

# Designing a plate of WILD ROSES

By Celeste McCall

This study is for Members of  
[www.ArtlessonsUniverse.com](http://www.ArtlessonsUniverse.com)

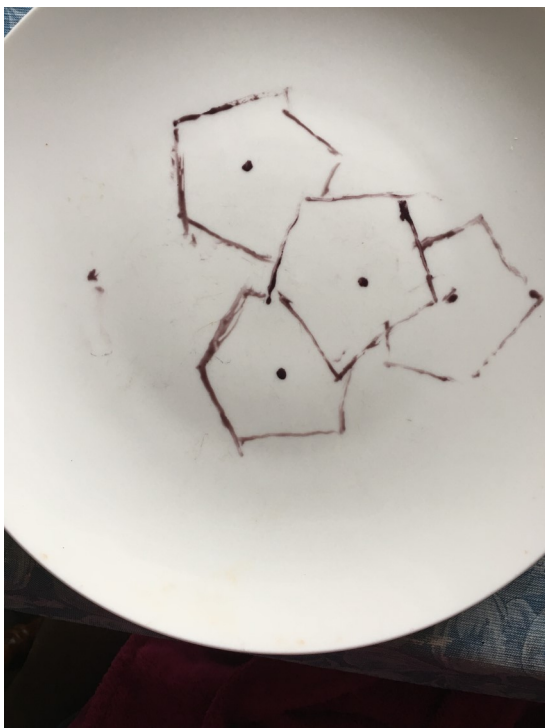




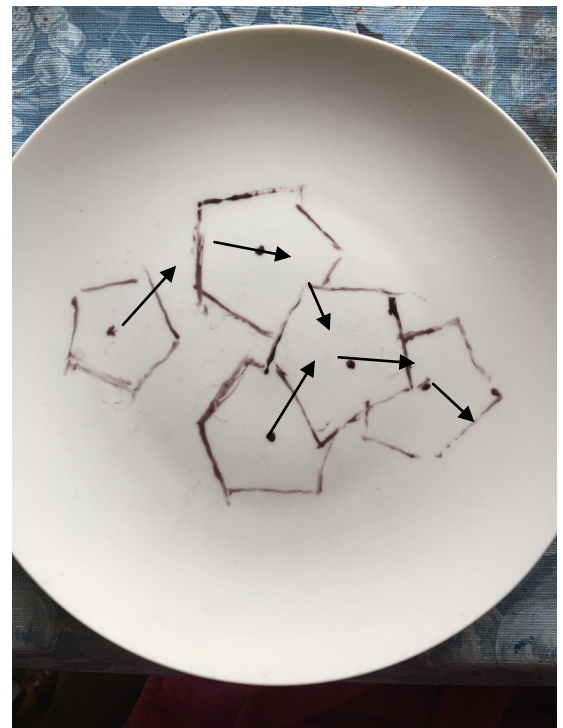
Begin designing with 5 dots. None of which are in a line nor have the same distance between them.



Roses are a birdhouse shape. So sketch in the Birdhouse shape and then put one under which is caddy-cornered to the one on top



Add two more. Make sure that they create a 'curve' as shown in every directions going through the main center rose. See Examples on right.



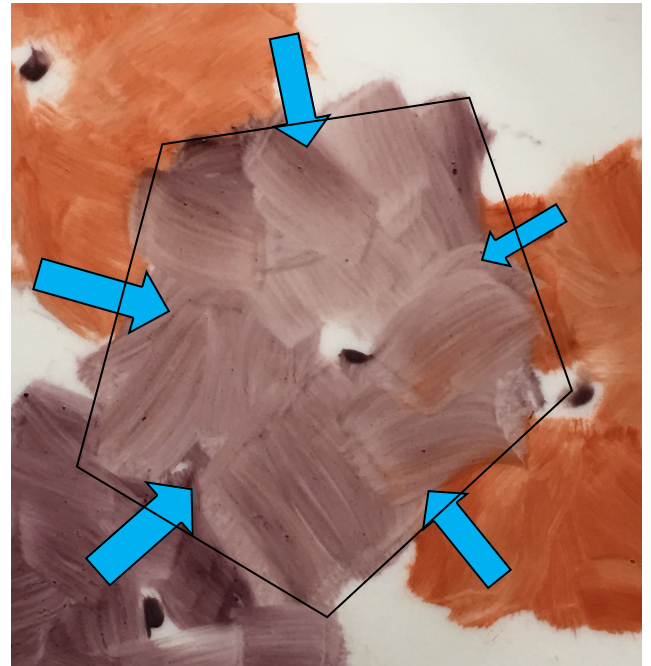
Make 5 birdhouse shapes. The sides of each birdhouse shape needs to be equidistant almost. IF the centers were connected they would create curves.

**NO STRAIGHT LINES**





Next, fill in the birdhouse shapes and then push in the edges to create small 'v' shapes which make the flowers. See below. Push toward the center 5 times. One on each side of the birdhouse about mid-way. Don't get perfect though. 1/3 and 2/3 is better than 1/2 of each side all the way around perfectly.



Notice how each blue arrow pushes toward the center of the rose. This is where most mess up. But sometimes that can be sort of cool. Just try to aim near the center when you push in.

Alternatively, you could use the brush to pull out the 5 petals. But I find it easier to push in.

Next, add filtered strokes where the leaves might be. Create a big area of leaf color and a smaller area and then a very small (compared to the rest) area of leaf filtering.

It is necessary to use as little oil as possible when doing a one fire because sometimes the paint has to be thick. Thick oily paint creates pop-offs. If your paint is shiny before firing, then put it in the oven at 200 degrees for 15 minutes. Let cool....then take it to the kiln to fire.







Use Ochre near the main flower for a punch of light. Then add it 2 other places in the background which creates a triangle. Filter all the flower colors plus brown green into the background.



Continue to develop one side of the plate at a time. Take out the highlights. Be sure you paint is dark enough so that the lights will 'pop'.



Keep working around the plate. Adding flower details and completing each before going to the next. Add background first though. Don't worry about the leaves yet. That comes later. But focus on shape and light/dark contrast on each flower.



Continue to add background and work around the plate with the flowers. First wipe out petals and then do the centers last. Finish each area as you work the plate.



The final steps will be the leaf details and some stems. Be sure that you make the stems light or they will demand too much attention.

Second fire: Add any more needed to finish the plate.

Colors used were: South Brown (a red), Ochre, Mahogany, Black Green and Brown Green. Paula White of Oklahoma City, OK...carries wonderful colors. Her colors fire beautifully together.