

LAYERED PORTRAITS CLASS – Phyllis Cullen

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Welcome to our class on Layered Portraits to be taught by Phyllis Cullen 2025 starting at 9 am! there is some work for you to do ahead of the class – your learning starts now!

There are two main tasks that you need to work on, and **get to Phyllis by the end of February** at the email address listed above, putting March 22 Class in the subject line. These tasks are 1 - providing her with portrait photos ahead of time so she can posturize them for you; and 2 - providing her with pictures of your fabric selections so that she can work with you to get the appropriate values of fabrics for your layered portraits. For those of you who have her book **It's All About the Face: Quilted Fabric Portraits** there are two specific chapters that will assist you with these tasks. These are Chapter 3 – Take Your Best Shot, and Chapter 5 – Values in Fabrics.

Photos

For the photos Phyllis would like you to email to her three possible photos of one individual head and shoulders lit from the front, or side-front, preferably not taken with a flash. The photo must be of good resolution and she can also crop the face from a larger photo if the resolution is good enough (enough megapixels). Self-portraits and adults are easiest to do, and babies are harder. You can advise her of your priority for these but she will choose the best one for her to posturize into a custom pattern for you, or she may ask you to send another one. If you are unable to do this in advance then she will have some of her own patterns available in the class but I think most of you would like to work on your own chosen portrait. She will go over the process of how to posturize photos in the class but as there will not be time for you to do it class, she will make your customized patterns for you. Once she has provided you with your customized pattern you need to decide what size you want to make your layered portrait. 8-inch x 10 inch is smaller so there is a little less cutting but sometimes the tiny pieces are harder. If you can get 9-inch x 12 inch or 12 x 16 enlargements made this is ideal. You will need to get 4 copies of your pattern made and also bring one copy of your reference photo which can be 8 x 10 as it will be used for reference purposes only.

Fabrics

You need to choose 5 pieces of tone on tone or batik fabrics in four values (light, medium light, medium, medium dark, and dark) of one color or closely related colors. Avoid absolute solids except that the darkest fabric can be solid black, navy, burgundy, forest green, etc. Avoid prints with white combined with a dark design. Your fabrics will need to be an inch or so larger all around than your pattern.

You will put misty fuse on the backs of all but they very lightest fabric piece.

You will use repositionable spray adhesive like 505, to temporarily adhere each pattern piece to the fronts of the same fabrics that you put misty fuse on the back of, the lightest fabric has neither misty fuse nor pattern piece. If you are unsure of these instructions, we can do this part in class

You will need 2 colors of sharpies, comfortable scissors with a sharp point, ruler, small rotary cutter or craft knife, mat, and on day two sewing machine, background fabric, batting and backing. Free motion foot and thin thread matching the lightest fabric