Botanical Art and Illustration Certificate Program Overview

In the Botanical Art and Illustration Certificate program, you will learn how to draw botanical subjects with scientific accuracy, artistry and mastery of technical methods. Develop a basic knowledge of plant morphology and build the skills you need to document plants in intricate detail, including the root system, upper and lower leaf surface, flowers, fruits, and seed heads. This program is designed for students who are interested in pursuing art for pleasure and self-satisfaction, and you can choose between two concentrations: watercolor or colored pencil. Both beginners and seasoned artists are welcome. You may work towards the certificate or enroll in individual courses.

There is no formal enrollment in the program. Phipps maintains student records, but does not actively monitor student progress, so please track your own progress using the back of this form. There is no time limit to complete the program although certificate requirement are subject to change. Certificate completion typically takes three to four years, or longer.

Full class attendance is required for course credit. In extenuating circumstances, single sessions might be made up, depending on the course content, or made up the next time the class is offered. Student must also complete and submit work for each course to receive course credit.

Basic Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration

To receive a basic certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration, you must satisfactorily complete 11 core courses, totaling 182 credit hours, and an additional 56 hours of electives for a total of 238 hours, as well as meet the requirements of a portfolio review. After you complete the course requirements, you must present a portfolio of your work for review. The portfolio must include between five and 15 pieces of independent artwork that demonstrate proficiency in graphite, pen and ink, and either watercolor or colored pencil.

Contact the adult education department for additional certificate and portfolio review details, to confirm your transcript, to initiate the portfolio review process, and with any program questions: edu@phipps.conservatory.org.

Advanced Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration:

If you have completed the Basic Certificate in Botanical Art and Illustration including the portfolio review, you are eligible to work towards an Advanced Certificate. The Advanced Certificate requires a one – three year commitment from you, in which you must complete an additional 50 hours of elective courses and present a final project with newly created works that demonstrate the botanical art process while focusing on an approved plant-related theme.

For more program information, a current course catalogue, class descriptions and instructor bios, please visit phipps.conservatory.org/botart or contact our staff at edu@phipps.conservatory.org or 412/441-4442, ext. 3925.

Course Overview and Worksheet

Core classes are offered at least once every 18 months. Elective offerings vary in subject matter and frequency offered. For course descriptions, instructor bios and the most up-to-date program information, visit

phipps.conservatory.org/botart.

Please use this worksheet to track your progress:

Core Courses (182 class hours)

Botanical Drawing I: Foundations, BAII0 (18 hrs)
Botanical Drawing II: Volume, Texture, Details, BA210 (18 hrs)
Botanical Drawing III: Applications, BA310 (18 hrs)
Composition for Botanical Artists, BA220 (18 hrs)
Floral Morphology, BA230 (12 hrs)
History of Botanical Art, BA240 (8 hrs)
Pen and Ink I, BA250 (18 hrs)
Pen and Ink II, BA350 (18 hrs)
Developing Botanical Perspective to Create Depth (18 hrs)
Choose either watercolor or colored pencil concentration
Colored Pencil I: Techniques and Color Theory, BA260 (18 hrs)
Colored Pencil II: Applications, BA360 (18 hrs)
OR
Watercolor I: Techniques and Color Theory, BA270 (18 hrs)
Watercolor II: Applications, BA370 (18 hrs)

_____ Portfolio Review (completed once all credit requirements are met)

Electives (56 hours required)

Classes listed below are not comprehensive and are subject to change.

- _____ Foreshortening and Perspective, BA151 (12 hrs)
- _____ Understanding Shadow, BA213 (12 hrs)
- _____ Field Sketching, BA221 (6 hrs)
- _____ Flora Project, BA231 (8 hrs)
- _____ Botanical Drawing IV, BA313 (18 hrs)
- _____ Pen and Ink III, BA353 (18 hrs)
- _____ Colored Pencil III, BA363 (18 hrs)
- _____ Watercolor III, BA373 (18 hrs)
- _____ Mastering Color Courses, various
- _____ Visiting Botanical Art and Illustration Instructors, various

Overall certificate requirement: 238 class hours

Dec. 2024