



GARDEN EDUCATION SERIES

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION CERTIFICATE

Grow your gardening knowledge and appreciation with a Garden Education Certificate!

Certificate studies are directed to the dedicated amateur and are designed to guide participants through a course of study in a logical sequence of learning.

The Garden Education Certificate in Botanical Illustration is designed to provide a certification of competence in the classical approaches and disciplines of botanical illustration. Certificate holders must demonstrate their competence in drawing and painting plants in a technically detailed manner by passing a midcourse review and submitting a final project for approval. Drawing on the Garden's mission to engage people with the natural world and the examples in the Garden's collection of significant botanical paintings by A. Descubes, and the Imperial Edition of *Reichenbachia: Orchids Illustrated and Described*, emphasis is placed on proper set-up of live specimens, accurate drawing, correct depiction of tone and value, and on work in the traditional media of graphite, pen and ink and watercolor. For the home gardener, the certificate's emphasis on botanical accuracy will enhance observational skills in the garden. For the serious artist, the curriculum will enhance technical and observational skills.

For those in pursuit of professional work in botanical or scientific illustration, the Certificate is a valuable addition to your resume.

Certificate students, graduates, and instructors participate in a juried biennial exhibit of their work at the Garden.

Enrollment in the certificate program is required to take courses above the Introduction and Intermediate courses in drawing. To obtain a Botanical Illustration Certificate upon completion of the required courses an enrollment form must be on file with the Registrar's Office. Please note that this program does not offer college credit; it is designed for personal enrichment.

Current hours required: Minimum 240 (See below for details)

Cost: Enrollment is free. Classes cost between \$10-\$12 per hour, plus materials, if provided. Guest artist classes may cost more per hour.

**LEWIS
GINTER
BOTANICAL
GARDEN**

THE PROGRAM

The certificate program requires the completion of Core I and II Curriculum courses in the order specified, plus elective classes, mid-progress review, and completion of a final project and portfolio. There are no substitutions or exceptions to the required pre-requisite classes.

CERTIFICATE APPLICATION

Certificate applications may only be filed after taking the second drawing course (Intermediate Drawing for Botanical Illustration). To file a certificate application, prospects meet with the curriculum faculty and Garden administration staff.

MID-CERTIFICATE PORTFOLIO REVIEW

After completing the Core I classes, students meet with the primary instructors in the curriculum to review their portfolio, which should include two completed projects from each of the four completed classes.

FINAL PROJECT

To complete the certificate, students complete a final project in coordination with their assigned certificate advisor, for review by the primary instructors. Final project includes: Three completed pieces illustrating any plant of their choice in graphite, pen and ink, and watercolor. Alternately, students may complete three pieces showing the same plant through three seasons. Subjects to be determined in consultation with advisor. Project pieces must demonstrate correct lighting, stems or branches showing their correct anatomical position as well as buds or flowers, and be properly labeled with botanical nomenclature.

CORE CURRICULUM

All courses must be completed. NOTE: Students provide their own lunches in courses that run through mid-day. Lunch breaks are not included in course hour calculations.

CORE CLASSES

Introduction to Drawing for Botanical Illustration – 4 sessions, 5 hours each = 20 hrs.

Introduction to drawing with graphite on paper.

This class explores drawing materials (papers and pencils), line quality and expressiveness as well as basic aids to drawing (types of rulers, compass and stencils). Students study the basics of proportion, perspective and composition as well as simple approaches to rendering form with tone. The class works with botanical subjects appropriate to the season. Students complete one or more drawing(s) of a simple botanical subject (e.g., leaf, nut, simple flower) of their choice, practicing the core concepts taught in the class. Accuracy of drawing is emphasized as well as artistic expressiveness. Proper setup of a work station is covered, including lighting. Instructor: Hazel Buys

Intermediate Drawing for Botanical Illustration – 4 sessions, 5 hours each = 20 hrs.

Intermediate drawing with graphite on paper. Students may apply for the certificate program on completion of this course.

This class continues the exploration of line quality and expressiveness of drawing introduced in Introduction. Students build on their study of proportion, perspective, composition, and the use of tone to render form, continuing to develop the basic techniques and knowledge covered in Introduction to Drawing. The class works with botanical subjects appropriate to the season. Students complete one or more drawing(s) of a botanical subject(s) of their choice, practicing the core concepts taught in the class. Accuracy of drawing is emphasized as well as artistic expressiveness. Instructor: Hazel Buys. *Required pre-requisite: Introduction to Drawing.*

Botany for Botanical Illustration - 4 sessions, 5 hours each = 20 hrs.

This course focuses on an understanding of the morphology of flowering plants, giving the artist a strong foundation from which to produce an accurate illustration. The instructor covers scientific information in the morning; in the afternoon, students create graphite drawings based on the day's major topic, i.e. leaves, stems and roots, flower structure, fruits and seeds. May be taken at any time in the certificate process. Requires a short, open-book test for certificate candidates. Instructors: Sheila Hayden and Judith Towers. *The two introductory drawing courses are required pre-requisites for this class.*

Introduction to Watercolor for Botanical Illustration - 4 sessions, 5 hours each = 20 hrs.

Introduction to painting botanical subjects with watercolor.

Students learn about painting materials (papers and brushes), practice watercolor painting skills and complete exercises demonstrating core techniques. Students complete one or more painting(s) of a simple botanical subject (e.g., leaf, nut, simple flower) of their choice, practicing the painting skills taught in the class. Accuracy of representation is emphasized as well as artistic expressiveness. The class works with botanical subjects appropriate to the season. Instructor: Hazel Buys. *The two introductory drawing courses are required pre-requisites for this class.*

Introduction to Pen and Ink for Scientific Illustration - 4 sessions, 5 hours each= 20 hrs.

Basic techniques of pen and ink drawing for scientific illustration.

Primarily associated with scientific illustration because of its ease for reproduction in books and scientific journals, pen and ink is a valuable tool for the botanical artist. This course builds and expands on students' previous experiences with drawing and rendering in graphite. Become familiar with and practice the use of conventional dipping pens such as the crowquill, and experiment with technical pens such as a Rapidograph pen. Practice with a variety of drawing surfaces to create a clean, flowing line, then learn other techniques to create volume and form. Methods of putting together a "plate" for scientific illustration are discussed as well. Intermediate level. Instructor: Lorraine Brevig. *The two introductory drawing courses are required pre-requisites for this class.*

Intermediate Watercolor for Botanical Illustration

4 sessions, 5 hours each = 20 hrs.

See how light falling on leaves reveals structure, form, and texture. Use the paints in your palette to make nature's colors. Explore warm and cool colors to find just the right mix. Make four small, detailed leaf paintings on watercolor paper. Instructors: Hazel Buys and Judith Towers. *The two introductory drawing courses and the introductory watercolor course are required pre-requisites for this class.*

Midpoint Review

Advanced Watercolor Techniques for Botanical Illustration

4 sessions, 5 hours each = 20 hrs.

This class covers drawing and painting fruit and vegetables, as well as refining students' skill sets in design, composition, use of color and painting technique. The focus is on understanding shape, volume and correct light source. Sessions address textured surfaces, shine and moisture drops.

Electives (Minimum of 100 hours)

Intermediate and advanced workshops are available on a variety of topics which vary from season to season. Further elective classes and workshops are offered seasonally. These courses can be taken in addition to the required core curriculum. Courses will be listed in the catalog as GES: BI, elective.

Master Studio / Portfolio Development with Juliet Kirby - 4 sessions, 5 hours each = 20 hrs.

Williamsburg-based botanical artist Juliet Kirby leads this four-day watercolor workshop for advanced botanical artists and certificate students working on their final portfolio. Participants bring a plant of their own choosing. This course continues to emphasize composition, accuracy, and direction of light. Students provide materials: a list of recommended materials is sent after registration. Instructor: Juliet Kirby

Other electives will vary by season.

Final Portfolio Review

ENROLLMENT

An enrollment form must be completed to participate in the program. Request an enrollment form from the **Adult Education Assistant** via email at registrar@lewisginter.org. This form may be submitted only after completion of "Intermediate Drawing for Botanical Illustration" and after a review by faculty and Garden administration. Only coursework completed during the past two years will be eligible toward the certificate, unless there is already a form on file. If there is no activity on your enrollment for two years, you will be placed on an inactive list.

ADVISOR PROGRAM

As an enrollee, you are assigned an advisor who is available to guide you and act as a resource while you complete the work that will be reviewed both at the mid-point and final reviews.

SUNDAY STUDIOS

Offered one Sunday each month, these studios provide an opportunity for advisors and certificate students to work on certificate projects together in an informal setting. Sunday Studios count three hours toward elective requirements.

TRACKING AND COMPLETION

When you enroll in the certificate program, we track your progress through your course enrollment history and send you updated tracking information once a year. When you complete your certificate requirements, we present you with a certificate; and your name is listed in the next edition of the Adult & Family Education & Events catalog.

To complete the certificate, students must complete all required courses to the faculty's approval, and complete the final project satisfactorily. The final project may be started at any time following the mid-point review.

CORE INSTRUCTORS

Lorraine Brevig holds a Master of Arts and Certificate of Advanced Study in Art Conservation from Buffalo State College in Buffalo, New York. She currently works as a Conservator with the Richmond Conservation Studio in Richmond.

Hazel Buys holds a certificate in Botanical Illustration from Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. In addition to botanical painting, she has developed a body of work in landscape, figure and portraiture, and work based on the Japanese kimono in the tradition of still-life.

Christine Drake is a lifelong artist and teacher with a Master of Arts in Studio Art from New York University. Her work is in the collection of the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; the Beijing Natural Culture Center, China; and the University of Mississippi, among others. She is completing her certificate in botanical illustration at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

Juliet Kirby studied at the Byam Shaw School of Fine Art and the Central School of Art in London and received her Certificate in Botanical Art from the New York Botanical Garden in New York.

John Hayden is Professor of Biology at the University of Richmond where his teaching involves diverse aspects of plant biology; he also conducts research on the anatomy, morphology, and systematics of plants, curates the herbarium, and manages the greenhouse. He has served as the Botany Chair for the Virginia Native Plant Society since 2004.

Sheila Hayden is a botanist and botanical illustrator. She has both a Bachelor's degree and Masters degree with a focus on Botany from the University of Richmond and an Art minor. She taught Biology at John Tyler Community College and Botany for University of Richmond School of Professional and Continuing Studies. Sheila has published research papers and scientific botanical illustrations.

Judith Towers holds a Bachelor of Arts in Art Education from Madison College, now James Madison University. After retiring from her career as a middle school art teacher in Henrico County, VA, she earned a Certificate in Botanical Illustration from Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.