**FLORAL DESIGN AT TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDEN**

**CERTIFICATE IN FLORAL DESIGN**

In 2008 internationally known and accredited floral design judge, teacher, and demonstrator, Margaret Taylor designed the Floral Design Certificate, hosted at the Toronto Botanical Garden. To achieve the Floral Design Certificate, students are required to complete eight courses of instruction in four years\*. There are five mandatory and three elective courses that can be chosen from a wide variety of themes. Students begin with Floral Design Fundamentals I and then Floral Design Fundamentals II (in that order) as these provide the foundation knowledge and are prerequisites to all other mandatory courses.

To ensure the program develops students’ knowledge based on the same set of skills, TBG does not offer exemptions on pre-requisites for mandatory courses to those with outside experience. For inquiries related to requirements and pre-requisites for mandatory classes please contact margaret.taylor@gmail.com.

When registering online, please register only if you have the stated prerequisite, otherwise a cancellation fee may apply.

NEW: Elective courses can be taken for interest without taking pre-requisites. Some prior knowledge in floral design or Fundamentals I and Fundamentals II is encouraged.

Materials (floral and non) are not provided in the course unless stated otherwise – students are provided with material lists and encouraged to shop for and/or collect items from a variety of sources. Because of this, material fees can range from $10-$40 per week depending on source.

*\*Due to reduced program offerings during COVID-19 this will be extended to seven years for those that started courses prior to 2020. Please contact* [*programsupport@torontobotanicalgarden.ca*](mailto:programsupport@torontobotanicalgarden.ca) *if you have additional inquiries regarding extensions related to completing your certificate in Floral Design.*

**Mandatory Courses**

* Classic Design Fundamentals I
* Classic Design Fundamentals II (Pre-requisite: Fundamentals I)
* Creative Design (Pre-requisites: Fundamentals I and Fundamentals II)
* Modern Floral Design (Pre-requisites: Fundamentals I and Fundamentals II)
* Miniature, Small & Large Floral Design (Pre-requisites: Fundamentals I and Fundamentals II)

**Electives (selections will vary from term to term):**

Electives do not require Pre-requisites, although completing Fundamentals I and Fundamentals II is encouraged to get the most out of the class!

* Special Occasion Florals
* Manipulation Foliage
* Designing with Roses, Lilies, Tropicals & Orchids
* Sogetsu Ikebana

**To receive the Floral Design Certificate:**

* Students must indicate they are pursuing the Floral Design Certificate by emailing [programsupport@torontobotanicalgarden.ca](mailto:programsupport@torontobotanicalgarden.ca). Registration for the certificate can be done at any time.
* Students must have attended **all five mandatory** courses plus a **minimum of three elective** courses (totaling 96 hours of in-class learning) taken in a seven-year period.
* Attendance in all course modules of Floral Design classes is required in order to receive the certificate. We are unable to transfer students to future classes to make up for individual classes missed in a course. *In some cases it may be possible to make up classes in another session, with a pro-rated fee, if there is sufficient space and the instructor gives their consent.*
* Students who believe they have acquired the necessary courses and would like to receive their certificate are asked to notify the Toronto Botanical Garden (programsupport@torontobotanicalgarden.ca) to verify their attendance records.

A graduation ceremony takes place at Toronto Botanical Garden each year when we invite all students eligible to graduate to attend and formally receive their certificate in person.

**OPTIONAL ENROLLEMENT**

**(ATTENDANCE WITHOUT CERTIFICATION)**

Certification of the Floral Design program is optional. Registration for the certificate is not mandatory in order to take Floral Design courses for fun/personal achievement.

Participants who are not interested in completing the certification are still required to complete Fundamentals I and II in order and will be required to have both Fundamentals I and Fundamentals II completed prior to taking any of the other mandatory classes. Elective courses can be taken at any time without pre-requisites. This ensures that all participants have the same knowledge base and helps to increase both learning and enjoyment in the program!

For inquiries related to requirements and pre-requisites for mandatory classes please contact margaret.taylor@gmail.com.

**COURSE COMPLETION AND MISSED CLASSES**

Participants seeking their Floral Design Certificate who miss more than one class during a course, may be required to re-take all or part of the course in order to complete their certification. Participants MAY move forward with taking the next course while they await an opportunity to re-take the course in which classes were missed.

Students who are not seeking their Floral Design Certificate are also encouraged, but not required, to re-take the course in which classes were missed.

**FLORAL DESIGN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

To achieve the Floral Design Certificate, students are required to attend eight courses of instruction over no more than four years. These courses are made up of five mandatory, and an additional three electives that can be chosen from a wide variety of themes. Descriptions of each course can be found below.

Students must first complete Floral Design Fundamentals I and then Floral Design Fundamentals II(in that order) as these provide the foundation knowledge and are prerequisites to all other mandatory floral design courses.

**Mandatory Courses**

Classic Design Fundamentals I

This course is the prerequisite to all other courses in TBG’s Floral Design Certificate program. Learn the fundamentals such as how to select and condition flowers, how to use floral design equipment and how to achieve different types of designs.

Classic Design Fundamentals II

In this follow-up to Classic Design Fundamentals I, students gain a deeper understanding of traditional design and plant material as well as the importance of colour and colour harmonies. Discover a new design style each week: a hand tied bouquet, a vertical line design, a Hogarth Curve and an asymmetrical mass design.

Creative Design

Use what you’ve learned from Fundamentals I & II to explore the ground-breaking designs developed in the freedom-seeking 1960s. Creative design styles such as parallel, satellitic, synergistic, underwater and duo-designs will have you thinking outside the vase. Prerequisites: Classic Design Fundamentals I & II

Modern Design

Learn about the ground-breaking designs developed in the freedom-seeking 1960s such as modern line, modern mass and modern layer. These designs are stylish and sophisticated and bridge the traditional with the future and abstract. Prerequisites: Classic Design Fundamentals I & II

Miniature, Small & Large Floral Design

Learn how to design on different scales-from tiny, magical miniature pieces to large impressive floral ones. Proportion and scale, for designing all sizes, will be discussed in detail. Create designs using both fresh and dried material and contrast traditional with modern design. This course is vital to achieve a full understanding of the scope of floral design. Prerequisites: Floral Design Fundamentals I & II

**Electives (selections will vary from term to term)**

Special Occasion Florals

Create floral designs for special occasions such as heart-shaped bouquets for Valentine’s Day, boutonnieres, corsages and centrepieces for weddings and cakes for birthdays, graduations and anniversaries. Prerequisite: Classic Design

Fundamentals I & II.

Manipulation Foliage

Manipulating foliage in a design can create rhythm, interest, impact and abstraction. In this hands-on course, learn how to use techniques like rolling, plaiting, braiding and boondoggling on leaves such as aspidistra, flax and palm. Prerequisites: Classic Design Fundamentals I & II.

Sogetsu Ikebana

Ikebana is the ancient Japanese art form of flower arranging. The Sogetsu School of Ikebana reflects modern lifestyles and focuses on encounters between two ever-changing entities: humans and nature.

Designing with Roses, Lilies, Tropicals & Orchids

These are truly special flowers for design, each having unique characteristics that offer something special for designers. Explore the history of these flowers and key horticultural characteristics, including their diverse colours, forms and textures. You will also learn how to create outstanding traditional and contemporary arrangements.