

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 21, 2025

Discover a Dynamic Lineup of Orchid-Inspired NYBG Continuing Education Classes, Complementing *The Orchid Show: Mexican Modernism*

Registration Now Open for Orchid-themed Courses, Including Watercolor, Photography, and Botanical Wearables



Left to right: Flash Photography: Orchids course (photo by Marlon Co/The New York Botanical Garden); Botanical Wearables class (photo by Continuing Education Instructor Jacqueline Elfe)

Bronx, NY—Discover the artistry and allure of orchids through a series of enriching classes available through the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) Continuing Education program, perfectly complementing *The Orchid Show: Mexican Modernism*, on view through Sunday, April 27, 2025. Capture the beauty of orchid blooms through courses in flash photography or watercolor painting. Learn to keep these enchanting plants thriving at home year after year in a beginner’s orchid care class. Create stunning floral jewelry in a Botanical Wearables class inspired by the exhibition’s bold designs.

NYBG Continuing Education offerings related to *The Orchid Show: Mexican Modernism* take place online or on-site at the Botanical Garden and range from a few hours to a few days. A full overview is available at: <https://www.nybg.org/event/the-orchid-show-mexican-modernism/take-an-orchid-class/>

Classes include:

- **Orchid Care**

Saturday, February 22, 2025; 12–2 p.m.

Online; NYBG Member \$60/Non-Member \$65

<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=253GAR213CO&courseId=252GAR213F&categoryId=38B2C900>

Myths abound about how hard it is to care for this ever-popular flowering plant. Dispel them with plenty of sensible advice on how to treat a variety of orchids including *Phalaenopsis*, *Cattleya*, *Oncidium*, *Dendrobium*, and more. Light, water, nutrients, repotting, and root care are all key. You'll gain the confidence you need to make your orchids thrive year after year.

- **Flash Photography: Orchids**

Saturdays, March 8 and 15, 2025; 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

At NYBG; NYBG Member \$145/Non-Member \$155

<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=253GWP937&courseId=154GWP937&categoryId=38B2C900>

In this two-part class, you'll master the best lighting and exposure techniques to capture the vibrancy of orchids without use of tripods or monopods. During the first session, you'll practice controlling and shaping light by using flash while photographing potted orchids. Composition, camera settings, and controls will be demonstrated. The second session meets at the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory to photograph NYBG's annual *Orchid Show*. Put your skills into action as you utilize small speedlights to enable handheld flower photography and produce superior images of this dazzling display. See the registration page for a list of equipment to bring to each class.

- **Orchid Flowers in Watercolor**

Saturday and Sunday, March 15 and 16, 2025; 11 a.m.–1:45 p.m.

Online; NYBG Member \$100/Non-Member \$110

<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=253BIL225O&courseId=172BIL225&categoryId=38B2C900>

Study the warm tones of flowers available in our corner markets, even in the winter's cold. Learn the basic watercolor techniques used by botanical artists while painting orchid flowers from the photograph provided. Flat wash, layering, and other techniques will be covered. This online course will offer live demonstrations, videos, and individual feedback. This course requires the purchase of materials, and students will need a printout of the

line drawing, which will be emailed by the instructor. Refer to the materials list on the registration page for more information.

- **Orchids for Beginners**

Saturday, March 22, 2025; 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

At NYBG; NYBG Member \$60/Non-Member \$65

<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=253GAR213B&courseId=212GAR213A&categoryId=38B2C900>

Orchids are one of the most common houseplants in America. While this exotic flower is widely available, many do not know how to properly care for it. In this class, explore how orchids grow in nature and learn the basic care instructions to keep them healthy and blooming in your home.

- **Botanical Wearables**

Sunday, March 30, 2025; 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

At NYBG; NYBG Member \$335/Non-Member \$350

<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=253FDN317&courseId=242FDN317&categoryId=38B2C900>

Adorn yourself in flowers as you explore the art of crafting exquisite accessories inspired by NYBG's *Orchid Show*. Using deconstructed *Phalaenopsis* orchids, *Eucalyptus* seeds, *Hypericum* berries, *Solidago*, and *Ranunculus*, design a necklace paired with matching earrings that are masterpieces of nature's elegance, and walk away with a set of show-stopping botanical wearables, perfect for an enchanting evening out or any special occasion. The price includes a \$170 materials fee for plant materials and hard goods. Please bring a florist knife, wire cutters, scissors, pruners, and a box or bag to carry your work home. Alternatively, a Floral Tool Kit is available for purchase through the Continuing Education Registration Office. Please email ContinuingEd@nybg.org to inquire.

For more in-depth orchid study, enroll in the flexible, online NYBG Plant Studio: Orchid Design course, where you'll master the basics of sustainable floral design using this iconic flowering plant:

Plant Studio: Orchid Design

March 5–April 2, 2025; registration will remain open until Tuesday, March 11, 2025

<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=253PLT130B&courseId=242PLT130&categoryId=38B2C900>

Course Content is Released Online Every Wednesday Each Session

Online; Member \$475/Non-Member \$525

Use code MARCH25 for 25% off*

Orchid Design is a four-week course offering students the opportunity to learn the basics of sustainable floral design through this iconic flowering plant. This course teaches how to create stunning arrangements, step-by-step, with simple design principles and easy-to-find materials. Students will gain confidence in skills by creating three orchid arrangements as part of a learning community, while exploring the fascinating history of these enigmatic flowers.

**Enter code MARCH25 at checkout for a 25% discount on March Plant Studio courses. Code is valid only on Plant Studio courses beginning on March 5. Offer valid through March 11 and cannot be applied to previous purchases.*

About *The Orchid Show: Mexican Modernism*

The Orchid Show: Mexican Modernism, the 22nd edition of the annual celebration of all things orchids at the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG), carries visitors to the vibrant setting of Mexico. Set off on a journey where the fusion of tradition and contemporary artistry takes center stage amid awe-inspiring displays of orchids and other eye-catching supporting plants. Wander through lush landscapes brought into vivid relief with thousands of flowers that showcase diverse ecosystems and rich culture. Among bright arrangements of orchids in settings inspired by the bold, multicolored designs of Mexican modernist architect Luis Barragán (1902–1988), visit a paradise of tropical beauty—without ever leaving the Bronx. For more information on *The Orchid Show: Mexican Modernism* and to purchase tickets, visit:

<https://www.nybg.org/event/the-orchid-show-mexican-modernism/>

About The New York Botanical Garden

The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) has been a connective hub among people, plants, and the shared planet since 1891. For more than 130 years, NYBG has been rooted in the cultural fabric of New York City, in the heart of the Bronx, its greenest borough. NYBG has invited millions of visitors to make the Garden a part of their lives, exploring the joy, beauty, and respite of nature. NYBG's 250 acres are home to renowned exhibitions, immersive botanical experiences, art and music, and events with some of the most influential figures in plant and fungal science, horticulture, and the humanities. NYBG is also a steward of globally significant research collections, from the LuEsther T. Mertz Library collection to the plant and fungal specimens in

the William and Lynda Steere Herbarium, the largest such collection in the Western Hemisphere.

The plant people of NYBG—dedicated horticulturists, enthusiastic educators, and scientific adventurers—are committed to helping nature thrive so that humanity can thrive. They believe in their ability to make things better, teaching tens of thousands of kids and families each year about the importance of safeguarding the environment and healthy eating. Expert scientists work across the city, the nation, and the globe to document the plants and fungi of the world—and find actionable, nature-based solutions to the planet’s dual climate and biodiversity crises. With eyes always looking forward, they train the next generation of botanists, gardeners, landscape designers, and environmental stewards, ensuring a green future for all. At NYBG, it’s nature—or nowhere.

###

Major support for *The Orchid Show: Mexican Modernism* is provided by the Janet Traeger Salz Charitable Trust

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 Contacts: Patricia Sullivan at psullivan@nybg.org
Nick Leshi at nleshi@nybg.org