

NYBG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 30, 2020

Learn from Home: With Something for Every Plant-lover, NYBG's Online Adult Education Classes in May Are Now Available for Registration

Expert Instructors Lead Virtual Sessions on Vegetable Gardening, Floral Design, Botanical Art, the Science of How Trees Communicate, and Much More



Following the introduction of online classes and courses in April, The New York Botanical Garden's online Adult Education offerings in May are now available for registration. NYBG's expert instructors offer virtual, interactive learning in a variety of topics, from floral design and flower identification to vegetable gardening, the science of tree communication, and much more. These online classes are a great way to expand an individual's plant knowledge while providing an enriching respite during uncertain times.

NYBG is temporarily closed and all in-person events, on-site programs and classes, and exhibitions have been suspended. The necessary action complies with public health guidelines issued by federal, state, and local governments and the CDC to support stringent efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19. Essential staff continue to provide expert care for NYBG's living collections and to maintain the operations of the Garden's 250-acre landmark landscape. While the Garden's gates may be closed temporarily, our virtual gates are wide open.

Most of NYBG's online classes take place via Zoom, the online meeting service. An email with login instructions will be sent to those who have registered shortly before a class begins. Instructors are able to lecture and lead discussions as well as display PowerPoint presentations, videos, or any other digital resource. All students can participate through the microphone or video camera on a computer or mobile device.

NYBG's online classes and courses in May include:

- **The Science of Tree Communication**

Wednesdays, May 6 & 13, 2020; 6–9 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$125/\$139

Trees may appear to be strong and silent, but they can "talk"—to one another, to other plants, and to animals and insects. Participants will discover how trees communicate via chemical signals in the air and through underground fungal networks to transfer nutrients and resources to one another.

- **Flower ID from A to Z**

Thursdays, May 7–21, 2020; 6–8 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$195/\$215

There are many types of flowers available for floral designers, from exotic imports to locally grown. Students will learn to identify new varieties of old favorites, seasonal flowers, and various foliage. Topics include the special handling needs of many flower types.

- **Natural History of Insects**

Thursdays, May 7–21, 2020; 10a.m.–1 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$225/\$245

Delve into the fascinating world of the creatures that make up 84 percent of the animal kingdom—what renowned biologist E.O. Wilson once called “the little things that run the world.” This course will examine the roles that insects play, both in maintaining healthy ecosystems and within their own complex social systems.

- **Composition: Plain and Simple**

Saturday, May 9, 2020; 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$75/\$85

This introductory overview will focus on a few key principles that will bring strength, balance, and the "wow" factor to botanical artwork in any medium.

- **Fundamentals of Gardening**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 12–May 28, 2020; 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$295/\$325

Explore the basic principles underlying successful, environmentally friendly gardening, including the structure and physiological processes of plants and their relationships to the settings in which they grow.

- **Fermenting Vegetables**

Thursday, May 14, 2020; 6:30–8 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$25/\$29

Discover the basic science behind one of the oldest food processing methods still used today—from sauerkraut and beets to carrots and corn.

- **Flower Arranging at Home**

Tuesday, May 19, 2020; 4:30–6 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$25/\$29

Bring cheer into your home and exercise your botanical creativity with live, real-time guidance from your instructor as you build your elegant arrangement with fresh flowers and veggies from your own garden, farmers market, or local grocery store.

- **Vegetable Gardener's Saturday**

Saturday, May 30, 2020; three sections, 1–4 p.m.

Garden Member/Non-Member: \$55/\$65

In three hour-long sessions, participants will learn how to properly prepare beds and soils, discover ecologically friendly ways to keep pests at bay, and gain key tips on planting and sowing seeds. Registration is available for all three or individual sections:

- **Vegetable Gardening Basics:** 1–2 p.m.
- **Protect Your Plants from Pests:** 2–3 p.m.
- **Seed Starting Primer:** 3–4 p.m.

A complete list of NYBG's online classes and courses is available through [NYBG at Home](#), which gathers NYBG's virtual content into a convenient, one-stop resource.

For more information and to register for classes, go to nybg.org/adulted

###

The New York Botanical Garden is located at 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York 10458. For more information, visit nybg.org

The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden's general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.

Media Contact: Stevenson Swanson at sswanson@nybg.org