

NYBG

BOTANICAL ART & ILLUSTRATION FINAL PROJECT GUIDELINES

Students wishing to receive the Botanical Art & Illustration certificate in June should submit their proposal to the Botanical Art & Illustration Coordinator by October 31 and inform the Registration Office of their candidacy in writing by March 25. The Final Project is due in the Registration Office on the last Friday in April.

The Three C's

The Final Project should be a body of work of consistent quality and style with a well-developed cohesive theme and a competent use of medium. Work must reflect the theories and techniques taught in the Botanical Art & Illustration program. The work should be presented in a professional manner (i.e., matted and wrapped in acetate, but not framed). Subject matter should be drawn life-size or larger. Students should be prepared to devote approximately 180-250 hours of studio/research time to create a successful body of work that will be a source of pride and accomplishment for years to come. The Final Project should be both a culmination of the foundation learned here at NYBG and a stepping stone into the larger world of botanical art.

Initial Proposal

The first task is to contact the coordinator, Robin Jess (BILCoordinator@nybg.org), and discuss your concept when you are ready to begin your work. This can be done as soon as you have a few ideas, and ideally in spring of the year prior to graduating. Once your project is approved, you will submit a formal written proposal to the coordinator no later than October 31. The proposal should contain:

- a declaration of intent to submit Final Project portfolio for certificate review
- the theme (the cohesive concept that is the basis of your series of work)
- what will be accomplished botanically and artistically
- the intent of your project (exhibition, publication, beginning of a larger project, other)
- the intended audience for your project (general public, children, botanists, gardeners, artists, other)
- your proposed number of pieces and their size(s)
- three images of your artwork in the medium you will use in your project

If you don't have a clear picture of your goal, you will not know if you have met it and may not feel satisfied with your project.

Checklist/Deadline Requirements:

Designed to keep you on track.

- September 30: Verify with the Registration Office that you have completed all necessary requirements or will do so before April 15.
- October 31: Formal written proposal due to Robin Jess (BILCoordinator@nybg.org)
- January 15: E-mail thumbnails for all proposed work to Robin Jess (BILCoordinator@nybg.org)
- February: Strongly recommended—attend the In-Progress Portfolio Reviews.
- March 25: Inform the NYBG Bronx Registration Office of your candidacy in writing.
- Delivery of Final Project—The last Friday in April: Deliver all artwork (as stipulated in first paragraph) and Artist's Statement to the Bronx Registration Office. The work should be presented in a professional manner (i.e., in portfolio sleeves or matted and wrapped in acetate, but not framed). The work must be accompanied by an Artist's Statement in narrative format, which must include:
 - your approved theme and why it was selected.
 - the medium used, why it was selected, and what the artist felt was learned artistically in the project (discuss all materials used).
 - potential use(s) of the project.
 - any other pertinent information that would be helpful for the reviewers.
 - a list of artwork in project, including Latin name and common name. Make sure these are correct and spelled and capitalized correctly.