WELLESLEY COLLEGE
BOTANIC GARDENS

BOTANICAL ART COURSES
Fall 2021 — Winter 2022

www.wellesley.edu/wcbg
wcbgfriends@wellesley.edu  781-283-3094
WCBG Friends is offering both remote and in-person instruction for our fall and winter courses. Check individual course listings for details.

Remote instruction will be through the Zoom video conferencing app. Students should install Zoom on their laptop or tablet (phone screens are too small to use effectively), and familiarize themselves with Zoom’s features prior to the start of class. In addition, students should be able to email images to their instructor, either by scanning or photographing.

In-person instruction is taking place at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society’s Gardens at Elm Bank on a limited, socially distant basis. Mass Hort has two classrooms at Elm Bank available for our use: the Cheney classroom in the Education Center the Putnam classroom, next to the production greenhouses

Specific directions to the classroom will be sent along with the materials list prior to the start of the class.

WCBG Friends is pleased to extend its member prices to Mass Hort members.

Massachusetts Horticultural Society
The Gardens at Elm Bank
900 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02482
Course titles in bold are required courses for the CBA program.

Tara Connaughton  
Birds, Bugs & Botanicals .......................................... 6
Capturing Seasonal Color ........................................ 11

Carrie Di Costanzo  
Introduction to Gouache: Painting a Maple Leaf ...... 6

carriedicostanzo.com

Ellen Duarte  
Senses and Sensibilities ........................................... 10

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www.susantfisher.com

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www.sarahrochebotanicalart.com

Susan Rubin  
Colored Pencil: Layers and Composition ............ 8

susanrubinstudio.com

Instructor Bios are available online at www.wellesley.edu/wcbg/learn

Additional course offerings appear in our newsletters and on our website — www.wellesley.edu/wcbg/learn

Spring-Summer Classes announced in February.

Credit Cards Now Accepted

WCBG Friends accepts credit card payments of program fees on our e-commerce site:

wcbg-wellesley.nbsstore.net

This site is for making payments only, it is not a registration system.
Before making a payment, please email your registration form to wcbgfriends@wellesley.edu to confirm space in the class.

THE ART–GARDEN CONNECTION

Foundations of Botanical Art & Illustration

Suitable for anyone starting their study of botanical painting.

Education Director Sarah Roche introduces you to the traditional art and science of botanical drawing and painting. Instructional focus includes observational skills, drawing, composition, design, and watercolor techniques. Fall topic: Core Values. Studying the apple, a New England fall fruit, will help introduce the concepts of form, color mixing and depicting texture, using graphite and then watercolor. Winter topic TBD.

6 Mon.: Sept. 20, 27; Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25  
In person at Elm Bank on Oct. 4 & 25, online on other dates
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

6 Mon.: Jan. 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28; Mar. 7

BAC 22 102
In person at Elm Bank on Feb. 14 & Mar. 7, online otherwise
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom and at Putnam classroom at Elm Bank
Each session: Members $295 / Non-Members $345

Techniques of Botanical Drawing and Painting

Hone your drawing and watercolor techniques with Sarah Roche as you focus on achieving the accurate representation of botanical subjects. Fall topic: Harvest Fruits. New England is home to many orchards and fruit farms, and the fall harvest offers so many tantalizing subjects for a botanical painting. Select a fruit specimen and study its growth habit, working on its form, color and texture, in graphite and watercolor. Winter topic TBD.

6 Tues.: Sept. 21, 28; Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26
In person at Elm Bank on Oct. 5 & 26, online on other dates
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

6 Tues.: Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22; Mar. 1, 8

BAC 22 202
In person at Elm Bank on Feb. 15 & Mar. 8, online otherwise
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom and at Putnam & Cheney classrooms at Elm Bank
Each session: Members $295 / Non-Members $345

Artists enrolling in Techniques should have successfully completed at least two Foundations courses and have the permission of the instructor.
Birds, Bugs & Botanicals

Tara Connaughton will help you explore plants’ relationships with animals and pollinators and learn ways to incorporate them into your botanical artwork. Focus on how to draw and paint birds and insects with accuracy, and also how to source and collect reference material. You will gather inspiration for including these important partners into your botanical work to add additional context to your paintings or nature journal. Pending weather and restrictions, we will meet for the final class at Mass Hort to discuss and share our work and tour the gardens to observe and sketch our subjects in their live environment. Prerequisite: you should have completed at least one Foundations class.

4 mornings: Wed & Fri, Sept. 8, 10, 15 & 17 BAC 22 065
In person at Elm Bank on Sept. 17, online on other dates
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom and at Putnam classroom at Elm Bank
Members $150 / Non-Members $190

Introduction to Gouache: Painting a Maple Leaf

Gouache is a beautiful medium which can be used to create rich, matte effects for botanical painting. This introductory workshop with Carrie Di Costanzo will focus on using gouache to paint a maple leaf. There will be live demonstrations on mixing paint, applying washes, and gradually adding more opaque layers with dry brush. Carrie will introduce this technique with a small exercise to familiarize you with the paint before moving on to the subject of the class. Prerequisite: you should have completed at least one Techniques class.

2 days: Thurs., Oct. 7 – Fri., Oct. 8 BAC 22 250
11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom
Members $260 / Non-Members $310

Watercolor Workout

Refine those watercolor techniques in a no-sweat class designed to improve the way you paint in watercolor. Susan Fisher will take you through a series of basic exercises designed to increase existing skills, gain confidence in handling the brush, deal effectively with color pigments, and control varying amounts of water. Discussions, demonstrations and practical workouts will get you in great shape for that next botanical painting. Prerequisite: Color Mixing for Artists.

5 mornings: Wed. – Fri., Oct. 27 – 29; Mon. & Tues., Nov. 1– 2
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. BAC 22 231
Online via Zoom
Members $375 / Non-Members $475

Drawing and Painting for the Petrified

Get started painting! All abilities and anxiety levels welcome.

In this relaxed, informative seminar with plenty of helpful demonstrations, you will develop your drawing and painting skills. Education Director Sarah Roche encourages your observational skills to grow in this relaxed seminar with plenty of helpful demonstrations. Experiment with line drawings and the accurate representation of botanical forms. Leap into watercolor painting with a series of fun watercolor exercises. All three sessions will take place in person at Mass Hort. Class size is limited to 12 to maintain social distancing.

Please bring to the first class: 9x12 sketch paper, HB (No. 2) pencils, and white plastic eraser. Sarah will discuss brushes, palettes and watercolor paper necessary for the remaining classes. Samples of paint are provided.

3 Wed.: Nov. 3, 10, 17 BAC 22 010
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Putnam classroom at Elm Bank
Members $150 / Non-Members $175
Colored Pencil: Building Layers and Contemporary Composition

Colored pencil presents a challenge: mixing colors directly on your final drawing! With Susan Rubin’s instruction, learn to use a straightforward color-mixing system tailored to layering colored pencil. Start with color basics and colored pencil techniques that will help you to predict color results with precision. See how to make adjustments and corrections along the way so you never make “mud” again. Gorgeous greens and ravishing reds are just the start of the luminous layering that will make your drawings glow. Practice color matching with plant material to put the theory to work as you create your own extensive color workbook to speed color mixing and application every time you draw. Composition follows in color’s footsteps. Explore possibilities for updating botanicals with a fresh focus and a personal point of view. You’ll come away with new skills in your artistic toolbox and a creative boost to your compositions.


4 days: Mon. & Wed., Nov. 8, 10, 15, & 17 BAC 22 149
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom
Members $350 / Non-Members $425

History of Botanical Art

Botanical art has always informed and promoted botany and the plant world. Fueled by centuries of plant exploration and advances in printing techniques, botanical art has gained a wide audience and flourished as both an art form and a means to document plant species. Pam Harrington will review the significant roles and styles of botanical art from early times to the present. The class will also visit the Special Collections in Wellesley College’s Margaret Clapp Library for a viewing of the College’s extraordinary collection of rare botanical books.

3 days: Tues., Jan. 4 – Thurs., Jan. 6 BAC 22 112
In person at Wellesley College on Jan. 6; online otherwise
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (snow date for library visit: Fri., Jan. 7)
Online via Zoom and in person at Wellesley College
Members $125 / Non-Members $150

Fun With Perspective: Understanding the Basics

Explore the fundamentals of perspective with Carol Ann Morley and take your drawing skills to a new level. Learn methods of measuring and how to draw in proportion; foreshortening; overlapping shapes and illusion of depth; linear and atmospheric perspective; light source; and techniques of shading with graphite. Examine how key shapes like the cube, cone, sphere and cylinder underlie all organic subjects and are the foundation of drawing. Beginner to experienced students welcome.

2 days: Mon. & Tues., Jan. 10 & 11 BAC 22 133X
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (snow date: Sat., Jan. 15)
In person at Putnam classroom, Elm Bank
Members $225 / Non-Members $275

Drawing Flowers With Perspective

In this fun, skill building class, Carol Ann Morley helps you create the illusion of visual depth using a few perspective rules. Train your artist’s eye to look beyond the familiar flower and seek out the underlying structural form that reveals the true anatomical structure. Enjoy drawing the diversity of plant shapes as you depict the beauty of flowers in a graphite rendering.

3 days: Wed. – Fri., Jan. 12 – 14 BAC 22 134
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (snow date: Sat., Jan. 15)
In person at Elm Bank, classroom TBD
Members $325 / Non-Members $400

Celebrating the Season: Holiday Card Workshop

Taking your inspiration from the fruits and foliage of the holiday season, create a painting with pen, ink and watercolor that is suitable for holiday cards, gift tags and notepaper. Sarah Roche will lead you through the process and help you get your artwork ready for reproduction. Suitable for Techniques and experienced Foundations students.

2 mornings: Nov. 19 & 22 BAC 22 075
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
In person at Putnam classroom, Elm Bank
Members $110 / Non-Members $130

Drawing Flowers With Perspective

In this fun, skill building class, Carol Ann Morley helps you create the illusion of visual depth using a few perspective rules. Train your artist’s eye to look beyond the familiar flower and seek out the underlying structural form that reveals the true anatomical structure. Enjoy drawing the diversity of plant shapes as you depict the beauty of flowers in a graphite rendering.

3 days: Wed. – Fri., Jan. 12 – 14 BAC 22 134
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (snow date: Sat., Jan. 15)
In person at Elm Bank, classroom TBD
Members $325 / Non-Members $400
Cabinet of Curiosities
Cabinets of curiosities are a way of displaying a personal collection, a mish-mash of artifacts arranged in an organized way. In this class with Sarah Roche, we will all use our personal cabinets as inspiration and create a piece of artwork from our collection. For botanical artists, there might be seed pods, leaves, insects, shells and maybe a key or a button, a feather, something very loved and usually quite miniature. Prerequisite: two Foundations classes or permission of instructor.

4 mornings: Jan. 19, 21, 26, 28  BAC 22 203
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom
Members $195 / Non-Members $245

Senses and Sensibilities
Delve into the world of plant senses with Ellen Duarte as your guide. Discover how plants see, feel, and smell, and explore how they utilize the senses of the beings around them to flourish, survive and reproduce. We will focus on both creating a plant portrait and several techniques for sketchbooking. Bring your favorite painting and drawing materials, even some of those you have bought but never used.

4 days: Tues. & Thurs., Jan. 18, 20, 25, 27  BAC 22 020
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
In person at Putnam classroom, Elm Bank
Members $150 / Non-Members $190

Color Mixing for Artists
Susan Fisher teaches you how to mix the colors you want, not the ones you end up with through trial and error. Learn an easy system for combining colors consistently to achieve the broadest possible spectrum for any “wet” medium including watercolor, gouache, oils, acrylics, etc. Suitable for artists at all levels.

5 days: March 15, 16, 17, 18, 19  BAC 22 113
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Online via Zoom
Members $350 / Non-Members $425 (Price includes color mixing sheets)

Capturing Seasonal Color
In this class with Tara Connaughton, you will sharpen your drawing, painting, and color mixing skills through a series of small studies of emerging early spring buds and blooms. Each week will focus on a different subject and color theme with the goal of accurately representing each specimen’s form and color with watercolor. Emphasis will be placed on painting technique as well as the process of analyzing, mixing, and rendering color.

4 Thurs.: March 24, 31; April 7, 14  BAC 22 126
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
In person at Elm Bank, classroom TBD
Members $150 / Non-Members $190

Keeping Your Focus: An Independent Study Studio
Work with Sarah Roche to create a plan for your independent study project. Each month bring your independent work for critique and studio time. Work through your challenges and temporary obstacles with constructive discussions and group analysis.

Tues., Oct. 5  1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  Putnam classroom, Elm Bank
Tues., Nov. 9  9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  Putnam classroom, Elm Bank
Tues., Dec. 7  9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.  Zoom
Tues., Jan. 11  9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.  Zoom
Tues., Feb. 15  1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  Putnam classroom, Elm Bank
Tues., Mar. 8  1:00 – 3:00 p.m.  Putnam classroom, Elm Bank  BAC 22 350
Open only to CBA Candidates $250

Finishing Studios with Sarah Roche

© Tara Connaughton
Program and Class Information

Advance Registration: Registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis upon receipt of payment. Register early to ensure your place in a desired class. A separate, fully-completed registration form must be submitted for each person registering for a program.

We accept credit cards for program registration via our e-commerce site: wcbg-wellesley.nbsstore.net. Email wcbgfriends@wellesley.edu prior to making your credit card payment to confirm that there is space available in the class. We also accept cash or checks made payable to WCBG Friends. We require separate checks for membership and program registration.

If registration numbers are insufficient, WCBG Friends reserves the right to cancel a program. In this case, a full refund will be issued. Confirmations: Confirmations for program registrations are emailed along with directions and materials lists a few weeks prior to the start of the course. If you require an earlier confirmation, please contact the Friends office.

Weather Cancellations: Cancellations due to inclement weather are announced by email to all registered participants. If you think that your program may be cancelled, please check your email and/or call the Friends office.

Member Discount: WCBG Friends members giving $50 or more, and current Mass Hort members, receive a discount on all programs, courses and trips sponsored by WCBG Friends.

Program Locations: In-person classes take place at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society’s Gardens at Elm Bank, 900 Washington St., Wellesley, MA 02482. Some classes and class sessions are being held online via the Zoom videoconferencing platform. Check course listings for details.

Refund Policy: We regret that no refunds or exchanges are given for class cancellations less than one week prior to the start of the class or for classes you have not attended. Special cancellation policies apply to classes with visiting instructors and to overnight trips.

Prior to the program’s start date, registration fees are refundable less a processing fee as follows:

- more than 30 days: the processing fee is the greater of $25 or 5% of program fee
- 30 to 8 days: the processing fee is the greater of $25 or 25% of program fee
- 7 days or less: the registration fee is non-refundable and non-exchangeable

Make class payment checks payable to WCBG Friends ________

Make credit card payments for classes at wcbg-wellesley.nbsstore.net

Membership in WCBG Friends

Your membership is valid for one full year from payment.

SEPARATE CHECK FOR MEMBERSHIP GIFT made payable to: WCBG Friends

My membership gift: $ ____________

To pay membership by credit card, please go to the Wellesley College website givecampus.com/campaigns/17055/donations/new

Designate your gift “Friends of Wellesley College Botanic Gardens”

This website is for membership gifts only, not class payments.
Friends of Wellesley College Botanic Gardens
Science Center
106 Central Street
Wellesley, MA 02481-8203