

SoulCollage® - Zoom Workshop
Basic Materials needed for card making and notes about materials.

- **Card Blanks** – there is no regulation size but 5” by 8” card blanks are kind of the “standard size”. I order mine from www.clearbags.com – I have them cut plain white backing board to that size and they are less than 10 cents apiece. The SoulCollage® official site sells beautiful cut blue matboard in 12 packs – for (I think) \$9.95. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you are just reading this now and do not have time to order blanks before the workshop-- you could easily just cut card stock or plain paper to the 5 x 8 size and use for now, then glue the whole completed card onto the more durable card blanks when you get them.
- **Clear plastic envelopes for cards.** I order these from www.clearbags.com. The size I get is 5 1/8 by 8. They come with a resealable flap. These really help keep your cards contained and intact over time. **(You can always get these later!)**
- **Scissors** – small and sharp is good. Because space is limited on the cards, you have to make choices sometimes about what part of an image to put on the card – cutting things out finely around their edges makes this work better. I have become pretty good at precision cutting and it makes the cards more interesting.
- **Glue sticks-** SoulCollage® recommends Yes glue. I have had good luck with Staples or Office Max glue sticks. Also Elmers. I do not advise using the dollar store brands – they are really inconsistent in quality – some are fine others not so much.
- **“Smoother”** – can use a roller or brayer. I use a credit card/plastic hotel key-card (I always keep those key cards now for card making workshops). Using something to smooth down images as you glue them helps them adhere better. Using a smoother prevents bubbles and wrinkles as you glue.
- **IMAGES (of course – the heart of the process!)** You can get images from magazines, calendars, old note cards, thrift store books with photographs, junk mail and tourist brochures. Also, if you want to include REALLY unique and personal images, you can photocopy or scan your own photos -family photos, travel photos, etc.
There are two kinds of images – **individual images** (people, animals, structures, flowers, etc.) and **Backgrounds** – it is not required but many people will choose a background image that will cover all or most of the card blank. This can lend depth and meaning to the energy of the individual images you choose to create the card. I like to use nature calendars for backgrounds, but you can find good backgrounds in all the sources you use for individual images. I have also used watercolor or art paper to cover a card blank to create a background for the collage.
- **“Fancy Paper” and Stickers** – This is not required or even common practice, but I like to keep a stash of “art papers”, stickers and torn pieces of watercolor paper painted ahead of time in different color blends. Sometimes you get everything just where it wants to be and then see a small space that needs a bit of color or texture. (Again, NOT NECESSARY but fun to play with.)