Royal Botanic Gardens

Kew

Courses

From Spring 2020
Welcome
to our programme of courses for adults at Kew Gardens.

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

Adult education
For course information, bookings or enquiries, please contact us:
Tel: 020 8332 5641
  020 8332 5626
Email: adulted@kew.org
Visit our website at: kew.org/adult-education

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.

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## Monthly course planner 2020

### April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25–26</td>
<td>Botany for botanical illustrators</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Paper flowers: Foxgloves</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12, 19, 26 May &amp; 2 June</td>
<td>Mindfulness (foundation)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16–17</td>
<td>Coloured pencil drawing</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19–21</td>
<td>Creating a botanical sketchbook</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 or 30</td>
<td>An afternoon of roses</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Terrarium gardening</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Right plant, right place</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Designing small gardens</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18–19</td>
<td>Watercolour workshop: Roses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>A summer evening in Kew Gardens</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29–30</td>
<td>Drawing and painting a nature tableau</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11–13</td>
<td>Introduction to painting with acrylics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Gardening for beginners</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kew Certificate in Botanical Illustration</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7–11</td>
<td>Botanical illustration for beginners</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Paper flowers: Peonies</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15, 22, 29 &amp; 6 October</td>
<td>Mindfulness (intermediate)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26–27</td>
<td>Watercolour workshop: Stone fruit</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29–30</td>
<td>More drawing trees</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### October

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8, 15 October &amp; 5, 12 November</td>
<td>Designing your own personal garden</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Autumn photography masterclass</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Photo walk: Kew in autumn</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17–18</td>
<td>Pen and ink: Vegetables</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21–22</td>
<td>Photographing trees</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 October – 6 November</td>
<td>Intermediate botanical illustration</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Gardening for beginners</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Arts
Creating a botanical sketchbook

Tuesday 19 – Thursday 21 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, colour studies, field notes and written notes.

During the 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 at Kew.

Course fee: £210 (£180 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places

Watercolour workshop: Roses

Saturday 18 – Sunday 19 July
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Trevor Waugh
Venue: Kew Gardens

Learn how to create stunning paintings of roses that capture the essential beauty of this much-loved flower.

Roses have a special place in both art and culture across the world and this new course will begin to teach you how to capture their character, colour and form in watercolour.

Artist and rose enthusiast Trevor Waugh will open the course by demonstrating various impressionistic approaches to this medium and subject, together with a loose and more expressive way of translating what you see into paint.

As well as group tuition throughout the course, Trevor will also get to work with you as individuals to address your personal artistic goals.

Course fee: £180 (£160 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Drawing and painting a nature tableau in the style of Jan van Kessel

Wednesday 29 – Thursday 30 July
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutors: Rebecca Jewell and Sandy Ross Sykes
Venue: Kew Gardens

This exciting two-day course will be inspired by the nature studies of 17th-century Flemish painter, Jan van Kessel. Fresh flowers will be provided as source material, as well as Sandy and Rebecca’s unique and extraordinary collection of natural history specimens and curios (including tropical bird feathers, butterflies, whales’ teeth, nests and seed pods).

Watercolour techniques will be explored and developed as well as looser pen-and-ink drawing styles, combined with watercolour washes.

Course fee: £160 (£140 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 12 places

Introduction to painting with acrylics

Tuesday 11 – Thursday 13 August
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Stuart Simler
Venue: Kew Gardens

Come on this fun three-day course and discover the versatility of this easy to use, quick drying, vibrant medium. Learn what acrylic paints are and how to work with them, considering composition, line, tone and colour.

There will also be an opportunity to explore the different media, materials and painting surfaces that complement the use of acrylics.

Course fee: £210 (£180 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Botanical illustration for beginners

Monday 7 – Friday 11 September
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Lucy T Smith
Venue: Kew Gardens

Ever wanted to try botanical illustration, but didn’t know where to start? This entry-level course introduces you to the range of skills and techniques required for this highly specialised area of illustration. As well as learning about the equipment and materials needed, you will also be able to pick up important tips and technical advice from a professional botanical artist, including measured drawing and how to capture the essence of a plant.

Course fee: £400 (£350 Kew members)
Deposit payable on enrolment: £50
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Kew Certificate in Botanical Illustration

2020/21 programme begins in September 2020

A variety of short courses in the study and practice of botanical illustration have been successfully established at the 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 provides a deep and comprehensive knowledge of all aspects of botanical illustration, botanical art and sketching and observing nature closely. During the course, students will benefit from the unique and historic surroundings and collections at Kew.

To receive details of the September 2020 – July 2021 Certificate programme and the full prospectus, please contact us.

£3,000 (£2,800 Kew members)
Deposit payable on enrolment: £500
Maximum capacity: 6 places

Watercolour workshop: Stone fruit

Saturday 26 – Sunday 27 September
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Penny Price
Venue: Kew Gardens

Using initial drawings and then watercolour, this workshop will explore how to paint stone fruits such as plums, damsons, cherries and nectarines, making them look realistic using 3D form and colour techniques.

We’ll start by drawing the fruit and working out where to put shading, then checking the dimensions of the fruit and its structure before applying the paint.

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

Course fee: £160 (£140 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Pen and ink: Vegetables

Saturday 17 – Sunday 18 October
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Penny Price
Venue: Kew Gardens

During this new weekend course, we will work with dip pens and black non-waterproof ink on paper to produce black and white botanical drawings of seasonal vegetables. Various methods of creating form, including stipple, hatching and variation of line, will be introduced and practised.

We’ll use these techniques to work on subjects such as beans, asparagus, peppers and aubergines, using the whole vegetable or cut to reveal the inside structure. Considering composition and layout, subjects will be first drawn in pencil before transferring 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: £160 (£140 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
More drawing trees

Tuesday 29 – Wednesday 30 September
Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm
Tutor: Stuart Simler
Venue: Kew Gardens

In this new and extended two-day course, participants will be able to further their understanding of the diverse ways in which to approach drawing trees.

We will work outside as much as possible, individually and in groups, looking at how to view and draw trees at different scales and describe the shape, form, texture, line and scale of different species, each with their own unique characteristics.

We will explore a range of media on both days, with the second day focusing a little more on experimentation and the development of mixed media, in classroom-based activities that are inspired and informed by your own work.

Course fee: £160 (£140 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places

Coloured pencil drawing

Saturday 16 – Sunday 17 May
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Hazel Wilks
Venue: Kew Gardens

This course will explore the depiction of flowers in coloured pencil, covering the observation techniques and accurate drawing methods used in botanical illustration.

We’ll start with an exercise in layering, blending and burnishing to help you become familiar with colour pencil techniques and colour theory. You’ll then draw a large petalled flower (a stargazer lily or similar), learning how to capture both soft and deep colours in the petals and internal structures.

You’ll learn how to create a simple composition, draw a flower accurately and to scale, and finally how to colour it in with confidence, in a way that is both accurate and artistically pleasing.

Course fee: £160 (£140 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Intermediate botanical illustration

Monday 26 October – Friday 6 November
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Lucy T Smith
Venue: Kew Gardens

This ten-day course provides an opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the work of botanical illustrators at Kew and the methods and materials they use.

Precision is the hallmark of the best botanical illustration and a range of relevant techniques will be demonstrated and taught. Accurate drawing is emphasised, as is the art of capturing the true essence and colour of a plant. Techniques include drawing in pencil, pen and ink work and watercolour painting using wash and dry brush. Individual attention to participants allows students to work at their own pace and skill level.

Included in the programme is a tutored visit to Kew's remarkable collections of botanical illustration in the Herbarium and the Shirley Sherwood Gallery of Botanical Art.

While this course is designed to follow on from ‘Botanical illustration for beginners’, it can also be taken as a stand-alone course.

Please note that there is no weekend tuition during this course.

Course fee: £750 (£695 Kew members)
Deposit payable on enrolment: £150
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Botany for botanical illustrators

Saturday 25 – Sunday 26 April
Time: 10.30am – 4pm
Tutor: Anne Bebbington
Venue: Kew Gardens

A two-day course for botanical artists who want to know more about their subjects. The practical sessions will demonstrate how the study of a plant can be a fascinating journey of discovery, informing your artwork by helping you to understand its structure and how it works. It can become an integral part of the excitement of producing botanical illustrations.

The emphasis in these workshops will be on practical botanical work. There will be an opportunity to do some drawing, so please bring sketchbooks and pencils.

Course fee: £150 (£130 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Crafts
Paper flowers: Foxgloves

**Tuesday 12 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. We will be creating foxgloves, one of the quintessential English garden flowers. Tutor Nikita Crocker will take you through the step-by-step process and show you a variety of foxglove types to make and take home.

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 Kew members)**
**Maximum capacity: 12 places**

Paper flowers: Peonies

**Thursday 17 September**
**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. We will be creating the double bomb peony, a full and fun flower. Tutor Nikita Crocker will take you through the step-by-step process and there will also be the opportunity to explore and practice with the form to create different sizes, colours and shapes.

All necessary materials will be provided for you in the class. These include a variety of richly coloured crepe paper of exceptional quality, so you’ll be able to take home peonies in bright reds, magentas, corals, pinks and softer pastels.

**Course fee: £70 (£60 Kew members)**
**Maximum capacity: 12 places**
Garden design
Designing small gardens

**Friday 10 July**
**Time:** 10.30am – 4.30pm  
**Tutor:** London College of Garden Design  
**Venue:** Kew Gardens

With considered design and thoughtful planting, the smallest of gardens can deliver maximum impact and still meet all your requirements. This course aims to explore the best techniques and tricks of the trade for making a big impression with a small space. The one-day programme allows students to explore concepts for their own gardens as well as discover new ideas for design and planting.

The course is run in collaboration with the London College of Garden Design, the leading training college for professional garden design.

**Course fee:** £100 (£80 Kew members)  
**Maximum capacity:** 25 places

Designing your own personal garden

**Thursdays 8, 15 October and 5, 12 November**  
**Time:** 10.30am – 4pm  
**Tutor:** London College of Garden Design  
**Venue:** Kew Gardens

The aim of this four-day course is to help you on the first steps to designing your own garden. We’ll start by looking at how you can get to know the particular constraints of your own space, before moving on to developing ideas and an outline plan. We’ll then help you put that plan into action with sessions on how to approach construction and developing a planting design.

**Week 1:** Getting to know your garden  
**Week 2:** Developing a plan  
**Week 3:** Detailing and building your garden  
**Week 4:** Planting for your new garden

This course is aimed at amateur gardeners who are keen to develop their own gardens. It will be classroom based and provide useful design tools and approaches for the amateur gardener. Some knowledge of garden plants will be useful but not essential.

The course is run in collaboration with the London College of Garden Design, the leading training college for professional garden design.

**Course fee:** £480 (£430 Kew members)  
**Maximum capacity:** 25 places
Horticulture
Terrarium gardening

Saturday 4 July
Time: 10.30am – 1pm
Tutor: Christine Lavelle
Venue: Kew Gardens

On this exciting new morning course, the tutor will demonstrate how to plant up a terrarium and care for it over the year. These low-maintenance indoor gardens are an attractive way to incorporate plants into either your home or office no matter what the size.

We’ll discuss plant choices, compost and the conditions needed to maintain the correct micro-climate and ensure a successful display.

In the afternoon, why not explore our summer festival, ‘Secret World of Plants’, which includes large-scale terrariums placed across the Gardens, giving the opportunity to connect with nature in a unique and multi-sensory way.

Course fee: £50 (£45 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 30 places

Right plant, right place

Tuesday 7 July
Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm
Tutor: Christine Lavelle
Venue: Kew Gardens

Plant selection for the garden can be difficult. This course aims to provide inspiration and ideas for plants and planting combinations that will thrive in specific situations and soil conditions, either in sun or shade. Learn how to match your garden environment to the needs of the plants to ensure a successful, healthy planting scheme.

Course fee: £80 (£70 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 25 places
An afternoon of roses

Wednesday 24 June or Tuesday 30 June
Time: 2pm – 5pm
Tutor: Martin O’Halloran
Venue: Kew Gardens

Home to 170 different species and cultivars of rose, our magnificent Rose Garden is designed to be a floral feast for the eye, with bold plantings of mixed shrub roses. Join us on this new half-day outdoor course, based in the Rose Garden, to discover how we grow and care for these popular flowers. Learn about pruning, watering and other cultivation techniques, plus discussion of different cultivars. Gather some top tips from our Kew expert on how to look after your roses at home to keep them at their flowering and fragrant best.

The course fee includes a delicious full afternoon tea served in our elegant restaurant, The Botanical, from 4–5pm. Please advise of any special dietary requirements on booking.

Course fee: £75 (£65 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Gardening for beginners

Thursday 3 September or Thursday 29 October
Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm
Tutor: Christine Lavelle
Venue: Kew Gardens

A gardening course aimed at keen amateurs who wish to improve their knowledge of planting and maintaining plants in their garden. You’ll begin by learning about the essential conditions to ensure good growth, followed by a lecture and demonstration on soil preparation before planting. You’ll be given hints and tips on selecting plants, and how and when to plant trees, shrubs and herbaceous species. The second part of the course will cover maintaining established plants in the garden including elements such as pruning, feeding and identifying pest and diseases.

Course fee: £80 (£70 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 25 places
Autumn photography masterclass

Saturday 10 October
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 autumn 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 draw your attention to the trees, plants and views making up the autumn picture at Kew, sharing hints and tips for the best ways to capture them. Suitable for proactive improvers. Sandwich lunch provided.

Course fee: £170 (£150 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 12 places

Photographing trees

Wednesday 21 – Thursday 22 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 find inspiration in 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 also be given basic instruction on how to download, store and enhance digital images.

Course fee: £180 (£160 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 15 places
Photo walks
A summer evening in Kew Gardens

Tuesday 21 July
Time: 5.30pm – 8.30pm
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, with the advantage of low, soft light to illuminate its summer beauty.

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. Please note that a reasonable level of fitness is required to enjoy this event fully.

Course fee: £90 (£70 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 10 places

Photo walk: Kew in autumn

Tuesday 13 October
Time: 10.30am – 1.30pm or 2.30pm – 5.30pm
Tutor: Marcus Clackson
Venue: Kew Gardens

Join us as we celebrate the splendour of autumn with a 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 to the inspirational gardens and landscapes in their spectacular autumn colours, 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. Please note that a reasonable level of fitness is required to enjoy this walk fully.

Course fee: £80 (£60 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 12 places
Wellbeing
Mindfulness for healthy living (foundation)

Tuesdays 12, 19, 26 May and 2 June
Time: 2pm – 4.30pm
Tutor: Karen Liebenguth
Venue: Kew Gardens

This new four week foundation course is for anyone who is new to mindfulness and who would like to learn the basic principles and practice with an accredited mindfulness trainer.

Mindfulness is a practical way of bringing beneficial changes to your life. Bringing more awareness to our day-to-day experience enables us to learn how to better respond to the ups and downs of life, making space for greater happiness, freedom and kindness in our lives.

Sessions will be held outdoors in the Gardens with an indoor venue available for rainy weather.

Course fee: £140 (£120 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 12 places

Mindfulness for healthy living (intermediate)

Tuesdays 15, 22, 29 September and 6 October
Time: 2pm – 4.30pm
Tutor: Karen Liebenguth
Venue: Kew Gardens

This new four week intermediate course will build on your existing knowledge of mindfulness, offering further insights into the theory as well as more practical tools to enhance awareness of your day-to-day experience and how you feel about yourself, others and your life.

The course is suitable for anyone who has attended the mindfulness for healthy living foundation course (or any other mindfulness introductory course) and would like to learn new concepts and deepen their practice.

Sessions will be held outdoors in the gardens with an indoor venue available for rainy weather.

Course fee: £140 (£120 Kew members)
Maximum capacity: 12 places
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. We’ll 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.

Discounts
Discounts on our courses are offered where possible. Kew members can claim the discounted rate listed for each course. Proof of membership 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.

Gift vouchers
Gift vouchers may be purchased for either a place (or places) on a specific course (subject to availability), or for a certain amount to cover or partially cover the cost of a course. In each case they will be valid for two years from the date of issue.

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 kew.org/privacy.

Accommodation
Courses at Kew Gardens 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 co-ordinator before booking your course if you are mobility impaired or have any special needs or requirements.

Adult education enquiries
Email: adulted@kew.org
Tel: 020 8332 5641
020 8332 5626
Visit our website at: 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

Awarded UNESCO 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 ten miles from the centre of London and is served by mainline trains from Waterloo as well as Overground and District line trains.

Many Kew courses are held in the education centre above The Botanical restaurant. Formerly known as 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

Anne L. D. Bebbington gained wide teaching experience in her career as a botanist and ecology tutor for the Field Studies Council. She specialised in wildflower courses for adults, both in Britain and further afield in Europe, Canada and Australia. In retirement, as a natural history illustrator, she works mainly in pen and ink. Over the past four years she has been running a series of very popular botanical workshops for artists. Her book, Understanding the Flowering Plants: A Practical Guide for Botanical Illustrators, was published in November 2014. She is a founder member and past President of the Institute for Analytical Plant Illustration.

Marcus Clackson is based in Twickenham riverside. With a successful commercial career spanning over 25 years, he is also an Ambassador for Olympus cameras and runs regular workshops and events covering many aspects of photography and photographic technique. Coming from a fine art background, 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. Studying real specimens from the natural world, she breaks 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 handmade flower suddenly comes together before their eyes.

Rebecca Jewell is a printmaker and collage artist. She has a PhD in ‘feather art’ from the Royal College of Art and is an artist in residence at the British Museum. Her work is held in the British Museum, the Natural History Museum and Royal Museums Greenwich, as well as many private collections. She has taught natural history drawing and painting in numerous colleges and museums, including the Royal College of Art, the Royal Drawing School and the Linnean Society. Rebecca is a Fellow of the Linnean Society and a Member of the Art Workers’ Guild.

Christine Lavelle is a lecturer in horticulture and ecology at Writtle University College, Chelmsford, 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).
Karen Liebenguth is an accredited mindfulness teacher, mindfulness supervisor, certified coach and facilitator who offers tailored mindfulness and coaching programmes for a wide range of clients, as well as for the workplace. She is an accredited and associate mindfulness trainer with Breathworks UK and a member of the Association for Coaching. She follows the good practice guidelines set out by the British Association for Mindfulness-Based Approaches (BAMBA).

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.

Martin O’Halloran is a Gardens Manager at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew with particular responsibility for the rose garden.

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 exhibited at Kew Gardens, Downing Street and the Horniman Museum as well as having been used at both the Earth Summits.

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 specialise in the art of botanical painting and trained for the Diploma in Botanical Art and Illustration (EGS), gaining 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 at 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 enjoy and develop skills in the art of botanical painting.

Sandy Ross Sykes is a trained botanical artist who has spent the last ten years illustrating the vanishing species of flora in the rainforests of South-East Asia. A graduate and prize winner of the Royal College of Art, her work is held in Singapore, the US, the Natural History Museum and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Sandy has taught botanical painting at many institutions, including the British Museum, Singapore Botanical Gardens and the Linnean Society. She is a Fellow of the Linnean Society and a Member of the Art Workers’ Guild.
Stuart Simler trained at Leeds University as part of the Fine Art BA (Hons) course, graduating in 1997. His early experiences as an artist were based around drawing – the idea of draftsmanship excited him, in particular its versatility and range of mark making possibilities. From here he has gone on to exhibit both internationally and at a local level in community events and exhibitions. He maintains his connections with two collectives – Collect Connect and Sunbury Working Artists.

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 produces paintings for private commissions and exhibitions.

Trevor Waugh studied at the Slade School of Fine Art from 1970 to 1974, where his work brought him into contact with many of the great artists of our time. He became a freelance illustrator in London, working for major publishing companies such as Heinemann, Collins and the BBC. A move to the Cotswolds, with its rural landscapes and garden scenes, then ignited his own work. Trevor has travelled extensively and exhibited in many countries, notably the Emirates, where his work can be seen in many private and royal collections. He works mostly in watercolour and oil, with a loose and impressionistic style that brings light and life to his chosen subjects.

Hazel Wilks was born in Zimbabwe and completed a BSc at Rhodes University, South Africa, in 1994. While at the University of Hong Kong she found a way to combine her twin passions, art and science, and started publishing her botanical illustrations. She now lives in the UK and has been a freelance illustrator at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew since 2002, specialising in black and white plant depictions.
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