
PSBI NEWSLETTER

Upcoming events (details on page 2)

January 18: PSBI Zoom event

April 1- May 22 - DCH exhibition

April 26 - Workshop with Alison Finch on 'alcohol ink'

May 17 - Workshop with Robin Jess

June 11-19 - PHC Flower Show exhibition



December Zoom event



In case you missed **Keiko Nibu-Tarver's** engaging talk about her botanical illustration experience since moving back to Japan, do not despair as the Zoom event was recorded. Contact Sharon Gross at sharonjimg@verizon.net to request the link to the

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I successfully grew okra, *Abelmoschus esculentus*, in my fenced vegetable garden last summer. In previous years, because it is such a beautiful flower, I tried to grow it in my flower bed, but groundhogs liked the taste of it. I drew sketches, took lots of reference photos, and determined what paint colors I'd need. I harvested the pods and tried adding them to zucchini stew and other summer recipes. I found that I liked it! I even dried some of the pods. They made a nice addition to a fall wreath that I made. I put a few dried seeds into soil and they are growing into a straggly plant on my studio worktable. It's there as I work on the illustration I will enter for the Flower Show in June.

I hope you are working on your entries too. Our PSBI Board and Committee Chairs recently finalized our programming and exhibit details for the coming months. Their ideas and diligent efforts are what make this Society compelling to our members and the public that gets to see our work. I look forward to seeing you, and the artwork you have been working on, soon.

DETAILS OF UPCOMING PSBI EVENTS

JANUARY 18, 7:00 p.m., ZOOM:

PSBI Technology Workshop: Scans, Entries, Instagrams

- Join us on Zoom as we help each other navigate technology issues. Carol AH will review how to use **EntryThingy**. (This program will also be recorded.) Zoom invite will be emailed separately.

APRIL 1 - MAY 22, Delaware Center for Horticulture, Wilmington, DE

This is a **PSBI members' juried exhibition**. The prospectus for this event is posted on our website at www.psb-art.org. The exhibition theme title is 'Natural Treasures.'

- **Entries close at 11:59 p.m. on March 1**; Notices of acceptances and regrets will be sent on March 8; **drop off of artwork at DCH is on March 28** between 10:30 a.m.-12:30pm.m; **pickup of artwork at DCH is on May 23** between 10:30-1:00.

APRIL 26, Delaware Center for Horticulture, Wilmington, DE

- Allison Finch (one of our newest members) will be conducting a **workshop on alcohol ink**. Enrollment is required. Class size is limited to 14 members. Proof of up-to-date Covid vaccinations must be provided prior to the start of class. Details regarding this event will be sent to you in future emails.

MAY 17, 10a.m.-4p.m., Wallingford Arts Center, Wallingford, PA

- Robin Jess (NYBG) will be conducting a **'Botanical Plate in Graphite' workshop**. Enrollment is required. Class size is limited to 13 members. Proof of up-to-date Covid vaccinations must be provided prior to the start of class. Participants are asked to bring their own lunch. Materials list will be provided after acceptance. The cost is \$75. As soon as you sign up for the class, mail your remittance to Richard Weisenberg, 4153 Apalogen Road, Philadelphia, PA 19129.

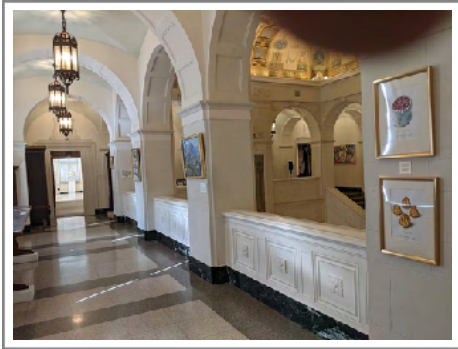


Trochodendron aralioides

© Robin A. Jess, from *An Integrated System of Classification of Flowering Plants* by Arthur Cronquist.

Robin A. Jess is the former Executive Director of American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA) and recently co-authored the book *A Comprehensive Guide to Botanical Art Techniques*. Currently the coordinator of the New York Botanical Garden's Adult Education Botanical Art and Illustration Program, Robin illustrated books there for Dr. Arthur Cronquist and Dr. Noel Holmgren. Robin has lectured at numerous conferences including Conifer, the 2017 International Symposium of Korea National Arboretum in South Korea, the Guild of Asian Botanical Illustrators in Thailand, Botany 2018 in Minnesota, all the ASBA conferences and many garden clubs around New Jersey. Robin received a Distinguished Artist Fellowship from the NJ State Council on the Arts and the ASBA James J. White Award for Service to Botanical Art. Robin painted a series of NJ's Pinelands plants and her artwork is found on the NJ Pinelands auto license.

2022 FLOWER SHOW EXHIBIT (IMPORTANT UPDATE)



JUNE 11-19, 2022, PHC FLOWER SHOW, FDR PARK, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Happy New Year! This update to the 2022 Flower Show Exhibit is packed with **new information**. Please read it carefully as there have been some major changes that will affect you and your entry. We have highlighted the changes.

1. The title of our exhibit at this year's show will be "**Flowers Sustain Us.**"
2. Our exhibit will be indoors in **The Swedish Museum** on their balcony. This is a beautiful space and our pieces will look great.
3. Because our paintings will be indoors in a climate-controlled museum, we will exhibit **original paintings and drawings only**.
4. **Our judging panel** will be: **Hillary Parker**, botanical artist; **Kathleen Salisbury**, director of the Temple Ambler Arboretum and adjunct professor of botany at Tyler School of Art and Architecture; **Sam Lemheny**, SVP of Events and Exhibits, PHS.
5. An updated prospectus will be on our website shortly
6. **Entries are now open on EntryThingy and will close on May 9, 2022. Accepted artists will be notified by May 18. Drop off will be between May 19 and May 28. Accepted artists will receive instructions.**

Eligibility Requirements:

- Open to all PSBI members in good standing (dues fully paid for the current fiscal year) as of January 1, 2022. Entries by members with unpaid dues will not be accepted.

Subject Requirements:

- Any plant grown for general human consumption or medicinal use, including herbal remedies, and classified as: vegetable, herb, grain, cereal, root crop, fruit, seed, spice, or nut.
- The portion of the plant used by humans and the **flower** of the plant must be part of the composition.
- The plant should be depicted in its natural state. (e.g. not crushed, ground, cooked, pickled or canned); Naturally dried specimens are acceptable.

As always, we will keep you abreast of new information as it becomes available. If you have any questions, contact the show producer:

Carol Ashton-Hergenhan carol.ashton@verizon.net

Introducing two new PSBI members:

Hello. I am **Allison (Ali) Finch**.

I am both a scientist and an artist. I say scientist first because that has always been the center of my career, art was always in the background and I practiced pretty infrequently. I started my science career at Dupont with a background in plant science, I was lucky to have a role in research and development for genetically modified soybeans. Think of plants in test tubes and looking through a microscope at fluorescent plant cells. Late 2014 Dupont downsized and I decided that no job is permanent anymore, so I need to look out for myself and start to focus more on my artwork to see where it will take me. I am still a scientist, although my gears have shifted, I am more committed and now make time for my art work.



I started using copic markers (alcohol ink) because I found them to be more portable than watercolor. I wanted something that I could set up quick and easy in a small space and still give me the feeling and quality of painting. Copic markers have a brush end which I like since it allows me to blend the ink nicely. For now I am using

the alcohol ink copic markers as the colors are vibrant and bold, which I have not been able to achieve with watercolor. I can get my ideas out on paper quicker since my supplies can be stored in a shoebox.

Hello. I am **Sandy Frazier**

As a new member of PSBI, I am excited to become involved, learn, contribute, and collaborate. My personal experience with art started well before my teaching career (Germantown Academy, MS art for 23 years), but it was focused on sculpture and ceramics. Since then, I've sold my wheel and focused for the last 10 years on fiber arts (we raise alpacas and other fiber animals). Now, I'm excited to explore the 2-D world of botanical painting – blending my love of art with my passion for gardening and raising exotic plants.



Sign up for the Robin Jess workshop, is in a separate box at the end of this mailing.

Diana Heitzman would like members to know that she will be teaching a *En Plein Air* class at **Longwood Gardens**. It will be online on April 6 and onsite on April 8. Here is the website address to sign up: .

<https://longwoodgardens.org/events-performances/events/en-plein-air->