

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 7, 2020

NYBG's New Online Classes Offer All Plant-lovers, from Budding Gardeners to Artists, the Opportunity to Keep Growing Their Knowledge at Home

Expert Instructors Lead Virtual Sessions on Gardening Fundamentals, Starting a Victory Garden. Painting Tulips in Watercolor, and Much More



A passion for plants connects people and provides inspiration now more than ever. The New York Botanical Garden's newly added online classes are a great way to expand an individual's plant knowledge while providing an enriching respite during uncertain times. NYBG's expert instructors offer virtual learning in topics from gardening fundamentals to starting your own victory garden, fermenting vegetables, painting spring tulips in watercolor, and much more.

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 include:

There's a New Therapist in Town: Meet Mother Nature
Wednesdays, April 8–April 22, 2020; 9:45–11 a.m.
A registered Horticultural Therapist explores how to use Mother Nature's tools to manage stress and restore a sense of well-being.

Fermenting Vegetables

Tuesday, April 14, 2020; 6-7:30 p.m.

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

Fundamentals of Gardening

Wednesdays, April 15-May 20, 2020; 4-6 p.m.

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.

Spring Tulips in Watercolor

Saturday, April 25, 2020; 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

This workshop will demonstrate how to use dry-brush watercolor to replicate the colors, form, and texture of tulips found in nature.

Grow Your Victory Garden

At a time of social distancing and an increased sense of self-reliance, victory gardens—which started in World War I and grew in popularity in World War II as a way for ordinary citizens to supplement America's food supply—are making a comeback. This month, NYBG's Adult Education program offers four online courses for gardeners who want to grow their own veggies, whether in a backyard, in an apartment, or even on a rooftop.

Rooftop Gardening

Wednesdays, April 22-29,2020; 6:15-9:15 p.m.

From vegetable selection to pest control to composting, students will learn the basic tricks of rooftop growing, covering both container and green roof gardens on rooftops and terraces.

o Mastering the Art of Tomato Gardening

Thursday, April 23, 2020; 6-9 p.m.

This class will cover the tips and tricks of maintaining a healthy, organic, tomato garden in raised beds on a rooftop, in containers on a balcony, or in a backyard garden.

Vegetable Gardener's Saturday

Saturday, April 25, 2020; three sections, 1–4 p.m.

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.

Super Small Space Veggie Gardening

Tuesdays, April 28-May 12, 2020; 6-9 p.m.

Participants will discover the best practices for successful small-space gardening from soil preparation and container selection and bed design to crop choices and tips for high-yield results.

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