



## PRESS RELEASE

January 23, 2026

### **Steeped in Science: The Botany of Beverages Continues!**

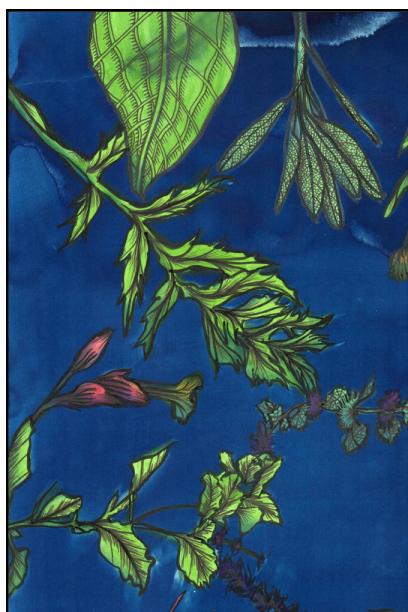
The Lloyd Library & Museum invites visitors to sip back and relax this winter with *The Botany of Beverages*, an exhibition on view through April 24 that blends science, culture, and history in every pour. From vine to vintage, the exhibition and accompanying programming uncovers the botanical roots of favorite drinks including coffee, tea, cocoa, cola, wine, beer, and spirits. Visitors will discover how plants do more than simply set the flavor—they influence aroma, color, chemistry, and the cultural rituals surrounding what we drink. Complementing the exhibition is a dynamic lineup of programs that explore the cultural, scientific, and artistic stories behind beverages and botanicals.

## PROGRAMS

Using three beverages from his own research, Dr. Edward J. Kennelly examines the plant chemistry that gives botanical drinks their characteristic sweet and bitter flavors in *The Chemistry of Botanical Beverages: From Sweet to Bitter*.

Dr. Edward J. Kennelly is a professor at Lehman College, CUNY, specializing in natural products from food and medicinal plants. He has published over 170 peer-reviewed papers and has held research appointments with the FDA and international universities.

Thursday, February 26, 7-8 p.m.  
Virtual Program  
**Registration Required**



Explore Cincinnati's legacy of nature-based medicine in the 19th- and early 20th-century Eclectic medical tradition through archival research and contemporary art in *Flora's Daughters: Seven Plants Through the Lens of Eclectic Medicine, Contemporary Herbalism, and Botanical Illustration*. Developed during their 2025 Curtis Gates Lloyd Fellowship, collaborators Meghan Henshaw and Julia Orquera Bianco studied seven medicinal plants of the Ohio River Valley, drawing on historical herbal practices, modern sustainability perspectives, and the overlooked contributions of women botanists and illustrators. The project culminates in a zine which combines research-based writing with cyanotype prints enhanced by watercolor and ink, creating an accessible resource that connects The Lloyd Library's collections to contemporary conversations about botanical knowledge, history, and representation.

Wednesday, March 4, 7-8 p.m.  
In-Person Program at the Lloyd Library & Museum  
**Registration Required**

## PROGRAMS

### *The Story of Tea: From Leaf to Cup*



Tea is more than a beverage. It is a story shaped by history, craft, and human connection. This presentation explores tea's origins in China, the processing methods that create different tea types, and practical tips for brewing tea at home. We will also look at tea cultures around the world and the shared values of hospitality and community they reflect.

The session includes a guided tasting of two teas, one naturally caffeinated and one caffeine free, and is designed for beginners and tea lovers alike who want to slow down and sip mindfully.

**Angela Qu** grew up in a culture where wisdom and relationships were often deepened through relaxing tea moments. Today, her mission is to inspire tea journeys, foster connections, deepen relationships, enhance well-being, and promote intentional living through expert guidance and a diverse selection of teas as the owner of Churchill's Fine Teas.

Wednesday, March 18, 7-8 p.m. Reception at 6:30 p.m.

\$5 Non-Members, Free for Members

In-Person Program at the Lloyd Library & Museum

**Registration Required**

### Botanical Tie-Dye Workshop

Learn about botanical color magic using common ingredients from the kitchen! Each student will receive a tea towel pre-dyed with hibiscus or butterfly pea tea which we will modify using lemon juice and washing soda to shift the pH of the colors, creating vivid tie-dye effects. We will be discussing various tie-dye techniques, learning the basics of botanical dyes, and talking chemistry as we use modifiers to shift color. Students will leave with their own creation in a to-go container which can be untied the following day.

Saturday, March 21, 1-3 p.m.

\$45 Non-Members, \$35 for Members

In-Person Program at the Lloyd Library & Museum

**Registration Required**

**Devan Horton** is a Northern Kentucky-based fiber artist whose work explores environmental impact, activism, and collectivity through botanical and handmade materials. She holds a BFA in Painting from Northern Kentucky University and has exhibited work locally and nationally, including a recent solo exhibition, *Tending Stems*, at the Clifton Cultural Arts Center through the New Woman Residency. Devan has completed residencies with United Plant Savers and Friends of Black Rock, serves as art curator for the Midwest Regional Sustainability Summit, and is a recipient of the Kentucky Foundation for Women's Art as Activism grant, using her practice to engage communities in ecological restoration.



## PROGRAMS

Explore wine through a botanical lens! Consider how plants, place, and natural systems influence what ends up in the glass, touching on grapes, growing environments, and the quiet role of flora in shaping flavor and character in *The Botany of Wine*.

**Jack Keegan** retired after 44 years at Miami University, but remains deeply engaged there. He serves on the CCA Advisory Board and the Performing Arts Series Advisory Board, where he chairs the Annual Performing Arts Wine Tasting Gala and Benefit, and has hosted popular virtual wine tastings for alumni nationwide.

Persuaded out of retirement, Jack returned to teach Botany 244 (the renowned Wines Class) continuing the legacy of educating thousands of students over the years.

Wednesday, April 8, 7-8 p.m.

In-Person Program at the Lloyd Library & Museum

\$10 Non-Members, \$5 Members

**Registration Required**



Let's raise a glass to the women behind the bar! *The Spirits of Cincinnati* brings together a dynamic panel of women who are shaping the city's bar scene, one pour at a time. From neighborhood favorites to destination cocktail bars, these owners will share their stories of entrepreneurship, creativity, and community, offering insight into what it takes to build welcoming spaces in a traditionally male-dominated industry. Join Maya Banatwala, Kristen Kret, Julia Petiprin, and Tammie Scott for an engaging conversation about craft, culture, and the passion behind the bar, featuring whose vision and leadership help define Cincinnati's drinking culture.

Wednesday, April 22, 7-8 p.m.

In-Person Program at the Lloyd Library & Museum

**Registration Required**

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](mailto:contact@lloydlibrary.org) or visit [LloydLibrary.org](http://LloydLibrary.org).