

SUMMER/FALL 2011 CATALOG

CERTIFICATE IN BOTANICAL ART AND ILLUSTRATION

Botanical art and illustration is the well-established tradition of portraying plants for scientific purposes, recording vanishing species for historical record or rendering the beauty and inspiration we experience in the flora of the world around us.

Denver Botanic Gardens' Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration program is designed to offer a comprehensive series of classes in botanical illustration, providing participants the drawing and painting skills required to render accurate and useful depictions of the plant world with a focus on detail. This program is for the dedicated illustrator, as well as the devoted amateur. It culminates in a certificate for some students and offers an ongoing program of botanical classes for others.

INTRODUCTORY COURSE

Students wishing to learn more about botanical illustration, or to brush up on their skills before beginning the certificate sequence, can take Introduction to Botanical Illustration, which is not part of the certificate requirements.

REQUIRED COURSES

The following 13 courses are required if you wish to receive a Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration. The recommended sequence of courses is listed below. This succession is appropriate for both the certificate and the non-certificate student. **Classes should be taken in the order determined by their prerequisites.** Courses consist of exercises, critiques, demonstrations and homework assignments. A list of supplies for each course will be sent with class confirmation.

1. Botanical Illustration in Pencil I
2. Botany for the Botanical Illustrator
3. Botanical Illustration in Pencil II
4. Composition for Botanical Illustration
5. Color Layering for Colored Pencil
6. Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil I
7. Perfecting Perspective
8. Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil II
9. Color Mixing for Artists
10. Botanical Illustration in Pen and Ink I
11. Botanical Illustration in Pen and Ink II
12. Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I
13. Botanical Illustration in Watercolor II

ELECTIVE COURSES

Elective courses serve a variety of purposes. They are designed to increase the student's knowledge, ability and experience in botanical art. In addition to the 13 required courses, students must select 100 elective hours. The number of elective classes offered in any one year may vary. Guest instructor workshops may be taken as electives.

Please note: To receive credit for any course, attendance is required at the first class and at 80 % of all classes.

SCIENCE AND ART LECTURES

Selected lectures at Denver Botanic Gardens can qualify for elective credits. Participation in one lecture gives one elective credit hour; students can receive a maximum of 15 credit hours from these lectures. Café Botanique, organized by Mervi Hjelmsroos-Koski, is a lecture series open to Botanical Art and Illustration students, Gardens members, the general public, academia and artists. Pre-registration is recommended but not required.

PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Upon completion of all course work, you may apply for portfolio review (held twice a year) by requesting a transcript from the program manager when you request your review.

The complete portfolio will contain five (5) finished botanical plates:

1. Graphite pencil
2. Colored pencil
3. Pen and ink
4. Water media
5. **Artist's choice:** This can be a plate in any of the media taught within the program or a combination of them.