AUTUMN COURSE PREVIEW
A NOTE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

Botanical Illustration Programming
Denver Botanic Gardens School of Botanical Art & Illustration’s curriculum consists of a comprehensive series of classes in botanical illustration, providing the drawing and illustration skills required to render accurate and useful depictions of the plant world with a focus on scientific detail. This program is for the dedicated illustrator as well as the devoted amateur. You do not need previous art experience; this program will teach you all you need to know to become a botanic illustrator. It culminates in a foundational certificate or advanced diploma in botanical illustration for some students and offers an ongoing program of botanical illustration classes for others.

Visit our website for more information about our Botanical Art & Illustration program.

Art Exploration Programming
In addition to botanical illustration classes, fine art offerings provide opportunities to explore other media and techniques harnessing the inspiration of the natural world. Consider a class in creative journaling, collage or printmaking to discover new modes of expression. These classes are open to all regardless of previous art experience.

Visit our website for more information about our Art Exploration program.

Science & Art Lectures
Lectures include Café Botanique and other selected lectures. These lectures cover a wide range of topics that approach the intersection of art and science. Lectures are generally 30-40 minutes and are followed by a question and answer session and discussion. Selected lectures at Denver Botanic Gardens qualify for elective credits for the Botanical Illustration program. Attendance at one lecture gives one elective credit hour; students can receive a maximum of 15 credit hours from these lectures. Preregistration is required for credit toward your botanical illustration certificate or diploma.

Visit our website for more information about Science & Art Lectures.

Before You Register
Please ensure you have completed the prerequisites necessary for courses. Prerequisites are listed in the full course description or core botanical illustration courses can be found online. You will not be allowed to participate in your course if prerequisite requirements are not met. Normal refund policies apply. If you have more questions, check our FAQ page or email SBAI@botanicgardens.org.

Once You Register
A PDF syllabus, including materials, location or a zoom link for online offerings will be emailed to you upon registration. Please review this document carefully and contact SBAI@botanicgardens.org if you have any questions. If you need to make changes to your registration, please Denver Botanic Gardens Resource Center by emailing info@botanicgardens.org or calling 720-865-3500.

Refund Policy
Refunds for cancellations more than one week prior to class start are subject to a 15% cancellation fee. Cancellations made with less than one week’s notice are non-refundable. Some classes may have extended cancellation periods. These exceptions will be noted in the full course description online.

Please note this preview is NOT comprehensive. Dates and times are subject to change and courses may be added or cancelled. Stay up to date and in touch by following our Facebook page and signing up for our e-Newsletter.

AUTUMN COURSE PREVIEW
October 1 – December 31, 2021
Please note, these calendars show the start date only. Full course descriptions and dates (listed alphabetically by title) begin on page 7. All classes are shown in Mountain Time Zone. Find your local time with this time zone converter.
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- **Oct. 1** Color Layering in Colored Pencil (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Oct. 4** Introduction to Botanical Illustration (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Oct. 4** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I (1-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 4** Composition for Botanical Illustration (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 4** *GUEST INSTRUCTOR* Refined Finishing Colored Pencil with Rogério Lupo (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 5** *GUEST INSTRUCTOR* Introduction to Caribou Hair Tufting & Sculpting with MJ Belcourt Moses (2-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 6** Light on Form (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 6** Color Mixing in Watercolor (1-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 6** *NEW From the Herbarium: Scientific Plates in Pen & Ink* (1-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 6** Botanical Illustration in Pen & Ink I (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 8** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Oct. 12** Color Layering in Colored Pencil (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 12** Botany for Botanical Illustrators (6-8:30 p.m.)
- **Oct. 14** *NEW* Fantastic Florals in Collage (2-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 14** The Botanist Is In (10-11 a.m.)
- **Oct. 15** *NEW* The Artist’s Journal: Autumn (2-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 19** *NEW* Towering Trees in Colored Pencil (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 19** *NEW* Beautiful Birds in and by the Water (1-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 20** *GUEST INSTRUCTOR* Botanical Textures in Watercolor with Julia Trickey (8-10 a.m.)
- **Oct. 25** *GUEST INSTRUCTOR* Introduction to Encaustics with Victoria Eubanks (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.)
- **Oct. 25** Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil I (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 25** Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil II (1-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 25** *GUEST INSTRUCTOR* Telling Stories Through Picture Books with Darcy Evans (6-8 p.m.)
- **Oct. 27** Perfecting Perspective (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Oct. 28** Color Mixing in Watercolor (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Oct. 28** Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I (1-4 p.m.)
- **Oct. 30** *NEW* Bookbinding of the Month: Accordion Fold, Hard Cover (9 a.m. – noon)
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- **Nov. 2** Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil I (1-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 3** Botanical Illustration in Pen & Ink I (1-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 3** Botanical Illustration in Pencil II (6-9 p.m.)
- **Nov. 5** Color Layering for Colored Pencil (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Nov. 10** NEW Christmas Cactus in Transparent Acrylics (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Nov. 10** Light on Form (1-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 11** NEW Advanced Carbon Dust (1-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 12** NEW Graphic Illustration in Graphite & Colored Pencil (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Nov. 12** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I (1-4 p.m.)

- **Nov. 13** GUEST INSTRUCTOR Plant Portraits in 3D with Javier Flores (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Nov. 15** NEW Advanced Gouache (2-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 15** NEW Poinsettias in Transparent Acrylics (1-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 15** NEW Illuminated Seasons: Story in the Round (1-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 16** Abstract Art & Botanical Inspiration (2-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 16** NEW Paper, Wire, Clay – Model Making for Illustration (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Nov. 16** Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil II (1-4 p.m.)
- **Nov. 16** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I (9 a.m. - noon)
- **Nov. 16** Composition for Botanical Illustration (1-4 p.m.)

- **Nov. 18** The Botanist Is In (7-8 p.m.)
- **Nov. 18** GUEST INSTRUCTOR Exploring Fine Art Papers (6-7:30 p.m.)
- **Nov. 19** Perfecting Perspective (9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.)
- **Nov. 20** NEW Bookbinding of the Month: Flag Book (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Nov. 20** NEW SBAI Supply Swap & Shop (10 a.m. – noon)
- **Nov. 22** NEW Color Theory Fundamentals (9 a.m. – noon)
- **Nov. 22** GUEST INSTRUCTOR Fading Flowers with Julia Trickey (8-10 a.m. & 1-2 p.m.)
- **Nov. 24** A Closer Look at Lichen & Fungi (9 a.m. – noon)
December 2021

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- **Dec. 1**  *NEW Art Nouveau Birds & Botanicals* (1-4 p.m.)
- **Dec. 6**  *Introduction to Watercolor Pencils* (6-9 p.m.)
- **Dec. 9**  *The Botanist Is In* (10-11 a.m.)
- **Dec. 9**  *NEW Botany Spotlight: Botanical Secrets to Accurate & Vibrant Illustrations* (7-9 p.m.)
- **Dec. 11**  *NEW Bookbinding of the Month: Piano Hinge* (9 a.m. – noon)

Unless noted, all classes are online (Mountain Time Zone).

Look for the 2022 Winter Preview in November.

2022 winter registration (January, February, March) opens December 1 at 10 a.m. MT.
A Closer Look at Lichens & Fungi

Small, if not tiny, and often overlooked, lichen and fungi play a crucial role in our ecosystem, providing food, shelter, dyes, nutrients and medicinal benefits. In this class, become acquainted with major groups, structures and textures, and requisite habitats of lichen and fungi. Using colored pencil and micro pen on film, render either a mushroom or lichen image on drafting film which will measure up to scientific scrutiny. Precise observation, rendering structural and textural detail, proper line placement and light on form are all skills easily transferable to other media or subjects.

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Program. The course fee includes a selection of lichens shipped to you.

Please Note: This course has an extended cancellation deadline. No refund after November 10. There is an additional fee to ship materials outside of the state (starting at $5). We cannot ship materials for this course outside of the continental United States.

Prerequisites: Colored Pencil I
Fee: $235 member | $270 non-member
Online: November 24, December 1, 8, 15
9 a.m. – noon MT
Instructor: Heidi Snyder

Abstract Art & Botanic Inspiration (formerly known as Plant Abstraction)

Capturing the beauty and mystery of plants is about more than just a realistic drawing. In this class, explore the use of abstraction to convey the complex emotional and experiential nature of plant life. We look at the work of artists Ellsworth Kelly, Georgia O’Keefe, Cy Twombly, Alma Thomas and others who have used plants as both inspiration and subject in abstraction. Abstraction is a wonderful way to explore a side of yourself that empowers intuition, emotion and spontaneity. Practice techniques to loosen your mind and hands to create your own abstract artwork. This is an excellent practice for even the most dedicated representational artists. Use a wide range of materials including graphite, watercolor and acrylic paint.

This course is part of our Botanical Art Exploration program and open to anyone. This course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: none
Fee: $175 member | $210 non-member
Online: November 16, 23, 30, December 7, 14
2-4 p.m. MT
Instructor: Sarah Pedry
NEW Advanced Gouache
Continue your study of gouache and its many uses in this relaxed painting course. Get an introduction to acrylic gouache and learn how to use it independently and alongside traditional gouache. Additionally, learn how to create more complex images with layers of drawings and color. Students are encouraged to practice styles that emphasize creativity and personal expression.

This course is part of our Art Exploration program and open to everyone. Previous experience using gouache required. The course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: Familiarity with gouache
Fee: $175 member | $210 non-member
Online: November 15, 22, 29
December 6, 13, 2-4 p.m. MT
Instructor: Sarah Pedry

NEW The Artist’s Journal: Autumn
Autumn is a beautiful season full of changing plants, shifting colors and a distinct feeling of change in the air. Explore autumn’s specific color palette, observe all the seeds and nuts developing, draw migrating birds and work on “shaping” your text. An artist’s journal documents the beauty of nature in a unique and personal format. Students receive a set of prompts for nature walks that highlight seasonal themes and encourage intimate connection with nature. In the studio, use drawing, painting, writing and mixed media to tell the story of your experiences in nature. The goal of the class is to begin a habit of regular nature journaling in your own creative style.

This course is part of the Art Exploration program and open to everyone. The course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: none
Fee: $175 member | $210 non-member
Online: October 15, 22, 29
November 5, 2-4 p.m. MT
Instructor: Sarah Pedry

NEW Art Nouveau Birds & Botanicals
Render a bird in colored pencil on drafting film in the unique and international design style of Art Nouveau. Discover the basics of working on drafting film while exploring this appealing and popular style of architecture, home décor, stained glass and jewelry. A bird outline is provided, then you can add your own botanical and other design elements according to Art Nouveau style. In this manner you create one-of-a-kind “new Art Nouveau art.”

This class is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Program. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. The course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: Botanical illustration in Colored Pencil I (Colored Pencil II recommended) OR a certificate, diploma or degree in botanical or scientific illustration with experience in colored pencil.
Fee: $160 member | $190 non-member
Online: December 1, 8, 15, 1-4 p.m. MT
Instructor: Heidi Snyder

NEW Beautiful Birds in and by the Water
Birds, birds, ducks, geese, pelicans, herons, egrets, wading birds, shore birds and more. Join us as we render our feathered friends in colored pencil on drafting film. Learn how to work with drafting film (mylar) and achieve effects such as reflections and soft backgrounds, taking full advantage of mylar’s properties. Also learn how to draw a scientifically correct bird of your own choosing, place it correctly in, on or by the water while observing scientific accuracy, attention to detail and sound design principles. You are encouraged to use your own reference materials, but reference photos can also be provided.

The acquired skills of observation, analysis, attention to detail and problem solving are easily transferable.

This class is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Program. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. The course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: Botanical illustration in Colored Pencil I
Fee: $175 member | $210 non-member
Online: October 15, 22, 29
November 5, 2-4 p.m. MT
Instructor: Sarah Pedry
**SCHOOL OF BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION**

**Prerequisites:** Botanical illustration in Colored Pencil I (Colored Pencil II recommended) OR a certificate, diploma, or degree in botanical or scientific illustration with experience in colored pencil.

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member

**Onsite:** October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16 1-4 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** Heidi Snyder

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**The Botanist Is In**

Sign up for a botanical review of your illustration at any stage in the process with botanist Melissa Islam, Ph.D. In these small group sessions, Islam reviews for botanical accuracy and provides constructive feedback to help you take your botanical illustrations to the next level.

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Program.

**Prerequisites:** Any level one Botanical Illustration Core Course

**Fee:** $20 member | $25 non-member

**Online:** October 14, 10-11 a.m. MT

**Online:** November 18, 7-8 p.m. MT

**Online:** December 9, 10-11 a.m. MT

**Instructor:** Melissa Islam, Ph.D. (all courses)

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**NEW Bookbinding of the Month: Piano Hinge**

The book can be used as an artistic expression or as an artistic vehicle. Making your own handmade books opens a world of possibilities: journals, sketch books or artist creations. Books can be a place for your botanical art, your thoughts, your sketches or they can be the art itself.

The piano hinge book is named for the way the spine is woven together which resembles the hinge of a piano lid. This fun and unique binding is simple to create and allows for creative variations. The book we create in this workshop will be a practice dummy so that you can understand the structure before you plan artwork for your book.

This course is part of our Art Exploration program and open to everyone. No previous experience in bookbinding necessary. The course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** none

**Fee:** $55 member | $65 non-member

**Online:** December 11, 9 a.m. – noon MT

**Instructor:** Shiere Melin

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**NEW Bookbinding of the Month: Accordion Fold, Hard Cover**

Making your own handmade books opens a world of possibilities: journals, sketch books or artist creations. Books can be a place for your botanical art, your thoughts, your sketches or they can be the art itself.

There are numerous versions of accordion fold books. We start with the basics and add a hard cover to the front and back. We also explore variations of this very adaptable handmade book style. The books we create in this workshop will be practice dummies so that you can understand the structure before you plan artwork/text for your book.

This course is part of our Art Exploration program and open to everyone. No previous experience in bookbinding necessary. The course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** none

**Fee:** $55 member | $65 non-member

**Online:** October 30, 9 a.m. – noon MT

**Instructor:** Shiere Melin

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**NEW Bookbinding of the Month: Flag Book**

Making your own handmade books opens a world of possibilities: journals, sketch books or artist creations. Books can be a place for your botanical art, your thoughts, your sketches or they can be the art itself.

This deceptively simple flag book structure has an accordion fold spine with rows of flags attached to the opposite sides of the spine folds. When read page by page, the viewer sees disjointed fragments of image and text. When the spine is pulled fully open, these fragments assemble a panoramic spread. This transformation is accompanied by a delightful flapping sound. The spine and covers provide opportunities for additional imagery. The books we create in this workshop will be practice dummies so that you can understand the structure before you plan artwork for your book.

**Prerequisites:** none

**Fee:** $55 member | $65 non-member

**Online:** November 18, 7-8 p.m. MT

**Online:** December 9, 10-11 a.m. MT

**Instructor:** Melissa Islam, Ph.D. (all courses)
This course is part of our Art Exploration program and open to everyone. No previous experience in bookbinding necessary. The course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** none  
**Fee:** $55 member | $65 non-member  
**Online:** November 20, 9 a.m. – noon MT  
**Instructor:** Shiere Melin

### Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil I
This versatile, portable medium is perfect for sketching on location as well as producing in studio. You have learned to layer colored pencil; now learn techniques to draw effectively in this medium. Apply your drawing skills and learn new methods specific to colored pencil. Learn more about layering, building and burnishing in color. Learn through instruction, demonstration and practice on small studies of botanical subjects. You will be ready to produce a finished plate in Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil II.

This is a core course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program. You must have the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials. Expect to dedicate two or more hours to homework outside of class time each week.

**Prerequisites:** Light on Form, Color Layering for Colored Pencil  
**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member  
**Online:** October 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22  
9 a.m. – noon MT  
**Online:** November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 1-4 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Susan DiMarchi (both courses)

### Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil II
Take your colored pencil skills to the next level and become proficient in this fun, versatile medium. Work through a step-by-step process to create a preparatory layered drawing. Learn techniques to create texture, detail and depth to enhance your subject. Experiment with different surfaces and solvents for blending and shading. Add depth with atmospheric perspective and learn finishing techniques that will make your drawings pop. Individual attention guides you to create a finished botanical plate.

This is a core course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program. You must have the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials. Expect to dedicate two or more hours to homework outside of class time each week.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil I, Botany for the Botanical Illustrator, Composition for Botanical Illustration, Perfecting Perspective  
**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member  
**Onsite:** October 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22  
1-4 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Susan DiMarchi  
**Onsite:** November 16, 30, December 7, 14, 21  
1-4 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Phillip Potter

### Botanical Illustration in Pen & Ink I
Pen and ink is expressive, effective and is the heart of botanical illustration. Expand your drawing repertoire as you learn techniques to create line, form and texture in black and white. Expressive line and stipple become part of your artistic vocabulary as you practice this traditional illustration medium with modern and versatile technical pens. Step-by-step instruction, demonstration and practice give you the foundation you need to draw any botanical subject accurately and skillfully.

This is a core course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program. You must have the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials. Expect to dedicate two or more hours to homework outside of class time each week.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I, Light on Form  
**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member  
**Onsite:** October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3  
1-4 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Shiere Melin  
**Online:** November 3, 10, 17, 24, December 1  
1-4 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Renee Jorgensen
Botanical Illustration in Pencil I
Learn the skills of careful observation and realistic drawing in graphite pencil, including line drawing, shading and perspective. Begin with an overview of the specific elements of botanical illustration. Step-by-step added techniques help you render accurate perspective, texture and detail. This entry level course is a prerequisite for all required courses to follow. Emerge from this class with the tools you need to draw anything.

This is a core course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program. You must have the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials. Expect to dedicate two or more hours to homework outside of class time each week.

**Prerequisites:** none
**Fee:** $315 | $265 member
**Online:** October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1 1-4 p.m. MT
**Instructor:** Lori Ann Levy-Holm
**Onsite:** October 8, 9, 10 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT
**Instructor:** Susan DiMarchi
**Onsite:** November 12, 19, December 3, 10, 17 1-4 p.m. MT
**Instructor:** Shiere Melin
**Online:** November 16, 30, December 7, 14, 21 9 a.m. – noon MT
**Instructor:** Phillip Potter

Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I
Combine drawing skills and your knowledge of color mixing as you discover the delight of putting brush to paper. Learn specific techniques for transparent watercolor and become part of the watercolor botanical tradition. Instruction, demonstration and practical exercises guide you through a variety of watercolor techniques: flat and graded washes, highlights and drybrush detail. Learn to build washes for depth of tone and shading and how to create soft and hard edges. With these foundational skills, you’ll be ready to create a finished plate in Botanical Illustration in Watercolor II.

This is a core course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program. You must have the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials. Expect to dedicate two or more hours to homework outside of class time each week.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I, Color Mixing in Watercolor, Light on Form
**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member
**Online:** October 28, November 4, 11, 18 December 2 1-4 p.m. MT
**Instructor:** Renee Jorgensen
GUEST INSTRUCTOR
Botanical Textures in Watercolor with Julia Trickey

This class looks at how to convey in watercolor some of the different surface textures seen in the plant kingdom: shiny, papery, velvety, bloom, etc.

Using fruit, vegetables, flowers and photos, each session focuses on one of these textures and consists of presentations and live painting demonstrations, with short exercises and longer projects for you to try during and after the sessions. One to one advice is given as far as possible.

This class is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Program. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. The course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I
Fee: $175 member | $245 non-member
Online: October 20, 27, November 3, 10
8-10 a.m. MT
Instructor: Julia Trickey

Julia Trickey is an award-winning UK botanical artist and experienced tutor whose glowing watercolors depict the beauty and detail of nature. She has been painting botanical watercolors for more than 20 years, has exhibited all around the world and has received numerous awards for her botanical watercolors, including four RHS gold medals. Her British Flora illustrations have been seen on Royal Mail Post & Go stamps. She has written practical articles for national magazines as well as self-published various botanical art resources (available through her Etsy shop).

Botany for the Botanical Illustrator

Do you know what the difference is between a carpel and a pistil? Where you can find the stamen? The science of the subjects you draw determines what you see! We cover the basics of plant morphology including vegetative, floral and fruit structures. We explore some flowering plant families with unique floral morphology and examine the importance of pollinators in shaping floral morphology and mechanisms of seed dispersal. We also explore how plants have adapted to different environments. Gain an understanding of how plants are named and the importance of taxonomy. Botanical illustration requires a knowledge of plants and their parts – leave class ready to illustrate anything!

This is a core course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program but is open to everyone. This course fee does not include materials. Expect to dedicate one or more hours to homework outside of class time each week.

Prerequisites: none
Fee: $265 member | $315 non-member
Online: October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16
6-8:30 p.m. MT
Instructor: Melissa Islam, Ph.D.
NEW Botany Spotlight: Botanical Secrets to Accurate & Vibrant Illustrations

Botanical illustrations are often thought of as art in the service of science, but science can serve the art and the artist. Let’s learn how to look closely, read botanical descriptions and interpret specimens and images to decipher the botanical characteristics that are essential to include in botanical illustrations. By understanding what is essential to accurately render overall form and minute details, your botanical art will leap from the page.

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Certificate program but is open to everyone. The course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: none
Fee: $40 member | $50 non-member
Online: December 9, 7-9 p.m. MT
Instructor: Melissa Islam, Ph.D.

NEW Christmas Cactus in Pen & Ink

The Christmas cactus is a well-known house plant. You may even have one in your home. Did you know the native genus is indigenous to the coastal mountains of Brazil? The simple and repetitious shapes, the complexity of changing angles and perspective, the range of form and spatial values make our house plant cultivar a perfect candidate to capture in pen and ink. With step-by-step guidance, explore new and contemporary compositions, create an instructional value map, emerge yourself in the Zen of stipple and line. Class exercises provide a review of tool usage and mark-making. Advanced quill and technical pen “jewel boxes” explore new ways to suggest form, texture and deep space using stipple, line and various combinations of both. Take advantage of one-on-one critiques and finish the class with a beautiful pen and ink illustration you can use for notecards or a holiday gift!

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate and Diploma programs. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. The course fee does not include materials.

Prerequisites: Botanical Illustration in Pen & Ink II OR a certificate/diploma in botanical illustration with advanced pen & ink skills
Fee: $265 member | $315 non-member
Online: November 10, 11, 12
9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT
Instructor: Marjorie Leggitt

Color Layering for Colored Pencil

Colored pencil presents a special challenge: mixing color directly on your drawing. Learn to use a simple color-mixing method adapted to the application of colored pencils. Two-, three- and four-color mixing will get you to the gorgeous greens, radiant reds and luscious lilacs you’ve been dreaming of. Practice color matching with a variety of plant material as you create your own extensive color workbook to speed color selection and application for all feature colored pencil drawings.

This is a required course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program but is open to all. Expect to dedicate two or more hours to homework outside of class time each week. This course fee includes most of the materials you will need for this and other colored pencil courses taken through the School of Botanical Art & Illustration.

Prerequisites: none
Fee: $475 member | $525 non-member
Online: October 1, 2, 3 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT
Online: October 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9
9 a.m. – noon MT
Instructor: Susan DiMarchi

Color Mixing in Watercolor

The first step to watercolor painting is mixing colors. Learn a system for combining colors consistently to eliminate frustrating trial and error. Exercises, demonstrations and discussion show you how to achieve the broadest possible spectrum. Learn about paint properties and important information about choosing pigments. Practice mixing colors to match a variety of plant material. Gain confidence and skills to improve your color work.

This is a required course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program but is open to all. Expect to dedicate one or more hours to homework outside of class time each week. This course fee includes most of the materials you will need for this and other watercolor courses taken through the School of Botanical Art & Illustration.

Prerequisites: Botanical Illustration in Pen & Ink II OR a certificate/diploma in botanical illustration with advanced pen & ink skills
Fee: $40 member | $50 non-member
Online: November 5, 6, 7, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT
Instructor: Phillip Potter

Susan Rubin

Susan DiMarchi

Ellen Bell
SCHOOL OF BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION

Color Theory Fundamentals

Color theory is the study of color and light. Color systems are analyzed to see how they affect hue, value and saturation, as well as their psychological implications. This course is designed to build your perceptual and conceptual color skills, vocabulary, and is appropriate for the beginner as well as for the professional. We use color aid paper and gouache paint to document our experimentations and observations with daily color exercises in a color journal.

This Art Exploration course is also a Botanical Illustration Certificate & Diploma elective. It is open to all artists. The course fee does not include materials.

Composition for Botanical Illustration

The arrangement of line, shape and color in artwork is itself an art form. 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 illustration. Create your own thumbnail composition and develop insight and expertise to enhance your future illustrations.

This is a required course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program but is open to all. This course fee does not include materials.
Fantastic Florals in Collage
Join us for a creative exploration of some fantastically weird plants in this mixed-media collage class. Each week we re-imagine a unique plant specimen in a cut-paper collage using hand-painted paper and ink. Our projects won’t be exact replicas, but creative re-interpretations of these strange plants that incorporate your imagination and creative vision!

The natural world is full of strange specimens: plants that look like ducks, trap insects and, shall we say, don’t smell like roses! Each week we learn a little about these interesting plants and then get to work on capturing their plant personalities in a work of art.

For inspiration we view the artwork of fine artists and botanical illustrators who have used creative techniques to capture the beauty of plants in creative ways. From 17th century engravings to the wildly creative mixed-media plant drawings of Salvador Dalí and the abstracted vision of Henri Matisse, you have license to explore wherever your imagination takes you.

This course is part of our Art Exploration Program and open to all. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** none  
**Fee:** $175 member | $210 non-member  
**Online:** October 14, 21, 28, November 4  2-4 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Sarah Pedry

From the Herbarium: Scientific Plates in Pen & Ink
Here’s a golden opportunity to access the Gardens’ new herbarium in the new Freyer – Newman Center! You will meet staff and select a specimen to study and illustrate. You will use microscopes to view details to create a full life cycle botanical plate in (flexible, quill) pen and ink.

This course is an elective for the Botanical Illustration Certificate & Diploma programs. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. The course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I, Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I  
**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member  
**Onsite:** November 12, 19, December 3, 10, 17  9 a.m. – noon MT  
**Instructor:** Shiere Melin

Graphic Illustration in Graphite & Watercolor
The graphic roots of Dugald Stermer (1936-2011) led to a renown career as illustrator, writer and teacher—including a position as chair of the Illustration Department at California College of the Arts. His unique graphic work combining graphite and color has been widely published in magazines and books. In this class, we create plates inspired by Stermer’s flora illustrations, his drawing style and mixed media approach.

This course is an elective for the Botanical Illustration Certificate & Diploma programs. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. The course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pen & Ink I or a certificate, diploma or degree in botanical illustration with advanced pen & ink experience  
**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member  
**Onsite:** October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3  9 a.m. – noon. MT  
**Instructor:** Shiere Melin
SCHOOL OF BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION

NEW **Illuminated Seasons: Story in the Round**

Seasons tell a story, each filled with festivals and ceremonies. Create and illuminate a seasonal theme as a story in the round. Select one of the four seasons or a holiday theme, work with color in a media of your choice and finish with embellishment using sparkling gold accents.

This course is an elective the Foundational Certificate in Botanical Illustration. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I, and any of the Watercolor Pencil mixed media classes or Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I, Botanical Illustration in Pen & Ink I or a degree/certificate/or diploma in illustration.

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member

**Online:** November 15, 29, December 6, 13, 20

1-4 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** Renee Jorgensen

**GUEST INSTRUCTOR**

**Introduction to Caribou Hair Tufting and Sculpting with MJ Belcourt Moses**

The art of sculpting caribou hair is a contemporary art form which became popular in the early 1900s with Indigenous people of northern Canada. This decorative art form utilizes a technique in which three-dimensional flowers and leaves are created by tightly pulling small bunches of hair under a loop stitch and fastening it off. The hairs are then fanned out on all sides of the stitch and trimmed into smooth-rounded tufts. By cutting a shape out of the hide with the hair intact and trimming layers of hair artists create a three-dimensional design. In this course we briefly explore the history of this art form and learn about the people who first created it. Learn the basics of caribou hair-tufting and design and create a piece of your own.

This course is part of the Art Exploration program and open to everyone. The course includes most materials.

Please note: This course has an extended cancelation deadline. No refund after September 21. There is an additional fee to ship materials outside of the state (starting at $5). We cannot ship materials for this course outside of the continental United States.

**Prerequisites:** none

**Fee:** $110 member | $125 non-member

**Online:** October 5 & 12, 2-4 p.m. MT &

October 19, 3-4 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** MJ Belcourt Moses

Melissa-Jo Belcourt (MJ) comes from a rich Métis ancestry and possesses a wealth of cultural skills acquired from Métis and First Nation Elders and Knowledge Holders throughout northern and central Alberta, Canada. Her passion lies in her cultural heritage, where she continues to research to find better understanding of her ancestral legacy. As a certified instructor, she has taught decorative arts and creative skills within Indigenous cultural art programs. In 2018, through the initiative of Canadians for a Civil Society, MJ received the Daughter of the Year award, and in 2019, she accepted the role as Edmonton’s Indigenous Artist in Residency.

**Introduction to Botanical Illustration**

Start at the beginning. Whether you’ve had no experience with drawing or have forgotten what you learned way back when, this is the class for you. Learn step by step in this gently paced course. Carefully explained demonstrations, simple exercises and helpful critiques show you how to draw what you see. Build your skills and enter the School of Botanical Art & Illustration with confidence.

This Art Exploration course is also a Botanical Illustration Certificate elective and is open to all. The course fee does not include materials.

This course is open to everyone, however if you are already confident in your drawing ability and working toward your botanical illustration certificate, please proceed directly with Botanical Illustration in Pencil 1.

**Prerequisites:** none

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member

**Online:** October 4, 11, 18, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** Renee Jorgensen
**Guest Instructor**

Introduction to Encaustics with Victoria Eubanks

Curious about encaustic? This workshop is for you! Discover what you can create with this ancient, luminous medium — a molten mixture of beeswax, tree sap and pigment. This is a two-day, basic encaustic techniques workshop for adults. The workshop is designed to give participants an overview of the encaustic process and allow them to try various tools and techniques themselves. This is a high-energy, in-person class, with lots of hands-on time to make your own art.

This course is part of the Art Exploration program and open to everyone. The course includes all materials.

**Prerequisites:** none  
**Fee:** $305 member | $355 non-member  
**Onsite:** October 25, 26, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Victoria Eubanks

Victoria Eubanks brings 30 years of graphic sensibility and design experience to her art studio. Her art contains intended imperfections—lopsided rounds, rough scrafitto lines, uneven repetition, organic shapes—and often combines encaustic medium or oil paint, printmaking and photography in a single piece. Recognitions include Best of SAM by Art Students League of Denver (ASLD), Best in Fine Art award from the Castle Rock Chamber, Featured Artist for the Fine Art Market at the Arvada Center and inclusion in the Best of Colorado Show. Victoria has twice curated the biannual WAX Stories juried exhibition in Denver, is a member of the MIX Co-op in the Arts District on Santa Fe, and a founding member of EXPAND artists. She has also served on the Board of Directors for ASLD.

Her artwork has been included in over 60 exhibitions and hangs in numerous private and corporate collections, including Adventist Hospitals, Denver Health Center, LTP Wealth Management, Polsinelli Law Firm, Red Peak Development and University of Colorado, Boulder. Her work can be seen in Colorado at Niza Knoll Gallery, Westward Gallery and Framed Image Gallery.

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Introduction to Watercolor Pencil

Discover the versatility when illustrating and painting with watercolor pencils. Learn tips and techniques on how to manage the color wet or dry. Used as a mixed media or alone, watercolor pencil is the perfect media for developing a botanical illustration, botanical art, great for travel, for journaling or quick sketching applications.

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate and Diploma programs. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Color Layering in Colored Pencil  
**Fee:** $110 member | $130 non-member  
**Online:** December 6, 13, 6-9 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Renee Jorgensen

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Light on Form

Take your drawings from flat to fabulous. The secret to portraying light and shadow on your subjects lies in understanding the science of lighting as it applies to different forms. Beginning with basic geometric shapes, refine your skills in showing the light on and volume of any subject. This class works entirely in graphite pencil, but the principles apply to all other media. As you progress from fruits and vegetables to leaves and flowers and entire plants with complex shapes, overcome obstacles in creating three-dimensional drawings.

This is a required course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. Please expect to dedicate some time to homework each week. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pencil 1  
**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member  
**Online:** October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3  
9 a.m. – noon MT  
**Onsite:** November 10, 17, December 1, 8, 15  
1-4 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Phillip Potter (all courses)
**New** Paper, Wire, Clay – Model Making for Illustration

Have you heard the expression “to see the forest for the trees”? This class helps you to see and draw the “trees” through the “forest!” Learn the art of building paper, wire and clay models. Discover how to combine models with real subjects and/or photos to make complex drawing challenges more easily approachable. Starting with a review of paper and wire leaf-making introduced in Pencil 1 and Perspective, learn how to create full plant models. Using simple tools, build clay maquettes of branches, fruit and flowers to rotate and view in new perspectives. Experience how models clarify challenges presented by color, pattern and texture; help to construct missing parts; and provide information left out of photos. Finally, select your own botanical subject to draw. Through guided discovery and using models from which to draw, experience how much easier it is to render the “trees” through the “forest.”

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate and Diploma programs. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I, Perfecting Perspective and Light on Form OR a certificate or diploma in botanical illustration.

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member

**Online:** November 16, 23, 30, December 7, 14
9 a.m. – noon MT

**Instructor:** Marjorie Leggitt

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**Guest Instructor**

Plant Portraits in 3D with Javier Flores

Using reference images and a variety of materials—papers, colored pencils, pencils, pens, watercolors, ink, gouache and PVA (Polyvinyl Acetate)—create beautiful three-dimensional flowers, plants or even an entire floral arrangement. Gain an understanding of how to observe your specimens, select materials to suite your art and create interesting compositions in three dimensions. Some materials are provided but you are encouraged to bring materials that you feel are good additions the aesthetic or texture of your fine art piece.

This course is part of our Botanical Art Exploration program and open to anyone. This course fee includes some materials.

**Prerequisites:** none

**Fee:** $95 member | $115 non-member

**Onsite:** November 13, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** Javier Flores

Born in Denver, Colorado to Mexican immigrants, Javier Flores is the eldest of three kids. He was raised in a blue collar, lower-middle class household in Brighton, Colorado that instilled a strong work ethic, honesty and integrity. At the age of nineteen, Flores was shot in the lower back and subsequently paralyzed. Initially in shock and depression, he became distant and suicidal, but was saved by family, friends, visual arts and martial arts.

Flores received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Metropolitan State University of Denver in 2008, and his Master of Fine Arts from Texas A&M University Corpus Christi in 2017. Since graduating, he has been working as an affiliate professor at MSU and Front Range Community College. He is on the board of the Community Arts Fund which disperses grants for Mile High United Way and is an educator at Access Gallery and Museo De Las Americas, all while pursuing his artistic career. Currently, he works full time at Front Range Community College.
Perfecting Perspective
Do you shy away from complicated plants? Even experienced illustrators sometimes struggle with foreshortening and simplify their subjects to eliminate difficult elements. Work with botanical subjects that demonstrate each aspect of perspective and learn techniques for seeing and depicting perspective accurately. This class works entirely in graphite pencil, but the principles apply to all media. Gain confidence in your drafting skills and improve your drawings from this class forward.

This is a required course for the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate Program. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Pencil I

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member

**Online:**
- October 27, 28, 29, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT
- November 19, 20, 21
  - 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** Marjorie Leggitt (both courses)

Raffinetteas in Transparent Acrylics
There are more than 100 varieties of poinsettia available today, from traditional red to speckled and marbled. Big and bold, poinsettias offer the perfect opportunity to explore acrylic as a transparent medium! Transparent acrylic paintings are virtually impossible to distinguish from traditional watercolor paintings, but the damp-on-damp technique offers a more controlled, methodical, layer-on-layer application process. Building gradually from light washes to rich color, the results are luminous and gorgeous! Step-by-step instructions, demos, in-class exercises and individual guidance provide the skills and give you the confidence to create a final poinsettia portrait you’ll want to frame.

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate program. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I
OR a certificate or diploma in botanical illustration with advanced watercolor skills

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member

**Online:**
- November 15, 23, 30, December 6, 13
  - 1-4 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** Marjorie Leggitt

Raffinetteas in Transparent Acrylics
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This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate program. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Watercolor I
OR a certificate or diploma in botanical illustration with advanced watercolor skills

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member

**Online:**
- November 15, 23, 30, December 6, 13
  - 1-4 p.m. MT

**Instructor:** Marjorie Leggitt
**NEW** SBAI Supply Swap & Shop

Have you ever purchased a package of paper that you don’t like? Picked up paints that don’t work for you? Accidentally purchased a few of the same thing that you really only need one of? It happens! Rather than letting those supplies gather dust and take up space bring them to the swap & shop and send them home with someone who will put them to good use. Bring your gently used and new materials to swap or sell. SBAI will also have a selection of books and exhibition catalogues available for purchase.

More information including how to reserve a table will be published on our Facebook page in the SBAI monthly e-Newsletter. Sign up to receive the newsletter [here](#).

**Fee:** $0 members | included with admission for non-members  
**Onsite:** November 20, 10 a.m. – noon

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**NEW** Towering Trees in Colored Pencil

Trees are arguably the most important life form on earth and crucial to our planet’s survival. They provide oxygen, cooling and heating; they nurture ecosystems and create food, means of transportation, shelter and renewable materials. Throughout the ages they have been of cultural, historical and religious relevance. Like humans, trees also live in communities, but are singularly individual and thus more than the sum total of their parts. In this class we use colored pencil on drafting film (mylar) to depict a tree species, and each participant creates an individual design while scrupulously observing scientific accuracy, attention to detail and sound design principles. Get acquainted with drafting film as well as gaining in-depth knowledge about a common tree species.

This course is an elective in the Botanical Illustration Foundational Certificate and Diploma programs. You must have completed the prerequisites to participate. This course fee does not include materials. Please expect to dedicate at least two ours to practice outside of each class.

**Prerequisites:** Botanical Illustration in Colored Pencil I (Colored Pencil II recommended) OR a degree, diploma or certificate in botanical or scientific illustration with experience in colored pencils.

**Fee:** $265 member | $315 non-member  
**Onsite:** October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16 9 a.m. – noon. MT  
**Instructor:** Heidi Snyder

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**GUEST INSTRUCTOR**

**Telling Stories through Picture Books with Darcy Evans**

Discover the world of picture books! Learn the basic elements of using your art to better tell stories by exploring specific elements in picture book illustration. Learn how a picture book is put together, how composition affects pacing and narrative, how to build to a page turn and so much more. Come exploring with us and jump into the fantastic world of illustrated stories. Spend a few weeks channeling your childhood self and start to build a compelling illustration portfolio!

This course is part of our Art Exploration series and open to everyone. Please expect to dedicate some time to working on your book outside of each week. The course fee does not include materials.

**Prerequisites:** none  
**Fee:** $165 member | $195 non-member  
**Online:** October 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22 6-8 p.m. MT  
**Instructor:** Darcy Evans

Darcy is an experienced publishing professional who specializes in illustrated children’s books. She spent six years at Scholastic, reviewing, editing and acquiring picture books. She has also guest lectured the last four years at the Pratt Institute, teaching future writers and illustrators all about current trends in children’s literature. Presently, she is a freelance developmental editor and lecturer with Reedsy.
TO REGISTER:
Register for classes: online
Phone our Resource Center: 720-865-3500
For Inquiries & Consultation: 720-865-3670
sbai@botanicgardens.org
Follow us on Facebook
Visit our website: botanicgardens.org/SBAI
Sign Up For our School of Botanical Art & Illustration e-newsletter

NOTES:
If a class does not have a sufficient number of registrations, it will be cancelled 7 days prior to class. Your course syllabus (including materials list) will be sent as an attachment with your confirmation email.

REFUND AND CANCELLATION POLICY:
Student cancellations more than one week prior to a class are subject to a 15% cancellation fee. Cancellations less than one week prior to class are non-refundable.

AFTER THE COURSE HAS COMMENCED:
Instructors are not authorized to grant or promise refunds or exceptions to course policies. In the event of a family emergency or inclement weather, the student can complete the course later by taking missed single classes from the same instructor and notifying the school manager two weeks before the course starts. If more than 20% of the course is missed, the course can be retaken for free during the same year from any instructor in that medium, if space is available.

These policies apply to all registrations in the School of Botanical Art and Illustration program. Selected courses have additional cancellation and refund requirements printed with the course description.

REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL COURSES:
To obtain credit for the School of Botanical Art & Illustration Botanical Illustration Certificate program core and elective classes you must:
• attend the first lecture
• attend at least 80% of the lectures [12/15 hours]*
• post or share regular progress images and submit your final work on time

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