

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 15, 2024

Pick Up Festive New Skills This Season with The New York Botanical Garden's Holiday-Themed Classes

Be Inspired by the Magic of the *Holiday Train Show*® to Craft Wreaths, Create Botanical Cards, Enhance Photography Know-How, and More



Bronx, NY—Get into the festive spirit of the season with the vibrant lineup of holiday-themed classes from The New York Botanical Garden's (NYBG) Continuing Education program, offering creative workshops, and unique hands-on projects for everyone to enjoy. Let the beloved *Holiday Train Show*®, on view from Saturday, November 16, 2024, through Monday, January 20, 2025, for its 33rd year of enchanting train displays, twinkling lights, and cherished traditions, inspire your own creativity. Learn how to design holiday wreaths and ornate fall harvest tablescapes. Create botanical cards and craft natural medicines of honey and pine. Explore the *Holiday Train Show* during exclusive photographers-only hours, or create a botanical building with natural materials, in the style of the exhibition's plant-based replicas of famed local architecture on display in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Whether you're decorating your home, preparing thoughtful gifts, or capturing the magic of the *Holiday Train Show*, NYBG's holiday-related Continuing Education classes, taking place

online or on-site at the Botanical Garden, can spur you to bring holiday ideas to life. A full overview is available at: <https://www.nybg.org/event/holiday-train-show-2024/classes/>

Holiday-related classes include:

- **Fall Harvest Tabletop Design**
Saturday, November 16, 2024; 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
Online; NYBG Member \$200/Non-Member \$210
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252FDN322O&courseId=242FDN322A&categoryId=ROOT>
Follow step-by-step instructions in crafting a glorious centerpiece inspired by the fall harvest season. Using lilies, heirloom chrysanthemums, Chinese lanterns, celosia, herbs, mini pumpkins, lady apples and vines, and sustainable materials, curate a tabletop floral arrangement that is a mix of subtle and eclectic beauty. Gain artistic tips on how to showcase this tabletop design with a variety of textures, tableware, props, and linens that complete the harvest ambience.
- **Botanical Holiday Cards**
Saturday, November 23, 2024; 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
At NYBG; NYBG Member \$125/Non-Member \$139
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252CRF209&courseId=232CRF209&categoryId=10100>
Discover the basics of block printing with artist Chemin Hsiao. Together, visit NYBG's Enid A. Haupt Conservatory for seasonal botanical inspiration. Then, experiment with carving a simple design into a block of soft, eraser-like material. Stamp your designs onto paper and create a unique set of hand-printed holiday cards for loved ones. All materials for this course are provided and included in the price.
- **Magnolia Leaf Wreath**
Wednesday, December 4, 2024; 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.
At NYBG; NYBG Member \$230/Non-Member \$220
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252FDN355&courseId=154FDN355&categoryId=986CD710>
Southern charm and hospitality come front and center with a glossy, richly decorated wreath of magnolia leaves perfect for a door, mantel, or accent wall. Weave leaves into a wreath form, then complement shape and color with seasonal fruit, pine cones, holly, and other greenery. Pricing includes a \$65 materials fee for plant materials and hard goods. Please bring a florist knife, wire cutter, scissors, pruners, a camera, and a box or bag to carry home your work. Alternatively, a Floral Tool Kit is available for purchase through the Registration Office. Please email ContinuingEd@nybg.org to inquire.

- Herbal Honeys**
Wednesday, December 4, 2024; 6–8 p.m.
Online; NYBG Member \$45/Non-Member \$49
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252WEL147O&courseId=232WEL147&categoryId=986CD710>
 Learn how to create medicinal herbal honeys to soothe sore throats and coughs, heal skin wounds, and fight off infection using a variety of plants and flowers. Make several custom honeys suited to your unique needs.
- Create a Botanical Building**
Saturday, December 7, 2024; 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
At NYBG; NYBG Member \$200/Non-Member \$220
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252CRF142&courseId=154CRF142&categoryId=986CD710>
 Create a building replica with natural materials, in the style of the *Holiday Train Show*. Explore architectural styles, and then choose from an assortment of dried botanicals such as pods, bark, and branches to make your own detailed one-foot tall model. This course includes a brief tour of the *Holiday Train Show* to serve as a source of inspiration. Please bring lunch and a box to carry home your creation. Pricing includes materials.
- Holiday Greens**
Saturday, December 7, 2024; 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
At NYBG; NYBG Member \$230 /Non-Member \$245
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252FDN335&courseId=154FDN335&categoryId=986CD710>
 The holidays come to life with fragrant, long lasting decorations for your door, table, and mantel. Explore working with fresh pine, fir, cedar, boxwood, juniper, and arborvitae. Cones and berries will add seasonal interest. Personalize your projects with accents of ribbons and millimeter balls. Pricing includes a \$90 materials fee for plant materials and hard goods. Please bring a florist knife, wire cutter, scissors, pruners, a camera, and a box or bag to carry home your work. Alternatively, a Floral Tool Kit is available for purchase through the Registration Office. Please email ContinuingEd@nybg.org to inquire.

- The *Holiday Train Show*®: Special Photographers' Hours**
Saturday, December 7, 2024; 8:30 a.m.–10 a.m.
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252GWP231&courseId=202GWP231&categoryId=986CD710>
At NYBG; NYBG Member \$49/Non-Member \$55
 For serious photographers only, this is a rare opportunity to capture the exquisite beauty of NYBG's exhibition without casual visitors present and with a tripod, since you'll be shooting with low light. Explore the many advantages of using a tripod with any camera or phone, such as repeatable framing and composition opportunities, achieving sharper results for panoramic and/or landscape formats, practicing sequential photography, such as HDR (High Dynamic Range), and more. Please minimize gear—no backdrops or screens are allowed.
- Pine Medicine**
Wednesday, December 11, 2024; 6–8 p.m.
Online; NYBG Member \$80/Non-Member \$85
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252WEL182O&courseId=222WEL182&categoryId=986CD710>
 From cough syrups to pine pollen pancakes and spruce tip salt, discover how common conifers can delight taste buds and enhance apothecary. In this course, the class will craft a few remedies together. All materials are provided.
- Winter Wonderland Wreath**
Saturday, December 14, 2024; 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
At NYBG; NYBG Member \$115/Non-Member \$125
<https://www.enrole.com/nybg/jsp/session.jsp?sessionId=252CRF155&courseId=172CRF155&categoryId=986CD710>
 Take inspiration from the wintry outdoors as you re-create a nature scene on a three-dimensional, lighted grapevine wreath using preserved cedar, juniper, mushroom birds, and other seasonal botanicals. Then, top it off with a sprinkling of faux snow.

For more information about the *Holiday Train Show*, visit our website at <https://www.nybg.org/event/holiday-train-show-2024/>.

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.

###

Founding Sponsors:

Victoria and Robert Zoellner

Sponsors:

The Youth Performance Institute

Digital experience provided by: Bloomberg Philanthropies

Exhibitions in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory are made possible by the Estate of Enid A. Haupt.

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