





Photo by Scott Dressel-Martin

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YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Denver Botanic Gardens' Freyer – Newman Center is a physical manifestation celebrating the fusion of science and art. The Center houses a circulating library, auditorium, art galleries, herbaria, classrooms and the School of Botanical Art & Illustration. Here, science and art unite to document human relationships with our environment.

This session, the School of Botanical Art & Illustration offers a variety of programs open to seasoned artists and aspiring creatives. Art Exploration classes inspire you to try diverse art media. Classes in the Certificate of Botanical Illustration program are open to all, even if you are not pursuing a certificate. Finally, Engage and Connect programs offer free or low-cost opportunities to explore creativity at the Gardens. We have something for everyone and look forward to learning with you.

Questions & Consultation

720-865-3670
sbai@botanicgardens.org

Information About Registration

720-865-3500
info@botanicgardens.org



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OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE & CONNECT

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Fee: Free with registration

Feed your curiosity about the creative sector with this lunchtime series. Held online, these free lectures address professional practices for creatives and highlight staff, botanical artists and speakers from the field. Advanced registration is required to receive the Zoom link.



Promoting Denver's Artists Through Dialogue

Online: Friday, August 2, noon – 1 p.m.

Learn about Denver's only art review and criticism magazine with Genevieve Waller, founder and editor, DARIA Magazine.



All About Artist Opportunities

Online: Friday, September 6, noon – 1 p.m.

Learn insider tips for artists wishing to gain more success in their art careers with art consultants Jennifer Perlow and Chris Stevens.



Building Diversity in Your Botanical Art Business

Online: Friday, October 4, noon – 1 p.m.

Hear from botanical artist Cara Cummings about how she developed multiple income streams including art workshops, product lines, a subscription series and more.



How Artist Residencies Inspire My Art Practice

Online: Friday, November 1, noon – 1 p.m.

Colorado artist Amy Clay has attended more than 30 artist residencies; hear about how to find programs, learn application tips and discover how to make the most of your time once there!



Grants, Exhibitions & Your Personal Art Style

Online: Friday, December 6, noon – 1 p.m.

Learn from Christiane Fashek, a recent American Society of Botanical Artists grant awardee, about the grant process, plus how to navigate being typecast as a particular type of artist.

INTERSECTIONS:

CONVERSATIONS ON ART & SCIENCE

Fee: \$10 member, \$12 non-member

These talks by artists, scientists, community members and activists explore a wide range of topics highlighting the junctions of art and science. Lectures are typically 45-60 minutes followed by discussion.



Artist Talk with Patrick Marold: Creative Responses to Environmental Conditions

HYBRID: Wednesday, September 18, 6 p.m.

Artist Patrick Marold's works are deeply tied to landscape and natural cycles. Marold discusses his current work and creative practice and time spent at the Arctic Circle Residency. View his work in the exhibition *Shadow and Light: Patrick Marold*, August 11, 2024 through January 5, 2025.



Film Screening and Director's Talk with Billy Kanaly: Denver Botanic Films

Onsite: Wednesday, October 9, 6 p.m.

Hear from Denver Botanic Gardens Films' director and producer about recent projects and learn about his process to create engaging content about plants and the natural world.



Artist Talk with Kiki Gaffney and Cherish Marquez: Land Line Artist Residency Reflections

Online: Wednesday, November 13, 6 p.m.

In this combined presentation, artists Kiki Gaffney and Cherish Marquez share about the projects they cultivated during their 2023 Land Line Artist Residencies at Denver Botanic Gardens.



Artist Talk with Viviane Le Courtois & Julia Zoltowsky: The Urban Food Forest

HYBRID: Wednesday, December 4, 6 p.m.

Can you grow food successfully in an urban environment? In this lively discussion, join artist Viviane Le Courtois and Julia Zoltowsky, the Gardens' manager of Urban Food Programs, as they share their experiences and passions around growing food and engaging with communities. Hear how art and gardening intersect and come away with newfound admiration for the power of urban gardens.



CREATIVE CONVENINGS

Fee: Free with registration | **ONSITE:** Friday, August 9, Thursday, November 14, 5-7 p.m.

Creatives of all kinds are welcome! We open our botanical illustration classrooms for you to explore, try new mediums and meet creatives of all types. Local guest artists, community partners and SBAI staff lead activities. Advanced registration required. BYOB wine and beer are permitted.



ART EXPLORATION

Unless noted, course fees do not include materials.

Lunchtime Zentangle®

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$22 member, \$25 non-member

ONLINE: Select Fridays, July 19, August 16, September 27, October 18, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Instructor: Stephanie Oliver

Spend your lunchtime practicing the beautiful and relaxing Zentangle artform. During each session learn different patterns and techniques. No experience needed.

Summer Themes in Gelli Plate

Printmaking

ONSITE: Wednesday, July 24, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Winter Themes in Gelli Plate

Printmaking

ONSITE: Friday, November 15, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$150 member, \$180 non-member

Instructor: Victoria Eubanks

This low-tech printmaking process using a gelatin plate is loose, fun and immensely satisfying. Create your own prints inspired by the natural world and the changing seasons using affordable, accessible materials.

Culturally Inspired Design

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$175 member, \$210 non-member

ONSITE: Saturday, July 27, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. & Sunday, July 28, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Gayle Imamura-Huffman

Explore cultural motifs, symbols and designs from around the world to create a colorful and highly unique work of art. Bring objects, textiles, folk art or other pictorial material to inform and incorporate into your artwork. Connect with your own cultural heritage or reflect on others that you admire.

Ceramic Candleholders

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$120 member, \$140 non-member

ONSITE: Sunday, August 18 & 25, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Brenda Jones

Create a ceramic candleholder inspired by garden animals. Learn the pinch pot method, then add embellishments or attachments to personalize your ideas. Finally, use colorful glazes to finish your piece. Note: Participants will need to pick up their finished work one week following the second session.

Nature Journaling: Summer

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$250 member, \$300 non-member

ONLINE: Thursday, August 29, September 5, 12 & 19, 26 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

ONSITE: Friday, August 30, September 6, 13 & 20, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Sarah Pedry

Nature journals can be filled with scientific observations, pressed leaves or imaginative drawings and notes. Students receive a set of prompts that highlight seasonal themes and encourage establishing your own connection with nature. This class can be taken for elective credit for BI students.

Create Your Own Botanical Mini-World

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$60 member, \$72 non-member

ONSITE: Saturday, September 7, 9:30-11:30 a.m. | **Instructor:** Amber Hage-Ali

Make your very own mini-world with [The Terrorium Shop](#)—Denver's home for unique art and natural history. Take home a customized small glass dome filled with one mounted butterfly specimen, dried botanicals, crystals and more. All specimens are ethically and sustainably sourced and collected postmortem. [Learn more.](#)

Exploring Printmaking

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$250 member, \$300 non-member

ONSITE: Wednesday, September 4, 11, 18 & 25, 5-8 p.m. | **Instructor:** Deb Rosenbaum

Explore a variety of simple printmaking techniques in this introductory sampler class. Start by sketching in the Gardens, then return to the classroom to learn basic printmaking techniques including relief, dry point intaglio and monotype. Bring a snack or beverage of your choice for this relaxed evening class.

Secrets of Silverpoint Drawing

Prerequisites: Some drawing experience recommended

Fee: \$120 member, \$140 non-member

ONSITE: Friday, September 13 & 20, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Tom Mazzullo

Practiced by Leonardo da Vinci and Albrecht Dürer, the silverpoint technique (or drawing with soft metals) was nearly lost for 500 years but has recently undergone a revival. Class discussion includes history of the medium, proper use of materials, preparation of paper and drawing methods as you draw inspiration from the rich tradition of still life compositions.

Paper Marbling

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$150 member, \$180 non-member

ONSITE: Saturday, September 21, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructor: Marc Horovitz

Traditional European marbling techniques produce exquisitely patterned papers. Learn the history and processes of marbling, including paper and sizing preparation, use of traditional tools, paint mixing and application. Following a demonstration, students marble their own sheets.

Print Your Socks Off!

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$60 member, \$72 non-member

ONSITE: Sunday, September 22, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Lori Ann Levy-Holm & Melinda Laz

Using live plant cuttings and flowers, explore steam printing on paper and fabric squares. Compose plant materials and print onto a pair of socks to create botanical footwear that will impress any fashion icon.

Abstract Botanical Art

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$250 member, \$300 non-member

ONLINE: Friday, October 4, 11, 18 & 25, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Sarah Pedry

Find new ways to express your unique relationship with plants through abstract art. Looking at a selection of works by historical and contemporary abstract artists, use their work to inspire a project with a plant subject of your choosing. Use a range of materials and techniques including drawing, painting and collage to help you discover a medium of expression that is right for you.



Gayle Imamura-Huffman, *Kesa in Orion Nebula*, gouache, 2022

ART EXPLORATION COURSES

Grief Is a Garden

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$225 member, \$270 non-member

ONSITE: Sunday, October 6, 13, 20, 27 & November 3, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Rebecca Peebles

Through creative exercises and visits to the Gardens, learn to use your emotions as artistic inspiration. In this mixed-media, collage-based course, participants explore how to visually communicate feelings that are difficult to express in words. Grief is often misunderstood as a sad mind state, but it can also be considered rich and dark: a healthy “soil” from which growth, meaning and beauty can be found. Partial scholarships are available by contacting Shimmering Wings at 720-443-3178.

Insect Pinning: Scorpion

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$60 member, \$72 non-member

ONSITE: Wednesday, October 30, 5-7 p.m.

Instructor: Amber Hage-Ali

Spend Halloween Eve mounting your own spooky scorpion specimen. Learn basic anatomy and lifestyle habits of scorpions before delving into techniques around relaxing and preserving your specimen. This class is sure to be a scream!



Deb Rosenbaum, *House (Birth)*, mixed media, 2023



Photo by Scott Dressel-Martin

FOCUS ON PICTURE BOOKS SERIES RETURNS!

Instructor: Darcy Evans

Picture Books: From Concept to Reality

Prerequisites: Previous picture book classes with Darcy Evans

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Onsite: Tuesday, September 3, 10, 17, 24 & October 1, 5-8 p.m.

Develop or finally finish that children's book project you've dreamed about! In this intermediate level course, students develop and produce a picture book. In addition to group discussions and instruction, individual attention is given to edit their illustrations from storyboard to reality. This class incorporates learning from previous classes and will focus on pacing, narrative illustration, page turns and building to a climax.

Focus on Picture Books: Introduction to Picture Book Layout and Design

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Hybrid: Wednesday, October 30, 5-8 p.m.

In this introductory course Darcy Evans teaches you how to use your art to better tell stories. Learn how to use design as communication, how to think about a whole book layout, composition and various picture book genres. If you have ever considered illustrating books for children, this class is for you!

Focus on Picture Books: Sequenced Illustrations to Build Narrative

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Hybrid: Wednesday, November 13, 5-8 p.m.

Are you interested in storytelling or how to use illustrations to tell a tale? Learn how composition effects pacing and plotting, how to build a page turn and how to use succession and sequencing effectively. Understand how to visually create narrative structure – an essential element in picture book illustration.

Focus on Picture Books: Illustrating Educational Books for Children

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Hybrid: Wednesday, November 20, 5-8 p.m.

From ABC books to 123s, from fun facts to inspirational biographies, we live in a golden age of children's nonfiction. Join us for a fun class where illustrations can come to life and teach us all a little something.

Focus on Picture Books: Illustrating Expressive Characters

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Hybrid: Wednesday, December 4, 5-8 p.m.

What makes a picture book memorable? Is it the quirky characters, the lush illustrations or the feelings it evokes? In this lecture, acquire tips for using layout, colors, style and so much more to create a story with emotional resonance.

EXHIBITIONS-RELATED CLASSES

Sketching Spirit Guides in the Gardens

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$60 member, \$72 non-member

Onsite: Saturday, July 20, September 7, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Anna Kaye

Observe and sketch the fantastical creatures from the Oaxacan workshop of artists Jacobo and María Ángeles in this season's outdoor sculpture exhibition *Spirit Guides*. Bring your choice of art materials. Stools, drawing boards and some basic drawing supplies are provided during this informal sketching class. Two dates offered, register for one or both!

Ceramic Animal Planters

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$180 member, \$216 non-member

Onsite: Sunday, July 21, 28 & August 4, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Cal Duran

Create an animal-shaped ceramic planter inspired by the *Spirit Guides* animals on view in the Gardens. Learn different clay hand-building and sculptural techniques and take home a fired, colorfully painted planter to hold your favorite houseplant.

Above It All: The Art of Map-making

Prerequisites: Drawing experience recommended

Fee: \$115 member, \$135 non-member

Onsite: Saturday, July 27, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructor: Stephanie Oliver

Using the exhibition *River's Voice: Textiles by Alexandra Kehayoglou* as inspiration, this class blends creativity and cartography. Master the basics of map layout, symbology and legibility as you explore the history and significance of hand-drawn maps. Optional: Bring sketches and collage materials to incorporate into your map and your favorite drawing tools.

Photographing Light & Shadow

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$150 member, \$180 non-member

Onsite: Saturday, August 24, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructor: Kevin Hoth

After visiting the Freyer – Newman Center exhibition *Shadow and Light: Patrick Marold*, hear educator and photographer Kevin Hoth discuss how he uses light and shadow in his own work. Learn several photographic techniques before venturing into the gardens with instant cameras to capture your vision. Instant cameras and film supplied; participants may bring their own digital cameras for additional exploration.

Figures in the Landscape

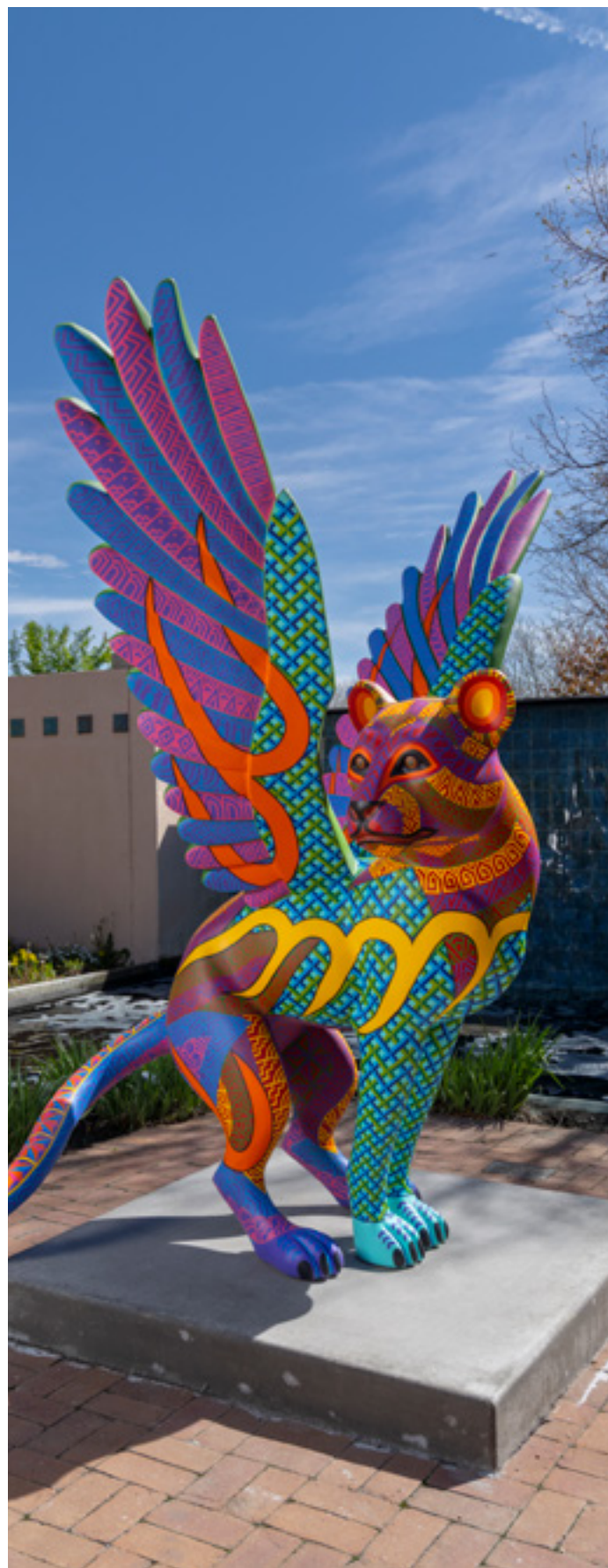
Prerequisites: Drawing experience recommended

Fee: \$180 member, \$216 non-member

Onsite: Wednesday, November 6, 13 & 20, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Deb Rosenbaum

Blend figure drawing with nature and narrative in this new class. Work with a live model to take dramatic reference photos in the gardens. The photos become source material to create an enigmatic work of art in the medium of their choice. With ongoing guidance and support from the instructor, learn the basics to depict a figure in nature in your own style.



Workshop of Jacobo and María Ángeles, *Jaguar-Eagle*, fiberglass and acrylic paint, 2024

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

Take one class or take them all! Classes, workshops and lectures are for anyone interested in scientific illustration.

The School of Botanical Art & Illustration at Denver Botanic Gardens was founded more than 40 years ago and continues to be among the few remaining programs of its kind in the world. The botanical illustration program focuses not only on artistic techniques but also on plants themselves. Courses in botany, visits to our [herbaria](#), [library](#) and opportunities to learn from staff horticulturists and researchers round out the curriculum and provide important context for the practice of botanical illustration. Our highly interactive studio classes, held in the Freyer – Newman Center or online, have low student-to-instructor ratios and include demonstrations, studio time and feedback in addition to discussions and opportunities for exhibition and publication.

Open Studio Time

Prerequisites: Current botanical illustration students

Fee: Free with registration

Onsite: Fridays, July 12, August 30, September 6, October 18, November 8, December 13, 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Need space to spread out and work outside of class time? We open our classrooms to students enrolled in the Botanical Illustration Certificate Program. Please note no instructor will be present. Registration is required at least 24 hours in advance. Scanning services available by advance request.

Botanical Illustration for Beginners

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$180 member, \$216 non-member

Onsite: Sunday, August 11 & 18, 1-4 p.m. | **Instructor:** Lori Ann Levy-Holm

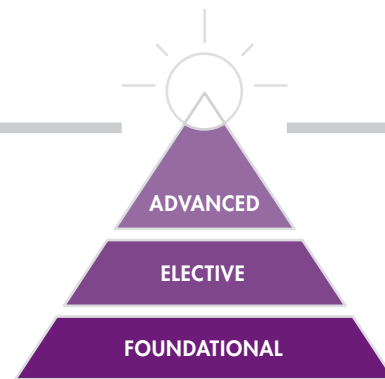
This class is a window into the methods and materials used in botanical illustration. Students receive a brief overview of the history and techniques used to create precise renderings with scientific value. Take a flower apart and look under the microscope to learn multi-sensory basic botany. Use graphite, colored pencil, watercolor and micron pens for simple drawing exercises. No art experience required and all materials supplied.



Charlotte Ricker, *Pollinators*, Denver Parks and Recreation, 2021

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

With ongoing support from Botanical Interests, the SBAI scholarship program offers tuition for courses in botanical illustration. Denver Botanic Gardens' core values guide our work and support our community: Transformation, Relevance, Diversity and Sustainability. To realize these values, the Gardens seeks to support and engage diverse perspectives. Applicants who identify as being from a marginalized community are strongly encouraged [to apply](#).



PATHWAYS & REQUIREMENTS

Courses may be taken in any order, provided all prerequisites have been met. Be sure to complete Elective hours, which can include lectures, along your way to the top!

FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

	COURSE COMPLETION	FOUNDATIONAL CERTIFICATE
REQUIREMENTS	Complete all Foundational courses and Elective hours	Complete all Foundational courses, additional Elective hours and submit portfolio for review and approval
REQUIRED COURSES	11 (all Foundational courses)	12 (all Foundational courses plus Portfolio Preparation)
REQUIRED ELECTIVE HOURS	20	40 (cumulative)
COURSES		PREREQUISITES
P 1 Drawing in Pencil 1		None
BOT Botany for the Botanical Illustrator		None
ICT Introduction to Color Theory		None
CLCP Color Layering for Colored Pencil		None
CMWC Color Mixing in Watercolor		None
LOF Light on Form		P 1
COMP Composition for Botanical Illustration		P 1 LOF
PERS Introduction to Perspective		P 1 LOF
P&I 1 Pen and Ink 1		P 1
CP 1 Colored Pencil 1		P 1 CLCP
WC 1 Watercolor 1		P 1 CMWC

ADVANCED COURSES

	COURSE COMPLETION	ADVANCED CERTIFICATE
REQUIREMENTS	Complete all Foundational and Advanced courses as well as Elective hours	Complete all Foundational and Advanced courses, additional Elective hours and submit portfolio for review and approval
REQUIRED COURSES	16 (all Foundational courses plus 4 Advanced courses)	17 (all Foundational and Advanced courses plus Portfolio Preparation (offered annually during Session 2))
REQUIRED ELECTIVE HOURS	80 (cumulative)	120 (cumulative)
COURSES		PREREQUISITES
CP 2 Colored Pencil 2		P 1 BOT LOF CLCP CP 1 COMP PERS
P 2 Drawing in Pencil 2		P 1 BOT LOF COMP PERS
P&I 2 Pen and Ink 2		P 1 BOT LOF P&I 1 COMP PERS
WC 2 Watercolor 2		P 1 BOT LOF CMWC WC 1 COMP PERS



FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

These core courses are required if working toward Botanical Illustration Completion or Certificate but are also open to anyone wishing to cultivate artistic knowledge and skills. Course fees do not include materials unless otherwise noted.

Drawing in Pencil 1

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Tuesday, July 23, 30, August 6, 13 & 20,
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | **Instructor:** Alex Boersma

Onsite: Wednesday, August 7, 14, 21, 28 & September 4,
1-4 p.m. p.m. | **Instructor:** Lori Ann Levy-Holm

Online: Monday, September 16, 23, 30, October 7 & 14, 5-8 p.m.
Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Onsite: Friday, October 18, 25, November 1, 8 & 15,
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | **Instructor:** Michael Campbell

Beginning with an overview of the elements of botanical illustration, learn the skills of careful observation for life-like drawings in graphite pencil. Step-by-step, build upon techniques to render accurate form, texture and detail, and emerge with the tools you need to draw anything.

Botany for the Botanical Illustrator

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$400 member, \$480 non-member

Onsite: Friday, August 16, 1-4 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, August 17 & 18, 9:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. | **Instructor:** Melissa Islam, Ph.D.

This basic botany class is designed specifically for artists to better understand the plant world. Take a close look at plant forms and learn to recognize botanical details to make your drawings more scientifically accurate and realistic. Don't miss this rare opportunity for a deep dive into botany with Dr. Melissa Islam, visiting Denver from Seattle.

Introduction to Color Theory

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Monday, July 29, August 5, 12, 19 & 26, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Lori Ann Levy-Holm

Onsite: Wednesday, October 23, 30, November 6, 13 & 20, 1-4 p.m.
Instructor: Gayle Imamura-Huffman

Designed to build your perceptual and conceptual color skills and vocabulary, this course prepares students to analyze color systems and how they affect hue, value, saturation – even psychology. Color-aid® paper and gouache paint are used to complete experimentations and observations with daily exercises in a color journal.

Color Layering for Colored Pencils

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$340 member, \$400 non-member

Onsite: Friday, July 12, 19, 26, August 9 & 16, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Michael Campbell

Online: Thursday, September 5, 12, 19, 26 & October 3, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Colored pencil presents a special challenge: mixing color directly on your drawing. Develop your own color workbook to speed color selection and application for future colored pencil drawings. Two-, three- and four-color mixing ensures the gorgeous greens, radiant reds and luscious lilacs you've been dreaming about. Class fee includes workbook by Susan Rubin; [a curated set of colored pencils](#) is available for sale.



Charlotte Ricker, *Pride of Madeira*

Color Mixing in Watercolor

Prerequisites: None | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Tuesday, July 23, 30, August 6, 13 & 20, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Alex Boersma

Online: Thursday, September 26, October 3, 10, 17 & 24, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Stephanie Oliver

Learn about paint properties and choosing pigments to build a system to consistently combine colors and eliminate frustrating trial-and-error. Exercises, demonstrations and discussion illuminate how to achieve the broadest possible spectrum so you can mix colors to accurately represent nature.

Light on Form

Prerequisites: **P 1** | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Onsite: Wednesday, September 4, 11, 18, 25 & October 2, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Online: Thursday, October 31, November 7, 14, 21 & December 5,
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | **Instructor:** Marjorie Leggitt

The secret to portraying light and shadow on your subjects lies in understanding the science of lighting as it applies to different three-dimensional forms. Beginning with basic geometric shapes, refine your skills to illustrate the lighting and volume of any subject. This class uses graphite pencil, but the principles apply to all other media.

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION PROGRAM FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

Composition for Botanical Illustration

Prerequisites: P 1 LOF | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Tuesday, September 3, 10, 17, 24 & October 1, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Lori Ann Levy-Holm

Online: Monday, November 11, 18, December 2, 9 & 16,

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | **Instructor:** Marjorie Leggitt

The difference between a pleasant picture and an amazing work of art is often the composition. This course begins with a study of how to use compositional elements and principles in your botanical illustrations. Create your own thumbnail compositions and develop more dynamic arrangements to enhance future illustrations.

Introduction to Perspective

Prerequisites: P 1 LOF | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Tuesday, August 6, 13, 20, 27 & September 3, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Online: Monday, November 11, 18, December 2, 9 & 16, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Marjorie Leggitt

Even experienced illustrators sometimes struggle with foreshortening and demonstrating depth. Closely observe botanical subjects that demonstrate each aspect of perspective to learn techniques for seeing and depicting depth accurately. Gain confidence in your drafting skills and improve your future drawings. This class uses only graphite pencil, but the principles apply to all media.

Pen and Ink 1

Prerequisites: P 1 | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Monday, July 15, 22, 29, August 5 & 12, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Marjorie Leggitt

Online: Tuesday, September 24, October 1, 8, 15 & 22,

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | **Instructor:** Alex Boersma

To create line, form and texture in gradations of black and white, practice this traditional illustration medium with a variety of pens. Expand your drawing repertoire through step-by-step instruction, demonstration and practice so that expressive line and stipple become part of your foundational artistic vocabulary and toolkit for accurate, skillful botanical illustration.



Lori Ann Levy-Holm, *Wyethia helenioides*, watercolor, 2024

Colored Pencil 1

Prerequisites: P 1 CLCP | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Onsite: Friday, July 12, 19, 26, August 9 & 16, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Michael Campbell

Online: Thursday, November 7, 14, 21, December 5 & 12, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Michael Campbell

Colored pencils are a versatile, affordable and portable medium perfect for sketching on-location, as well as producing stunning illustrations in the studio. Through instruction, demonstration and practice on small studies of botanical subjects, learn more advanced techniques of layering, building and burnishing color.

Watercolor 1

Prerequisites: P 1 CMWC | **Fee:** \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Onsite: Wednesday, August 21, 28, September 4, 11 & 18,

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | **Instructor:** Lori Ann Levy-Holm

Online: Tuesday, September 24, October 1, 8, 15 & 22, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Alex Boersma

Drawing skills and color mixing experience are combined to further explore watercolor paint. From flat and graded washes, to highlights and drybrush detail, discover the delight of putting brush and pigment to paper for transparent watercolor. Demonstrations and practical exercises guide you to build washes for depth of tone and shading, and how to create soft and hard edges.

JOIN US IN CRESTED BUTTE!

Denver Botanic Gardens is thrilled to participate in the 2024 Crested Butte Wildflower Festival. Join us for hikes with Vanessa the Nerdy Naturalist, plein air drawing on the trail, a botanical illustration short course and more! For information and to register, visit crestedbuttewildflowerfestival.org.



Photo by Melinda Laz



ADVANCED COURSES

These core courses are required for Advanced Completion and Advanced Certificate but are also open to experienced artists wishing to deepen their knowledge and skills handling artistic media.

Colored Pencil 2

Prerequisites: P 1 BOT LOF COMP PERS CLCP CP 1

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Tuesday, November 12, 19, December 3, 10 & 17, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Develop more advanced color pencil skills and gradually learn to create a layered drawing by experimenting with different surfaces and solvents for blending and shading. Practice techniques to create texture, detail, atmospheric perspective and depth to enhance your subject and make your drawings really pop.

Drawing in Pencil 2

Prerequisites: P 1 BOT LOF COMP PERS

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Monday, October 21, 28, November 4, 11 & 18, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Expand on the skills from Drawing in Pencil 1 to reinforce and refine your knowledge of graphite pencil. Build upon learnings to master techniques for shading, texture and perspective. Group instruction and individual attention are tailored to help you complete a botanical plate.

Pen and Ink 2

Prerequisites: P 1 BOT LOF COMP PERS P&I 1

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Monday, July 15, 22, 29, August 5 & 12, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Marjorie Leggitt

Explore the limitless world of value, saturation and texture to create dramatic black-and-white illustrations. Learn advanced techniques to make strokes that mimic the fuzz on ferns, the down on milkweed pods or the mottled colors of a variegated begonia.

Watercolor 2

Prerequisites: P 1 BOT LOF COMP PERS CMWC WC 1

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Friday, November 1, 8, 15, 22 & December 6, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Alex Boersma

This class brings it all together for watercolor: layering, shading, brush techniques, broad washes and building form. Draw from a live specimen to complete a finished botanical plate in this traditional medium. Discover colors that enhance perspective and depth, and gain confidence as you learn to implement final details and learn invaluable techniques to fix those inevitable “mistakes.”

FINISHED WITH THE COURSEWORK AND READY TO GRADUATE?

Portfolio Preparation

Prerequisites: All required course work to complete a Foundational or Advanced Certificate in Botanical Illustration (see page 7)

Fee: \$150 member, \$180 non-member

Online, Class 1: Wednesday, July 17, 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Onsite, Class 2: Saturday, August 17, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructors: School of Botanical Art & Illustration staff and instructors

This course is only for students who have completed all course work toward a Foundational or Advanced Certificate, and who wish to apply for final portfolio review and graduation.

Class 1: Discussion of portfolio requirements, including insight into what reviewers will be looking for in finished plates, discussion of important deadlines and Q&A session.

Class 2: A low-pressure, small group learning critique to review your five botanical illustration plates (in whatever state they are in) and to answer your questions!



David Morrison,
Ginkgo Twig Series No. 1,
colored pencil, 2023



ELECTIVE COURSES

Explore new techniques, subjects and media with our seasoned and visiting instructors. These courses and workshops are open to all artists. Course fees do not include materials unless otherwise noted.

Steppe Plants in Graphite & Watercolor

Prerequisites: Experience in graphite and watercolor recommended

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Onsite: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, October 4, 5 & 6, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructor: Marjorie Leggett

During the first class, learn from a Gardens staff member about steppe biomes. Each morning, sketch in the gardens en plein air. Back in the classroom, put composition theory into practice. Take advantage of individual help and critiques to produce a final plate of your selected steppe plant(s) and habitat.

Drawing Animals in Graphite: Mammals & Birds

Prerequisites: Experience in graphite recommended

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Thursday, July 25, August 1, 8, 15 & 22, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Alex Boersma

Learn how to draw mammals and birds and discuss how to use photo references while respecting the copyright of the photographers. Each class discusses animal anatomy before diving into how to render complex textures such as fur and feathers.

Drawing Animals in Graphite: Reptiles, Fish and More!

Prerequisites: Experience in graphite recommended

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Friday, November 1, 8, 15, 22 & December 6 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Alex Boersma

Explore how to draw reptiles, amphibians, fish and insects. Each class discusses animal anatomy before diving into how to render complex textures such as scales and shiny or transparent wings.

Plants and Insects in Colored Pencil

Prerequisites: Experience in colored pencil recommended

Fee: \$180 member, \$216 non-member

Onsite: Monday, August 12, 19 & 26, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Explore the complex relationships between plants and insects through research and close study of botanical and entomological specimens. Develop a narrative illustration in colored pencil, looking to historical and contemporary influences for inspiration. Experiment with techniques for using colored pencil on various substrates and papers, as well as tricks for capturing iridescence and delicate details.

Exploring Charcoal Drawing

Prerequisites: All skill levels welcome

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Onsite: Thursday, August 22, 29, September 5, 12 & 19, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Anna Kaye

Explore the bold, dramatic medium of charcoal drawing through fun, mark-making exercises and creative investigations into organic forms. Take inspiration from seasonal plants in the classroom and direct observation of flora in the gardens.



Anna Kaye, *Trailing Daisy*, (detail), charcoal on paper, 2021

ALLIUM ADVENTURES

Botany Spotlight: *Allium*

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Online: Tuesday, August 27, 5-7 p.m.

Instructor: Eric Block, Ph.D. and Melissa Islam, Ph.D.

Garlic, onions, leeks and other *Allium* have been known and valued as spices and food and used in traditional medicine since ancient times. Curious about why onions make you cry or how garlic causes bad breath? From art to science and everything in between, learn the fascinating history (including a little chemistry) of the expansive genus *Allium* from world expert and organic chemist Dr. Eric Block and botanist Dr. Melissa Islam.

Drawing *Allium* Flowers

Prerequisites: P 1 LOF CLCP

Fee: \$180 member, \$216 non-member

Online: Sundays, October 6, 13, 20, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

The large genus *Allium*, which includes garlic and onions, boasts some of the world's most beautiful blooms. The inflorescence of allium plants is complex and can be intimidating to draw, but fear not! In this three-week course, learn drawing strategies to tackle even the most complicated clusters of flowers. Working in colored pencil, work toward creating a finished botanical plate featuring their favorite *Allium*.



Photo by Melinda Laz

VISITING ARTISTS



Celebrating Imperfection in Watercolor with Julia Trickey

Prerequisites: Experience in watercolor recommended
Fee: \$180 member, \$216 non-member
Onsite: Monday, July 22, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Instructor: Julia Trickey

British watercolorist Julia Trickey brings her appreciation of fading flowers in this one-day, in-person class. Look at how to capture the fragility and elegance of less-than-perfect or desiccated blooms in watercolor. Consider the distinctive characteristics that need to be recorded and the techniques, starting with wet-in-wet, that can be used to convey these features.

A Conversation with Vincent Jeannerot

Prerequisites: None
Fee: \$10 member; \$12 non-member
Hybrid in Gates Hall and Zoom: Wednesday, July 31, 6 p.m.
Instructor: Vincent Jeannerot

Based in Lyon, France, botanical artist Vincent Jeannerot paints stunning florals and luscious fruits and vegetables in watercolor. His work reveals the finest nuances of his subjects, requiring precision and mastery of the craft. Join us for a conversation about his art and life, and how he translates his passion for plants to his many students worldwide.



Evening in the Garden with Vincent Jeannerot

Prerequisites: None
Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member
Onsite at Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms: Thursday, August 1, 6-8 p.m.
Instructor: Vincent Jeannerot & Denver Botanic Gardens Staff

Spend a summer evening at Chatfield Farms with French botanical watercolorist Vincent Jeannerot. Enjoy light refreshments while you tour the Market Garden with staff to learn about what's growing. Then, join Vincent for a discussion on what he looks for in botanical subjects. Wear your walking shoes and bring your questions for this special opportunity to see the farm and its gardens from multiple perspectives as the sun sets.

Summer Fruit and Vegetables in Watercolor with Vincent Jeannerot

Prerequisites: Experience with watercolor required; recommended for intermediate to advanced botanical illustration students
Fee: \$495 member, \$595 non-member
Onsite: Saturday, Sunday & Monday, August 3, 4 & 5, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Instructor: Vincent Jeannerot

Paint the bounty from the summer garden! Join renowned French botanical watercolorist Vincent Jeannerot for this special three-day watercolor workshop. Through demonstrations and personalized feedback, Vincent guides students to select the most compelling fruit or vegetable subject, prepare the composition, set up the palette and show how to build volume using the cross-hatching method.



Show and Tell with David Morrison

Prerequisites: Botanical illustration student or graduate
Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member
Onsite: Thursday, August 22, 6-8 p.m.
Instructor: David Morrison

During this special evening, renowned color pencil artist David Morrison brings a selection of his finished and in-progress works to share and discuss. Participants may each bring 1-3 works to share with the group in this casual critique environment.

Achieving Realism in Colored Pencils with David Morrison

Prerequisites: Experience with colored pencil required
Fee: \$495 member, \$595 non-member
Onsite: Friday, August 23, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, August 24-25, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Instructor: David Morrison

Prominent colored-pencil artist David Morrison returns to Denver for a special three-day in-person workshop. Working from live botanical subjects, participants learn the grisaille method of developing an under drawing with colored pencils, followed by adding multiple layers to create brilliant luminous color and pop-off-the-paper three-dimensionality. Class demonstrations and individual critiques strengthen your understanding of this lovely technique.

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION PROGRAM ELECTIVE COURSES

Drawing Bonsai in Pen & Ink

Prerequisites: Experience in pen & ink recommended

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Onsite: Friday, Saturday & Sunday September 20, 21 & 22, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructor: Marjorie Leggitt

Tour the Bill Hosokawa Bonsai Pavilion with Gardens staff and choose a live specimen to draw. Learn to capture the gesture and unique posture of your subject with loose pencil sketching techniques before working in micron pens. Step-by-step instruction and demonstration help to expand inking skills.

Autumn Trees in Scratchboard

Prerequisites: **P 1** **LOF** **P&I 1**

Fee: \$250 member, \$300 non-member

Onsite: Sunday, October 6, 13, 20 & 27, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Take inspiration from the magnificent trees at Denver Botanic Gardens to create dramatic black-and-white drawings in scratchboard. If you love working with pen-and-ink but find its permanence intimidating, this forgiving medium is for you. Apply black India ink to a white clayboard surface, then strategically scratch off the ink to reveal the form and texture of the tree.

Drawing Acorns & Oak Leaves

Prerequisites: Graphite experience recommended

Fee: \$250 member, \$300 non-member

Onsite: Wednesday, November 6, 13, 20 & December 4, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Michael Campbell

Using the Gardens' collection of oaks as subjects, learn about the fascinating varieties of oak trees and their acorns in Colorado and create a botanical plate using graphite or color pencil.

Exploring Carbon Dust

Prerequisites: Drawing experience recommended

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Thursdays, November 7, 14, 21, December 5, 12 (skip November 28), 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Deborah Shaw

The carbon dust technique was developed by medical illustrators in the early 20th century and is characterized by subtle and precise gradations of grey values. Using a combination of carbon pencil lines and carbon dust applied with brushes, this unique medium produces rich tonal renderings with the value range of charcoal and the precision of watercolor. Learn methodical layering skills to create luminous grey scale tones and values.

Sketching in the Conservatory

Prerequisites: Drawing experience recommended

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Onsite: Saturday, November 16, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Anna Kaye

Immerse yourself in the brilliant colors, forms and textures of the Boettcher Memorial Tropical Conservatory and find inspiration in *River's Voice: Textiles by Alexandra Kehayoglou* on view in the Freyer – Newman Center, drawing boards and some drawing materials provided.

Focus on Composition: Drawing Your Collections

Prerequisites: Drawing experience recommended

Fee: \$180 member, \$216 non-member

Online: Monday, December 2, 9 & 16, 5-8 p.m. | **Instructor:** Clair Gaston

Your shoebox collection of seed pods, shells, feathers, stones or dried botanicals make perfect subjects in this class focused on small details. Learn to compose and illustrate those treasured collections of small objects with colored pencil. Get inspired by Gaston to compose multiple objects in one drawing, colored pencil techniques like layering and blending and finishing touches for a compelling composition.

Drawing Poinsettias

Prerequisites: Drawing experience recommended

Fee: \$115 member, \$135 non-member

Onsite: Saturday, December 7, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Ricker

Native to Mexico and Central America, the poinsettia plant has long been adored for its lasting, brilliant red bracts and green leaves. Spend the day amidst the Gardens' holiday poinsettia display, looking closely at these blooms and sketching their form. Instructor-led demonstrations enhance your ability to translate what you see onto your paper and capture the brilliant colors of these seasonal plants in colored pencil.



BOTANY CLASSES

Botany and Field Sketching

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$75 member, \$90 non-member

Onsite: Wednesday, August 14,
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Instructor: Melissa Islam, Ph.D. &
Lori Ann Levy-Holm

A quick field sketch can capture the essence of a plant and provide valuable information for your work later. And with a little knowledge of plant morphology, you can hone your observational skills and capture key characteristics essential for an accurate illustration. This class introduces field-sketching techniques along with a brief overview of plant morphology.

The Botanist Is In

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Onsite: Friday, August 16, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Instructor: Melissa Islam, Ph.D.

Need a botanical review of your illustration? Let's review your illustration, at any stage, for botanical accuracy and explore ways to take your illustration to the next level.

How to Label Botanical Illustrations: Common and Scientific Names

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Online: Monday, September 9, 5-7 p.m.

Instructor: Cindy Newlander

Learn what's in a plant's name, what each of those words mean and how to properly write a scientific name to complete your botanical illustration plates. Gain insight into why plant names change and learn what resources you can use for staying current on these updates to plant nomenclature for researching names on your own. Selection and usage of common names is also covered.

Plant Identification 101

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$50 member, \$60 non-member

Onsite: Friday, October 18, 1-4 p.m.

Instructor: Alissa Iverson

Identifying plants can often be challenging, requiring an extensive background in botanical anatomy, taxonomy and vocabulary. Learn how to recognize some of the major plant families and discuss resources for identification (field guides, iNaturalist, SEINet and how to use a key). Class includes a tour of Dever Botanic Gardens' natural history collections.

Fifteen Common Plant Families

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$315 member, \$375 non-member

Online: Tuesday, November 5, 12, 19,
December 3 & 10, 5-8 p.m.

Instructor: Melissa Islam, Ph.D.

The incredible vascular plant diversity is wrangled into over 400 plant families. Yet, we tend to encounter the same handful of families repeatedly. Plants from these families are likely to be the subject of your art. Learn the morphological characteristics of these families to hone your observational skills and review the traits most critical to include in an illustration.



Christian Gottlieb, *Classis XIII Polyandria*, 1804

CHATFIELD FARMS EXPERIENCES

Drawing Flowers on the Farm

Onsite at Chatfield Farms: Tuesday, July 9,
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. **Instructor:** Lori Ann Levy-Holm

Sketching Landscapes at the Farm

Onsite at Chatfield Farms: Thursday, July 11,
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. **Instructor:** Anna Kaye

Prerequisites: None

Fee: \$115 member, \$135 non-member

Thirty minutes southwest of downtown, Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms is rich with varied flora and fauna and offers stunning vistas of the foothills. Bring your own paper or sketchbook and favorite art supplies. Drawing boards, stools and some basic drawing materials will be provided for this day at the farm.



Photo by Scott Dressel-Martin

REGISTRATION, GENERAL INFORMATION AND SCHOOL POLICIES

All classes take place in the Mountain Time Zone (MT). We do not record our online classes, however some lecture programs are recorded. Courses are geared toward people 17 and older. Certain classes in our Certificate of Botanical Illustration program may have prerequisites; please read the course descriptions for details. If you have questions, check our [FAQ page](#) or reach out to SBAI@botanicgardens.org. Whether you have questions about a course, art supplies or how to get started on your artistic journey, our friendly staff is here to help.

Become a Gardens member to receive a discount on course fees. If you are already a member, please check that your email and mailing address are current before registering.

REFUNDS OR CLASS CHANGES

To make changes to your registration, please contact Denver Botanic Gardens' Resource Center during business hours at info@botanicgardens.org or 720-865-3500.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations by students up to one week prior to class start are subject to a 15% cancellation fee. Class fees are non-refundable for cancellations seven days or less of class start date. Refunds or exchanges must be processed within two weeks of cancellation notice. Unfortunately, the Gardens cannot hold credits in your account. Classes may be cancelled or rescheduled at any time by Denver Botanic Gardens.

Registrations are not refunded for inclement weather or other extenuating circumstances. When possible, classes may shift to meet online, and this will be communicated via email.

ACCESSIBILITY

Please reach out to inquire about specific accommodations by emailing SBAI@botanicgardens.org.

GIVE THE GIFT OF CREATIVITY

Give the gift of learning with a gift certificate or a gift registration to classes in SBAI! Call our Resource Center during business hours at 720-865-3500 to learn more.

PRIVATE BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOPS

Looking for an inspiring, educational and fun way to connect with friends or colleagues? Join us at the Gardens for an introductory workshop in botanical illustration. Open to adult groups sized 8-25 people, this 3- or 5-hour experience includes a basic botany lesson, introductory drawing activities and a garden tour. All materials supplied. Reach out to SBAI@botanicgardens.org for information and pricing.



Photo by Scott Dressel-Martin

SCHOOL OF
BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION

AT DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

1007 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206
botanicgardens.org



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