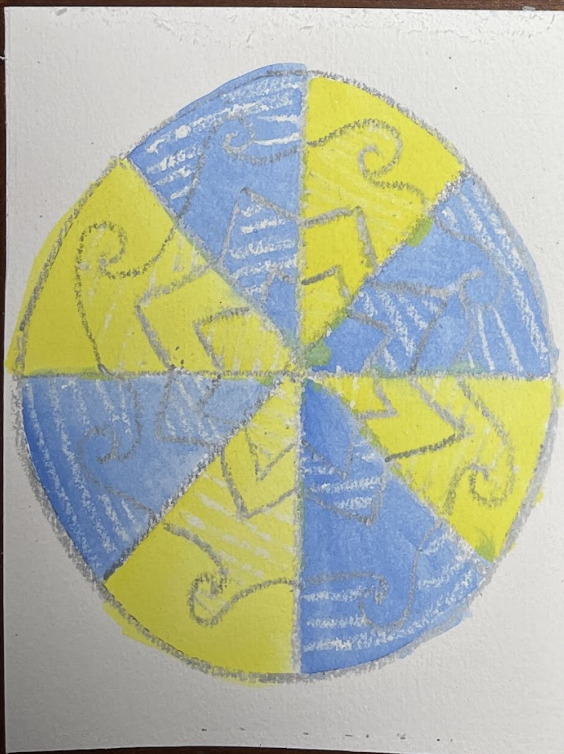
## Supplies

- Crayons
- Watercolor paints
- Cup of water
- Paper towels
- Paintbrush
- Pencil
- Scissor
- Cardstock or construction paper
- Watercolor paper





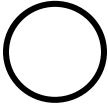
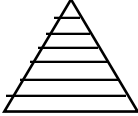









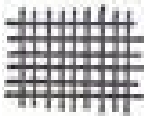
## Examples



## THE COLORS

1	White	purity, innocence & birth
2	Yellow	light, purity, youth, happiness, hospitality
3	Orange	strength, endurance, the eternal sun
4	Green	spring, new growth, and hope
5	Blue	sky & its life-giving air, good health
6	Red	happiness in life, hope, passion, the sun
7	Black	eternity, darkest time before dawn

## THE SYMBOLS

	Circle or unending band (eternity)		Triangle/Basket (Holy Trinity)
	Ladders (prosperity or prayer)		Deer, Horses or Rams (wealth & prosperity)
	Dots (tears of Mary or Crucifixion)		Fish (Christianity)
	Curls (defense or protection)		Plants or roses (love, caring, friendship) Poppies (Ukraine)
	Sun & Stars (life, fortune, growth)		Crosses (Christ or 4 corners of the world)
	Wheat (good health and harvest)		Nets (Fishers of People)

## Pysanka Word Search

A	M	G	W	O	L	W	A	X	Y	T	L	W	Q	B	S	H	E
A	T	E	M	W	P	Y	S	A	N	K	A	T	L	J	T	A	A
G	P	J	Q	Z	F	M	A	G	I	C	V	K	P	I	X	S	S
S	U	W	L	O	G	F	V	A	F	K	D	W	D	M	F	I	T
E	A	O	P	C	F	P	F	C	F	I	S	H	F	I	I	E	E
F	C	C	M	E	L	X	C	K	I	S	T	K	A	S	C	G	R
W	N	P	B	E	O	B	N	O	N	C	R	P	C	P	A	G	Q
A	Y	Z	V	X	W	L	L	S	V	E	S	W	S	R	O	O	H
T	G	O	Y	O	E	D	B	B	Z	I	U	X	E	I	C	Y	Q
E	W	D	W	N	R	I	J	B	B	N	N	O	L	N	U	P	E
R	L	O	W	R	F	G	U	E	B	F	M	P	E	G	E	Q	J
D	B	Y	P	P	W	F	R	V	B	D	O	F	T	M	U	S	Z

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

EASTER  
EGG  
FISH  
FLOWER  
KISTKA

LIFE  
MAGIC  
PYSANKA  
SPRING  
SUN

WATER  
WAX