

Basic Botanical Mono printing on the Gel Plate

In this hands-on workshop, we'll explore the natural beauty of leaves, flowers, and stems to create stunning botanical prints using a gel plate. You will learn how to work with fresh plant materials to capture delicate textures, shapes, and silhouettes on paper.

Perfect for artists who love nature, printmaking, or just want to explore new creative possibilities, this session builds on gel plate printing basics and focuses on techniques that highlight organic forms and natural detail.

We will cover creating backgrounds, masking and silhouette techniques, using ghost prints to capture delicate secondary impressions. You will be able to use your botanical prints for art cards, collage elements or standalone pieces with a few finishing details.

Supply List

Provided by Instructor **for student use during Class:**

- Gel printing plate(s) – 5”x7”
- Brayer
- Baby wipes (for cleaning plate)
- Speciality Paper*

Students Should Bring:

- Gel Plate (if you have one) such as Gelli Arts brand (not a plate for speedball ink)
- 4”Brayer (if you have one)
- Paper towel
- Palette Knife
- Acrylic paints in botanical and neutral tones (select 2-3 colors of paint that coordinate well together plus black and white). NOT craft paint.
- A small collection of leaves, stems, ferns, and flowers (fresh from your garden or the market – flat and varied shapes with good veining work best)
- Tweezers
- Masking Tape
- Scissors
- A variety of papers to print on, such as:
 - Copy paper (white) 15 sheets minimum required
 - Yasumoto Sketchbook Paper (Rice paper)*
 - Carnival wet strength tissue paper*
 - Artist deli paper*
 - Medical exam table paper*
 - Teabag paper*
- Optional:
 - Sketchbook or journal for notes and test prints
 - Colored pencils, pens, or markers for enhancing prints
 - Apron or smock

* A supply of speciality paper will be provided by the instructor. Feel free to bring your own.

