November 8, 2023

Brighten Up the Holiday with Lloyd’s Flora Mania
Winter woes got you glum? Don’t be a shrinking violet! Come and see the Lloyd Library & Museum shamelessly flaunt our petals, leaves, stamens, and stems in the new exhibition, Flora Mania.

Flowering plants stoke passion, creativity, and joy as they nourish and heal us. There is broad scientific consensus that flowers generate happiness by inspiring optimism and lowering stress. With Flora Mania, we invite you to experience and celebrate flowers’ transformative power by gazing at our glorious bounty of botanicals. See page after page explode with riotous color and sublime compositions in over 300 years of international floral book illustration.

Opening Reception
Friday, December 8, 5-7 p.m.
Lloyd Library & Museum
Light refreshments

The exhibition presents and interrogates scientific and artistic responses to flowers with particular attention to environmental sustainability, the legacy of colonialism, and the artistic impulse to capture their beauty. Highlights include an 1805 botanical by Jean-Jacques Rousseau, illustrated by Marie Antoinette’s official court artist, Pierre-Joseph Redouté; Hooker’s Illustrations of Himalayan Plants (1855) drawn by Walter Hood Fitch and a team of native artists; Georg Ehret’s hand-colored illustrations in Christoph Jakob Trew’s Plantae Selectae (1750-1773), often considered Germany’s greatest botanical; and the mighty Flora Graeca (1806-1840), perhaps the most splendid and expensive flora ever produced, which the Oxford Bodleian Library describes as their “finest botanical treasure.”

Flora Mania programming spanning winter and spring includes in-person and virtual programs on flowers in extreme weather, flower extinction, pollination, a nature hike, and more. Let the Lloyd Library & Museum brighten your winter, stimulate your curiosity, and spark dreams of spring gardens. Opening December 8, Flora Mania will remind you that, as botanist Luther Burbank said, “flowers are sunshine, food, and medicine to the mind.”
Have you been keeping an eye on a mushroom sweatshirt or that tulip tumbler for that gardener in your life? (Or perhaps yourself?) Join us on our open Saturday, November 18 for a day of deals at the Lloyd Library Gift Shop. To kick off the holiday season, every visitor receives 10% off their entire purchase. Lloyd Library Members will receive 20% off. There will be an additional 10% off for those who make a donation of $25 or more. Browse for the perfect gift. Items include t-shirts, sweatshirts, notebooks, drinkware, and more!

Slip away from the hectic activities of the holidays with a stop at the Lloyd Library & Museum. Experience peace and calm when visiting one of Cincinnati’s premier research libraries, explore Flora Mania, and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies.

Located at 917 Plum St. in Cincinnati, Ohio, the Lloyd is open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday and the third Saturday of the month. For more information or to schedule a visit, contact the Library at (513) 721-3707 or email contact@lloydlibrary.org or visit LloydLibrary.org.