

# 2026 CALL FOR ENTRIES

## BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION EXHIBIT

**DATES: SEPTEMBER 1 - NOVEMBER 2, 2026**

We are pleased to be able to re-institute the LGBG Botanical Illustration Biennial Exhibition. This exhibition gives LGBG instructors, current certificate students, and Botanical Illustration Certificate graduates the opportunity to exhibit your work and share your expertise with the LGBG community, event attendees, and garden visitors.

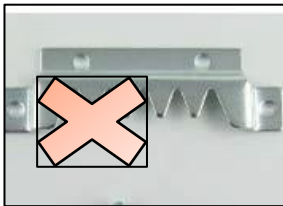
### Eligibility

Instructors, students currently enrolled in the Botanical Illustration certificate program, and certificate graduates.

### General Guidelines

- Each artist may submit two (2) framed works. Current students: consult with your advisor if you have questions about what to submit.
- Work submitted for this exhibition must have been completed within the past 5 years. Acceptable media includes graphite, pen and ink, watercolor, colored pencil, and mixed media.
- All work must be considered botanical within the ASBA definition of botanical art. Plants and Fungi are acceptable. The inclusion of animals and insects is permissible only if there is interdependence with the plant, and the plant is dominant. All work must be labeled with the genus and species scientific name(s). For assistance in researching scientific names, contact Anne-Marie Parrish, Librarian, at [anne-mariep@lewisginter.org](mailto:anne-mariep@lewisginter.org)
- Artwork must be framed in professional fashion, matted in white or off-white only, preferably under Plexiglass. Simple “L” (gallery frame) profile is required. Metal or ornate frames are not allowed. Neutral colors are preferred. All works **MUST** be prepared with D-rings and hanging wire on the back of the frame, ready to hang on a French Rod System. D-rings should be placed about one-third the height of the frame from the top. Must be securely wired. Wires must not show outside of the frame. Do **not** use Sawtooth hangers as they cannot be hung on the French rod system. Artwork not meeting these standards will not be hung.

Sawtooth hangers



D-rings



French Rod Hanging System



Further notes on framing can be accessed on the American Society of Botanical Artists exhibition guidelines: <https://asba-art.org> If you have already framed your work and it fits the notes above, you do not need to reframe your work. Acceptable wood finishes are light to medium brown. No gilt or metal frames. L-profile means flat top and flat sides, no fillets or rounds, no multiple steps. Frames must be professional quality.

- **Artist Statement**

Artists are encouraged to submit an artist statement with their artwork. Please describe your artistic process, motivations for the piece(s) submitted and/or experience in the Botanical Illustration program. Maximum words: 150. Please submit in your [Online Entry Form](#).

- **Photographs or Scans**

All artists must submit at least one (1) digital image of a work, in at least 200 dpi resolution, in jpg. format. If you photograph your work, use good lighting and avoid shadows and reflections. Scanned images at 300 dpi are preferred. By submitting these images, you give permission to Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden to use them in notices and listings for this exhibit. Submit images via upload to the [Botanical Illustration Biennial Exhibit Folder](#) with your entry form by June 30. Reach out to [meganc@lewisginter.org](mailto:meganc@lewisginter.org) if you need assistance.

# ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

## BIENNIAL BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION 2026

### Instructions:

- You may submit two pieces. LGBG does not handle sales of work. Interested buyers will be referred directly to the artist.
- Labeling of Artwork: Please clearly write your name, the title of your piece (including scientific name), and media used on the back of each work using a label, index card, or piece of paper taped to the back of your piece, as well as including the information on the entry form.
- Important Dates:
  - **By June 30-**
    - Complete the [Online Entry Form](#) with Artist Statement
    - Upload image files in the [Botanical Illustration Biennial Exhibit Folder](#).
  - **August 17-August 29** Submission Drop-off - Monday through Saturday during regular business hours, 9-5.
  - **September 1 – November 1** Dates of Exhibition
  - **November 2 – November 9** - Pickup of work– no later than Monday, November 9. Monday through Saturday during regular business hours, 9-5.
- Please drop off and pick up all pieces during the above dates at the Kelly Education Center, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, 1800 Lakeside Ave Richmond, VA 23228 in the Education, Facility Rental/Exhibitions Suite (at the end of the hallway by Classrooms 1 & 2. If unable to deliver work, artist is responsible for all shipping costs. Please direct questions to Megan Compton, Director of Adult Learning [meganc@lewisginter.org](mailto:meganc@lewisginter.org) 804.262.9887

Note: While the online entry form is highly preferred, artists may request a hard copy of the form by emailing [meganc@lewisginter.org](mailto:meganc@lewisginter.org).

