The Big Idea
In this workshop students will experiment with alternative marking making such as scraping and toner transfer with acrylic painting. Students will learn new techniques to enhance their more traditional painting style.

The Plan
The paint scraping technique involves using a squeegee as a painting tool. This process allows the student to blend and layer various colors of acrylic paint across a primed board. This technique allows the student to create unique color blends and textured backgrounds. No two backgrounds will ever be the same, even if you use the same color combinations. As you explore this technique you will discover your own style and favorite way of controlling the acrylic paint.

The transfer process requires a thin application of acrylic medium over a hand colored laser copy. Acrylic transfers allow students to essentially grab the acrylic paint and toner layer off of a copy and embed it into the acrylic film. After drying, the paper backing of the image needs to be removed with a damp towel. This leaves a transparent or translucent image imbedded within the acrylic medium and on the board. Acrylic transfers allow the student to incorporate photographs, drawings, digital images, without sacrificing the original.

You Need
- High contrast photograph (film or digital)
- Masonite boards or canvas panels (suggested sizes 8”x 10”, 11” x 14”)
- small water container (for cleaning brushes)
- pallet paper or your own pallet
- 1 roll of artist/painters tape
- stiff cardboard (cut down to 3” x 4”) or old plastic credit card or room key card or small squeegee
- Small bottle of Acrylic Matt medium
- Small spray bottle
- small container of white gesso 8 to 16 oz.
- acrylic paint any brand
- Variety of paint brushes
- Variety of acrylic markers (for embellishment)
- Step-By-Step YouTube Link: www.think360arts.org
Prefering your Board for Scraping:
- Use a brush to cover the entire board with gesso. Once the entire board is covered leave to dry.
- Sand down the edges and surface to remove any imperfections to create a smooth surface.
- Apply a second coat, let dry and sand.

Scraping and washes
- Thin down paints with water or acrylic medium and apply with brushes. The darker the washes, the less your transfer will show up, be aware of contrast.
- Use scraping tools to create textures, patterns. However, keep in mind that transfers work best with smooth surfaces.
- Experiment with different tools for example: plastic cards, squeegees, scrapers, palette knives, and putty knives. Respond to the paint!

Step by step guide to Laser Transfers:
- Choose a high contrast image (black and white) and affix it to a non-stick surface using tape.
- Cover the entire surface of the image with a thin, even coat of acrylic matte medium.
- Allow to dry until the matte medium is fully transparent.
- Brush acrylic paint onto the white areas of copy. Not all areas of white paper surface need to be painted. The areas of paper that are not painted will reveal board washes once the paper is rubbed off.
- Let acrylic paint dry.
- Working quickly coat board and front side of copy with matte medium. Do your best not to get matte medium on back of paper.
- Press paper image side down on to board, and scrape with plastic card from center out, wiping excess medium after each scrape to insure adhesion and keeping medium of back side of copy. Remember to remove all bubbles!
- Let copy and board dry thoroughly. Several hours or over night work best.
- Wet board with spray bottle or your fingers. Gently rub the back of paper with your fingertips or with a soft sponge. The acrylic medium may become cloudy when wet, but will dry clear.
- Let dry before second or Third round of peeling.
- Embellish your work with acrylic markers.
- Apply workable fixative over acrylic markers on panel.

Going Further
- Try alternative mark making techniques to other primed surfaces such as canvas, paper etc.
- Mix other painting technique with these newly learned techniques.