Science of Creativity and the Arts:
Drawing the Awakened Heart
July 7 – 15 and July 17 – 25, 2023

Beginning and Continuing thangka drawing skills

This year’s Summer Institute will offer progressive stages in thangka drawing and will be tailored to different skill levels and experience. The thangka skills presented will range from creating the iconometric graph (tikse), to drawing out a representation of awakening, such as a Tara or Shakyamuni Buddha, to completely drawing out the figure, and potentially creating a finished painting. This course is suitable for beginners and beyond regardless of artistic talent or not. Each student will receive individual attention. It is an especially nice complement to the Summer Institute’s shedra and gomdra studies as it brings the body into the sphere of the contemplative activity of awakening on many levels.

This course incorporates the class contents from both SCA 540 Studio 1 and SCA 550 Studio 2.

SCA 540 Studio 1
Students learn the classic measurement system (tikse) of the Karma Gadri system and apply it to drawing one or more of the following: a Buddha head, a seated Buddha, and a Tara head, a seated Tara. Materials are provided in class. Students are also welcome to bring their own materials. A materials list will be provided. Class topics include: tikse, drawing materials, process of drawing male and female buddhas, development of good drawing skills and drawing as meditation.

PREREQUISITE: None
REQUIRED TEXTS: None

SCA 550 Studio 2
Students focus on one particular Buddhist figure in an actual thangka composition: starting with the tikse, moving to the drawing, and then the painting. It includes shading and coloring. Materials are provided in class. Students are also welcome to bring their own materials. A materials list will be provided.

PREREQUISITE: SCA 540 Studio 1 or the equivalent in experience
REQUIRED TEXTS: None