



Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew

Courses

at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Autumn – Winter 2018/19



Welcome

to our Autumn – Winter courses programme for adults at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Adult learning

For course information, bookings and enquiries please contact us:

Tel: (020) 8332 5641
(020) 8332 5626

Email: adulted@kew.org

Visit our website at: www.kew.org/adult-education

All profit from these courses and events contributes to the vital work of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Gift vouchers

If you would like to give a place on one of our courses as a gift we are more than happy to arrange for a special card to be sent, whatever the occasion. Birthday, anniversary or just to say thank you – leave the arrangements to us! Please contact us for more details.

Monthly planner 2018/19

All courses take place at Kew Gardens.

October

2 – 4	Watercolour workshop: autumn fruits	16
24 – 25	Photographing trees	11
30	Photo walk: Kew in autumn	12

November

29 Oct – 9 Nov	Intermediate botanical illustration	17
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January

14 – 18	Botanical illustration for beginners	18
22 – 24	Watercolour workshop: spring bulbs	18

February

12 – 13	Digital photography for beginners	12
19	Orchids for beginners	4
21	Surface embroidery: orchids	23
25 Feb – 8 Mar	Intermediate botanical illustration	17

March

6	Orchids for beginners	4
14	Paper flowers: daffodils	24
23 – 24	Pen and ink workshop	19

April

3 – 4	Introduction to botany	9
6	Spring photography masterclass	13
9	Plant propagation	5
11	Vegetable gardening for novices	6
17	Macro photography workshop	14

May

30 Apr – 2 May	Creating a botanical sketchbook	20
21 – 23	Creating a botanical sketchbook	20
30	Paper flowers: poppies	25

June

1, 8, 15, 22	Saturday beginners botanical illustration	20
20	Photo walk: a midsummer's evening	14

July

18	Designing a summer border	7
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Horticulture



Orchids for beginners

Tuesday 19 February or Wednesday 6 March

Time: 10.30am – 3.30pm

Tutor: Laurence Hobbs

Venue: Kew Gardens

This one day course aims to give you the knowledge and confidence to grow orchids successfully in your own home. Beginning with an introduction to the wonderful world of orchids, the tutor will then give advice as to the best kinds to grow and the steps involved in keeping them looking their best.

**Course fee: £70 (£60 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 30 places)**



Plant propagation

Tuesday 9 April

Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm

Tutor: Christine Lavelle

Venue: Kew Gardens

This course will provide a helpful introduction to the various methods you can use to increase your plant numbers. Come and learn how to propagate vegetables, shrubs, herbaceous plants, house plants and all types of bedding. We will discuss the time of year when the cuttings should be taken or the seeds sown, types of pots required and suitable compost to use. We will also cover the environment and care that each type of plant requires after propagation.

Course fee: £80 (£70 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 25 places)





Vegetable gardening for novices

Thursday 11 April

Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm

Tutor: Christine Lavelle

Venue: Kew Gardens

Have you just acquired an allotment or vegetable patch and want to boost your vegetable growing skills? This one-day workshop, taught by Christine Lavelle, will introduce you to the most commonly grown vegetable crops and show you how best to cultivate them.

You'll also learn about pests and diseases, crop rotation, fertilisers, green manures and composting – giving you the confidence to get the most from your plot.

**Course fee: £80 (£70 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 25 places)**

Designing a summer border

Thursday 18 July

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Richard Wilford

Venue: Kew Gardens

From the beginning of June to the end of September, the summer garden can be a riot of colour but when starting to plan a summer border, knowing what to plant where can be daunting. This course is run by the designer of the magnificent Great Broad Walk Borders in Kew Gardens, Richard Wilford. It will introduce basic concepts of planting design to help you create your own beautiful summer border. Focusing on planting styles, structure, form and of course, the huge range of colourful, summer-flowering herbaceous perennials, there will be plenty to inspire you. The course will include a walking tour around parts of Kew, including the Great Broad Walk Borders.

**Course fee: £80 (£70 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 20 places)**



Botany



Introduction to botany

Wednesday 3 OR Thursday 4 April

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Anna Haigh

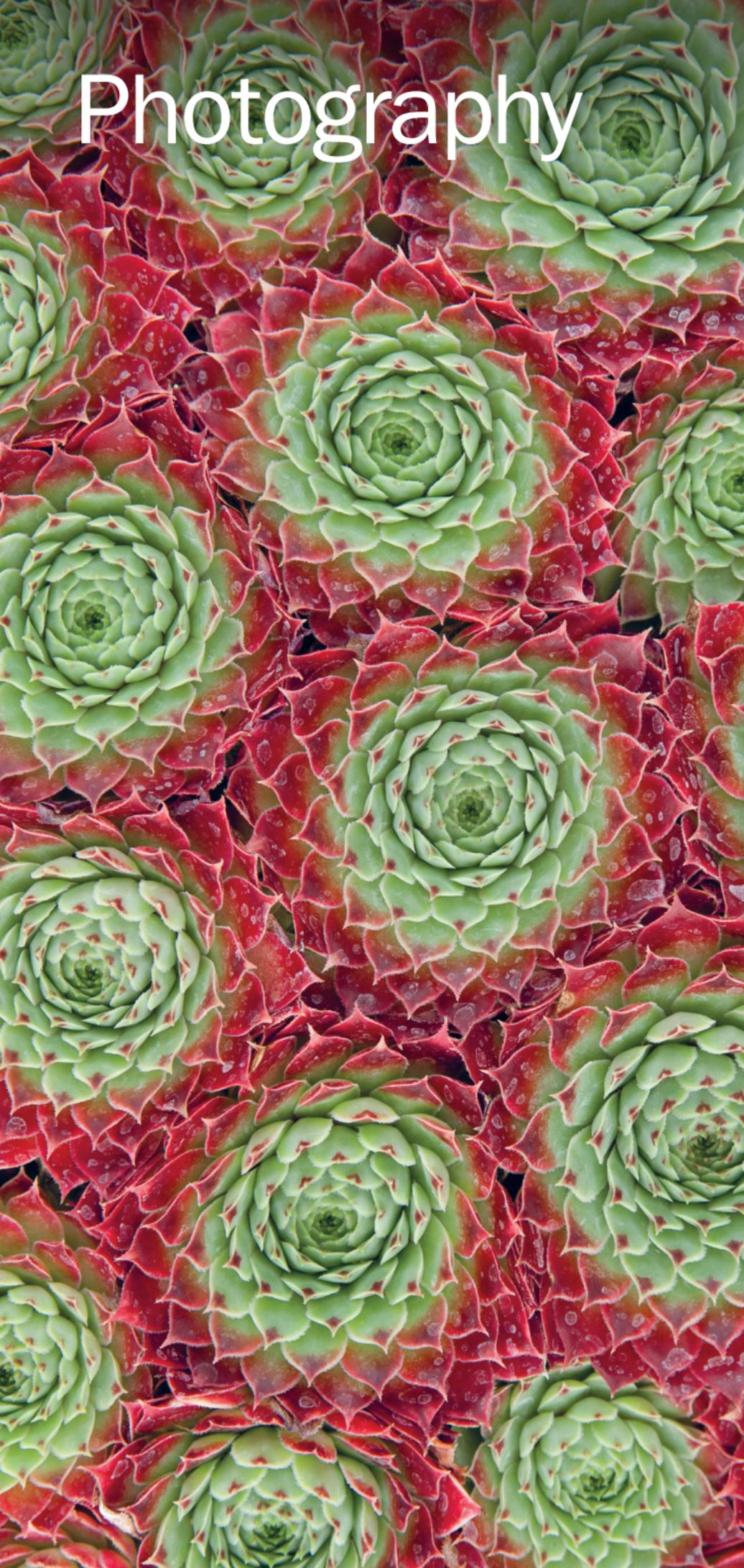
Venue: Kew Gardens

A general introduction to the world of flowering plants, this one-day course is suitable for non-scientists and anyone keen to develop a deeper understanding of this fascinating subject. With embedded practical sessions and a short guided walk through some of the living collections, the course will cover the variety of plant life, flowering plant structure, pollination, adaptation, taxonomy, and classification. By the end of the day you'll have learned how plants are identified by using a botanical key and have a better understanding of the immense diversity of plant life.

**Course fee: £80 (£70 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 12 places)**



Photography



Photographing trees

Wednesday 24 – Thursday 25 October

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Edward Parker

Venue: Kew Gardens

This popular course is designed to explore ways of producing superb photographs of trees. It will include tuition on how to photograph the whole tree as well as details of bark and leaves. In addition it will look at how using different techniques – such as directional and soft lighting, colour and composition – can enhance the final image, as well as teaching you how to get the most out of your digital equipment.

We'll start with an illustrated introductory talk including tree and forest photographs from around the world before heading out into the Gardens to gain inspiration among Kew's impressive arboretum. The first day will be spent exploring the capabilities and limitations of your equipment. As the course progresses, we'll evaluate your images and find out how to work with camera limitations, making them part of the image making process.

During the course, you'll be given basic instruction on how to download, store and enhance digital images.

Course fee: £160 (£140 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 15 places)



Photo walk: Kew in autumn

Tuesday 30 October

Time: 10.30am – 12.30pm OR 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Tutor: Marcus Clackson

Venue: Kew Gardens

Join us as we celebrate the splendour of autumn with a short seasonal photo walk devoted to improving your photography and capturing the delights of Kew Gardens at this special time of year. Experienced photographer and tutor, Marcus Clackson will cover a wide range of photographic techniques from macro to landscape. Capture everything from the iconic buildings and glasshouses, the inspirational gardens and landscapes, to the spectacular autumn colour, all under his expert tuition and guidance. Grow your portfolio and see your photography skills blossom! Suitable for photographers of all abilities looking to improve digital camera technique.

**Course fee: £60 (£50 concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 12 places)**

Digital photography for beginners

Tuesday 12 – Wednesday 13 February

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Edward Parker

Venue: Kew Gardens

This course is designed for camera-owners who would like to know the basics. It will explain some of the essential principles of photography such as focus, exposure and composition as well as many of the practical aspects such as how to download and store images, and some advice on basic processing. The majority of the time will be spent practicing techniques by actually using cameras out in the beautiful gardens at Kew. There will be many opportunities to ask questions and review your own images, and those taken by the group, as well as an opportunity to learn a host of top tips.

This course is suitable for people with any sort of camera – compact, bridge or DSLR. It is useful to bring along instruction books, if you have them, and you will need to make sure your batteries are fully charged and that you have a memory card with some free space on it.

**Course fee: £160 (£140 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 12 places)**

Spring photography master class

Saturday 6 April

Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm

Tutor: Clive Nichols

Venue: Kew Gardens

Be part of a small group on this course devoted to outdoor practical photography amid the spring delights of Kew Gardens, with instruction and guidance from one of the world's most successful flower and garden photographers. After an introductory lecture, you'll spend the day in the Gardens (and possibly in one of the glasshouses) which presents a wide variety of photographic challenges. The tutor will be drawing your attention to the trees, plants and views making up the spring picture at Kew and sharing hints and tips for the best ways to capture them. Suitable for proactive improvers. Sandwich lunch provided.

**Course fee: £170 (£150 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 12 places)**



Image © Clive Nichols



Image © Clive Nichols

Macro photography workshop

Wednesday 17 April

Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm

Tutor: Marcus Clackson

Venue: Kew Gardens

Want to dive into the extreme close up world of macro and still life photography?

Then come on this course and learn the techniques for capturing detailed and exciting nature macro photos both in the studio and outside in the Gardens (weather permitting).

Using daylight, constant and flash lighting as well as other techniques to get the best out of each subject, we will be working with various flowers and objects from nature.

Please note, it is recommended to bring a camera that is able to focus close up or that has a macro feature. The tutor will also have cameras set up that can be used if you bring a standard SD card to enable you to take the photos away afterwards.

Course fee: £80 (£70 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(Maximum capacity 12 places)

Photo walk: a midsummer's evening in Kew Gardens

Thursday 20 June

Time: 5.30pm – 9pm

Tutor: Marcus Clackson

Venue: Kew Gardens

Don't miss this rare opportunity to accompany experienced photographer and tutor, Marcus Clackson, on an evening of outdoor photography. Let Kew Gardens stimulate your creativity, in all its midsummer beauty with the advantage of low, soft light.

Marcus will cover a wide range of photographic techniques from macro to landscape. Grow your portfolio and see your photography skills blossom!

Suitable for photographers of all abilities looking to improve digital camera technique.

Course fee: £100 (£80 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(Maximum capacity 10 Places)

Arts





Watercolour workshop: autumn fruits

Tuesday 2 – Thursday 4 October

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Penny Price

Venue: Kew Gardens

Using initial drawings and then watercolour this workshop will explore how to paint autumn's harvest of fruits – making them look realistic using 3D form and colour techniques. From apples to pears and quinces to pomegranates we will paint the whole fruit and halved ones, revealing the structure and pattern of seeds inside, making an interesting composition on the page.

This course is open for beginners as well as those with more experience. Some individual help will be given as well as general teaching of the whole group.

**Course fee: £210 (£180 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 15 places)**

Botanical illustration for beginners

Monday 14 – Friday 18 January

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Lucy T Smith

Venue: Kew Gardens

This entry-level course introduces you to the range of skills and techniques required for this highly specialised expression of the illustrator's art. You will learn about the materials, techniques and equipment used by botanical illustrators. Using pencil, pen and ink and watercolour in a series of small exercises, you will begin to learn how to accurately draw and paint plant material.

This course is suitable for beginners and those with different art backgrounds looking to find out more about botanical illustration.

Course fee: £375 (£325 Concessions, Friends of Kew)

Deposit payable on enrolment: £50

(maximum capacity 15 places)

Watercolour workshop: spring bulbs

Tuesday 22 – Thursday 24 January

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Penny Price

Venue: Kew Gardens

This course will explore how to look at the structure of spring plants, from bulb to flower, and how to paint them in watercolour using colour matching and painting techniques. Some of these plants are quite small, so we'll look at changing or keeping to a life-size painting. Beginners are welcome, as well as those with more experience. We shall work in pencil first and move on to painting in watercolour.

You will be taught in a group, but individual help is available too.

Course fee: £210 (£180 Concessions, Friends of Kew)

(maximum capacity 15 places)

Pen and ink workshop

Saturday 23 – Sunday 24 March

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Penny Price

Venue: Kew Gardens

Line drawing in pen and ink is a particularly useful skill for botanical illustrators to master. During this new course, working with dip pens and black ink on paper, various methods of creating form will be introduced and practised. These will include stipple, hatching and variation of line. We will work on a couple of botanical subjects using these methods. Subjects will be first drawn in pencil and then transferred to final paper. Beginners welcome – this course is suitable for all abilities. The tutor will provide dip pens and black ink for participants.

**Course fee: £150 (£130 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 15 places)**



Images © Lucy T Smith

Creating a botanical sketchbook

Tuesday 30 April – Thursday 2 May OR

Tuesday 21 – Thursday 23 May

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Lucy T Smith

Venue: Kew Gardens

This three-day course will teach you how to keep a botanical sketchbook. A well-kept botanical sketchbook is an invaluable tool to record your plant drawings and field notes, colour studies, and written notes.

During class you will practise drawing and sketching from life, both indoors and outdoors, and learn how to capture multiple levels of information to help inform your botanical artwork, all while being inspired by the Gardens.

Course fee: £210 (£180 concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 15 places)

Saturday beginners botanical illustration

Saturday's 1, 8, 15, 22 June

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Lucy T Smith

Venue: Kew Gardens

This entry-level course introduces you to the range of skills and techniques required for this highly specialised expression of the illustrator's art. You will learn about the materials, techniques and equipment used by botanical illustrators. Using pencil, pen and ink and watercolour in a series of small exercises, you will begin to learn how to accurately draw and paint plant material. This course is suitable for beginners and those with different art backgrounds looking to find out more about botanical illustration.

Course fee: £300 (£260 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
Deposit payable on enrolment: £50
(maximum capacity 15 places)

Kew Certificate in Botanical Illustration

2019/20 programme begins September 2019

A variety of short courses for the public to study and practise the art of botanical illustration have been successfully established at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew over the last 20 years. We are now proud to include the addition of an annual programme of study, leading to the Kew Certificate in Botanical Illustration.

Through course modules taught by professional botanical illustrators and self study course work, the programme gives a deep and comprehensive knowledge of all aspects needed for botanical illustration, botanical art and sketching and observing nature closely while benefiting from the unique and historic surroundings and collections at Kew.

Please contact us for details of the programme and full prospectus.

Certificate Fee: £3,000 (£2,800 Concessions, Friends of Kew) Deposit payable on enrolment: £500 (maximum capacity 6 places)



Crafts



Surface embroidery: orchids

Thursday 21 February

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Susie Johns

Venue: Kew Gardens

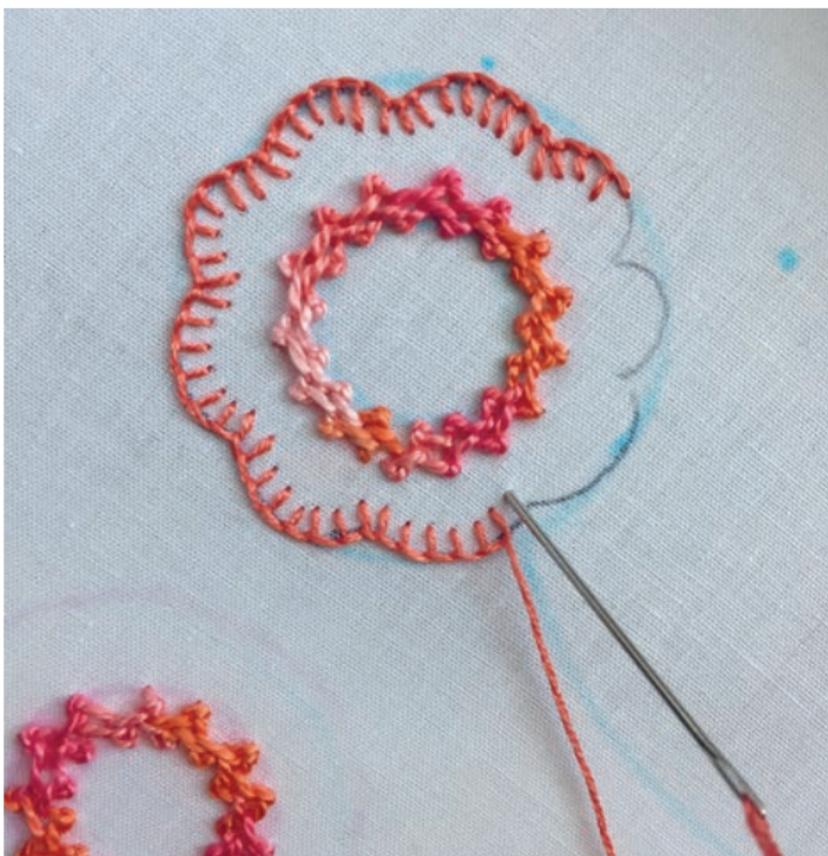
Come and be inspired by the tropical blooms at Kew. Learn how to design an orchid motif, transfer it to fabric and embellish it with beautiful embroidery stitches.

The course will begin with a quick look at the orchids in the Princess of Wales Conservatory, before designing a simple motif. You do not have to be experienced or skilled at drawing as your tutor will guide you.

You will then learn how to transfer the design on to fabric. Anyone new to embroidery will be taught some simple stitches and the rest of the session will be spent embroidering your design, with all the help and guidance you need.

All materials will be provided: pencils, paper, fabric, needles and threads. You may wish to bring your own sketch book and a camera.

Course fee: £70 (£60 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 12 places)



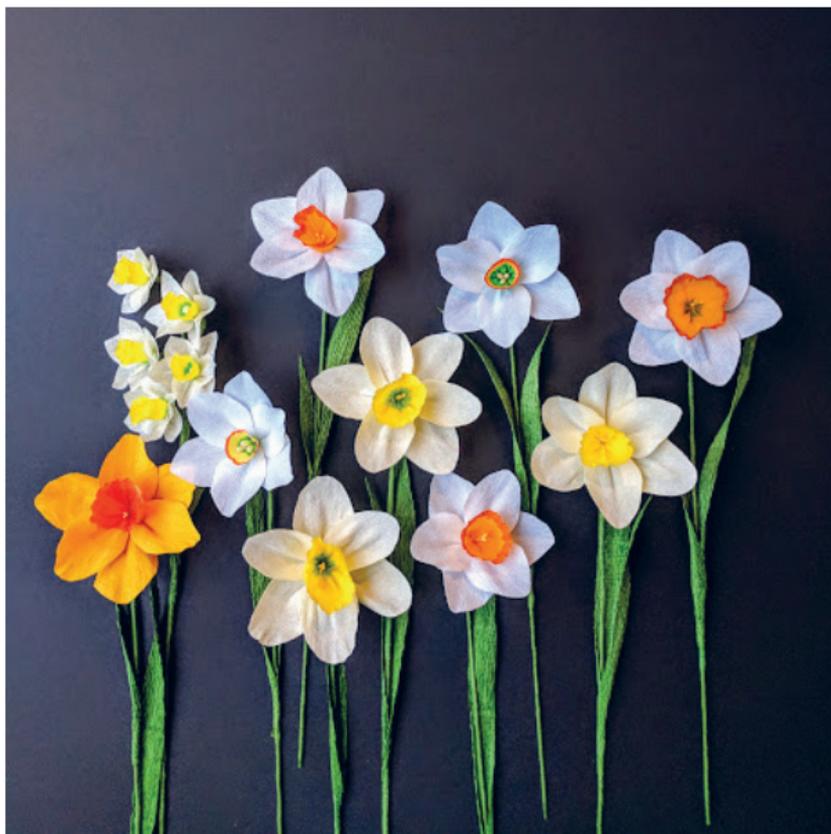


Image © Nikita Crocker

Paper flowers: daffodils

Thursday 14 March

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Nikita Crocker

Venue: Kew Gardens

This one-day course will introduce you to the intricate art of paper flower making which has seen a popular resurgence in recent years.

Tutor Nikita Crocker will take you through the step-by-step process to make a daffodil starting with the tiny stigmata, the shaping of the colourful flute, before adding the petals and realistic paper foliage.

This is a very meditative art which allows for infinite scope and creativity. Once you learn the basic method of structure you will be able to explore and practice your new found skills to design daffodils as you wish. And of course you get to take home all the daffodils you make.

All necessary materials will be provided for you in the class including a variety of richly-coloured crepe paper of exceptional quality.

**Course fee: £70 (£60 Concessions, Friends of Kew)
(maximum capacity 12 places)**

Paper flowers: poppies

Thursday 30 May

Time: 10.30am – 4pm

Tutor: Nikita Crocker

Venue: Kew Gardens

This one day course will introduce you to the intricate art of paper flower making which has seen a popular resurgence in recent years.

Tutor Nikita Crocker will take you through the step-by-step process to make a poppy starting with how to create a realistic stigma and stamen with pollen-laden anthers. Then we'll look at how to perfect the crumpled, wrinkled look of the petals, finishing with the wonky stem to complete the playful look of these bright beauties.

This is a very meditative art which allows for infinite scope and creativity. Once you learn the basic method of structure you will be able to explore and practice your new found skills to design poppies as you wish. And of course you get to take home all the poppies you make.

All necessary materials will be provided for you in the class including a variety of richly-coloured crepe paper of exceptional quality.

Course fee: £70 (£60 Concessions, Friends of Kew (maximum capacity 12 places))



Image © Nikita Crocker

Terms and conditions

Bookings

To reserve a place on any of the courses please call 020 8332 5641 or email adulted@kew.org with a contact telephone number and we will call you back during office hours to take your booking. We can also forward our bank details if you prefer to pay via transfer.

For one-day courses the full course fee is due at the time of booking. For certain courses, a non-refundable deposit is due at the time of booking (see course description for details). The balance of payment is then due four weeks before the course begins. No reminder will be sent.

The course fee listed already includes admission to the Gardens enabling you to attend your course.

Please note the minimum age for course participants is 18.

Concessions

Concessions on our courses are offered where possible. Senior citizens (60+), students in full-time education, unemployed, and Friends of Kew can claim the concessionary rate listed for each course. Proof of concession is required before your application can be dealt with so this should accompany your booking.

Confirmation

A confirmation will be sent for each booking on receipt of the course fee or deposit. Course confirmations will normally be sent by email if an address is supplied.

Waiting lists

All courses are limited in number and will fill up quickly so please book early to avoid disappointment. If a course is fully booked, your name will be added to the waiting list. If a place becomes available, we will contact you.

Refunds

As the booking is made for a specific date and time, it is not possible to issue a refund or exchange once you have confirmed your purchase. Please make certain that you can attend a course before booking a place.

Course materials

Please note that course materials are not provided unless stated in the course description. Materials lists will be issued to participants where appropriate.

Cancellation of courses

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew reserves the right to cancel any course if it becomes necessary to do so. Students who have booked places will be notified as soon as possible and may then transfer to other courses, dependent on availability, without loss of course fee or deposit. If they prefer to withdraw their bookings, course fees and deposits will be refunded in full.

Personal information

We respect any personal data you share with us. For more details on how we use your information, see our privacy policy at www.kew.org/privacy.

Accommodation

Courses at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew are non-residential. For details of accommodation in the Kew area, please visit www.visitrichmond.co.uk.

Access

We want you to enjoy your visit to Kew Gardens. Please contact the adult learning coordinator, before booking your course, if you are mobility impaired or have any special needs or requirements.

Adult education enquiries

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Visit our website at: www.kew.org/adult-education

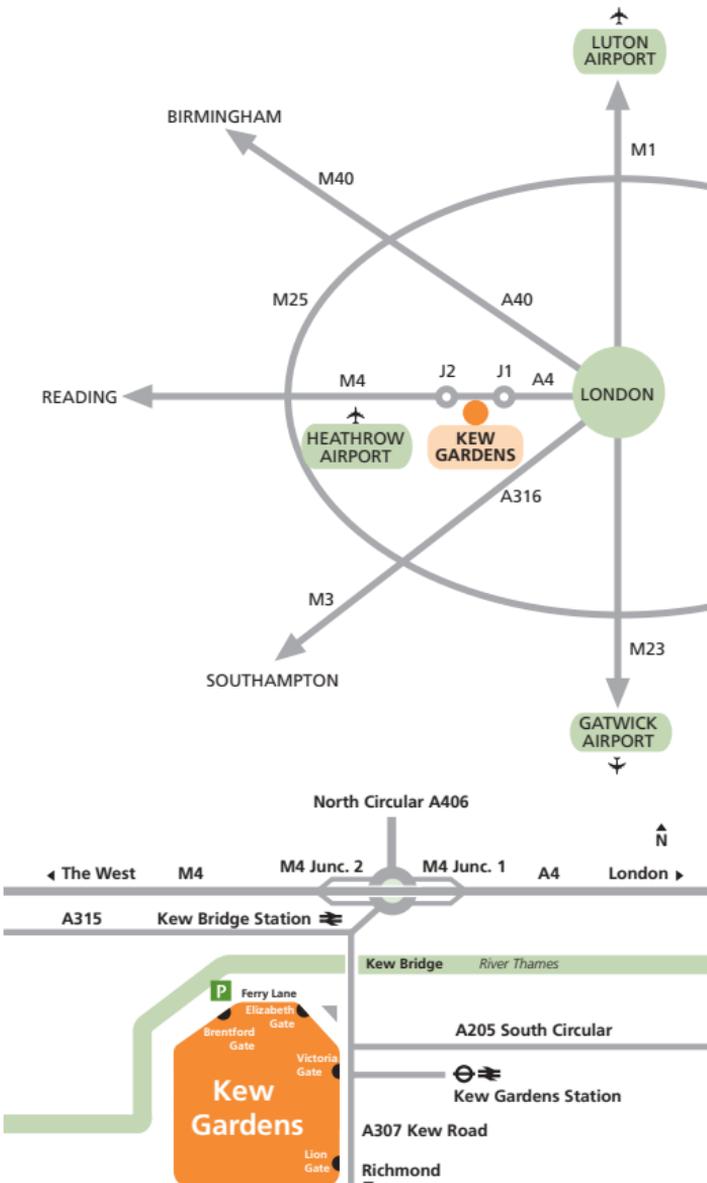
If you would like to give a place on one of our courses as a gift we are more than happy to arrange for a special card to be sent, whatever the occasion. Please contact us for more details.

About Kew Gardens

Kew

Awarded World Heritage site status in 2003, Kew Gardens is one of the most beautiful and historic gardens in the country. Its 300 acres contain a wealth of living plant material as well as comprehensive collections of preserved plant specimens, ethnobotanical products and artefacts, botanical paintings and books. It is situated 10 miles from the centre of London and is served by mainline trains from Waterloo or by underground (District Line).

The majority of Kew courses are held in the Education Centre based in Museum No. 1. This grade II listed building, opened to the public after refurbishment in 1998, is superbly equipped for our varying courses and overlooks the magnificent Palm House.



The tutors

Marcus Clackson is based in Twickenham riverside, and with a successful commercial career spanning over 25 years, is also an Ambassador for Olympus cameras. He runs regular workshops and events covering many aspects of photography and photographic technique. Coming from a fine art education, Marcus draws inspiration from many sources, which can be seen in the passion and excitement with which he approaches every project.

Nikita Crocker has always been a lover of nature and found the art of paper flower making perfectly married this love with her creative passions. She uses real specimens from the natural world to study and break down the structure of each variety of flower and then pieces together her paper creations. She is the founder of Wild Paper Florist a business making paper flowers for wedding bouquets and decorations. She thoroughly enjoys teaching people the art of paper flower making and seeing the delight of pupils when their own hand made flower suddenly comes together before their eyes.

Anna Haigh has worked at Kew, in the Herbarium, since 2002. She specialises in research and web taxonomy of the Araceae (Arum) family and has carried out fieldwork in South America and the Caribbean.

Laurence Hobbs gained an honours degree in plant biology before setting up business as an orchid grower. Laurence Hobbs Orchids Ltd, of which he is managing director, has been established in Sussex since 1987.

Susie Johns has worked in publishing for many years, as a writer and editor. She is the author of more than 30 craft and art books, and contributes to a number of magazines, including Let's Knit, Sew and Simply Crochet. As a knitting designer, her creative skills are in great demand, not only for designing garments and accessories but novelty knits such as fruit, flowers, vegetables, animals and puppets. Having studied Fine Art at Ravensbourne College, she went on to gain a postgraduate degree at The Slade School. In 2002 she studied for a PGCE and has since been involved in adult and community education, specialising in drawing and painting but also running classes and workshops in papercrafts, knitting, crochet, sewing and embroidery.

Christine Lavelle is a lecturer in horticulture and ecology at Writtle College, Chelmsford, UK, and an external examiner for the School of Horticulture at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. She trained at the National Trust for Scotland's Threave School of Practical Gardening and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Christine was assistant Head Gardener at Levens Hall topiary gardens in Kendal and Hardy Ornamentals Team leader at Askham Bryan College in York. Her main areas of work are in organic growing and wildlife gardening. Together, Christine and her husband Michael Lavelle won the Garden Media Guild Practical Book of the Year Award in 2003 and 2008 for their books *Organic Gardening* and *How to Create a Wildlife Garden* (both published by Lorenz Books).

Clive Nichols is one of the world's most successful flower and garden photographers. He has won many awards for his work and in 2005 was voted 'Garden Photographer of the Year' by the Garden Writers Guild. His work has appeared in countless magazines, books and calendars throughout the world and he is in constant demand as a lecturer and teacher. He has appeared on British and Japanese TV, sits on the RHS Photographic Committee and is a judge for the 'Garden Photographer of the Year' competition.

Edward Parker is a specialist tree and forest photographer who, over the last 20 years, has worked in more than 40 countries around the world. He is co-author and photographer of the major book *Ancient Trees – trees that live for a thousand years* and has worked on numerous tree and forest related projects for organisations such as WWF, Tropical Forest Trust, and The Tree Council of the British Isles. In addition he has written more than 30 educational books and his photographs have been on exhibition at Kew Gardens, Downing Street, and The Horniman Museum as well as having been used at both the Earth Summits. *Photographing Trees* is his latest book.

Penny Price is a botanical artist, having initially trained as a teacher and then as a professional lettering artist. Having painted all her life, she decided to become more specialised in the art of botanical painting, and trained for the Diploma in Botanical Art and Illustration (EGS) gaining a distinction in 2013. She was awarded a Silver Gilt medal by the Royal Horticultural Society in 2014. She presently teaches part time at the Chelsea School of Botanical Art and runs courses in Cambridge University Botanic Garden. She is an artist member of three Florilegium Societies, including one in Sydney, Australia where she has also exhibited her work. Her mission is to help others achieve pleasure and skills in the art of botanical painting.

Lucy T Smith is a freelance botanical artist at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. She has received many awards for her work, including the 2004 Jill Smythies Award for Botanical Illustration, awarded by the Linnean Society of London. She won first prize in the Margaret Flockton Award for Scientific Illustration, at the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney (2017), as well as Highly Commended awards in the 2005, 2006 and 2008 competitions. She has also received two Gold Medals from the Royal Horticultural Society. As well as her freelance work, Lucy also produces paintings for private commissions and exhibitions.

Richard Wilford has worked at Kew since 1989 and is now the Manager of Garden Design. He designed the Great Broad Walk Borders, which opened in June 2016. He has a diploma in garden design from the London College of Garden Design and over 29 years' experience at Kew, where he has worked on the rock garden, alpine house and managed the herbaceous and grass collections. He has also written books on alpines and bulbs and writes regularly for Kew Magazine. He is a member of the RHS Bulb Committee and judges Floral Marquee exhibits at RHS shows.



To protect our living collections, plant material supplied for practical classes will be drawn from a variety of sources and may not be from Kew or Wakehurst.

We use fresh and dried plants or plant-derived materials on many of our courses. If you think you may have an allergy to any of these please contact your doctor for advice before enrolling on the courses.



For course information or enquiries, please contact us:

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www.kew.org/adult-education