



WILDFLOWER
*festi*val

2025

Program Guide



Artwork by [Susan Marrion](#)

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NEW

Crested Butte Wildflower Festival C-Bees Program!

Inspired by the National Park Service's Junior Ranger Program, this summer we invite our younger explorers to engage in wildflower wonder at their own pace with our C-Bees workbook!



Learn about the history of Crested Butte, flower foundations, pollinators, and more. Designed for ages 3-12 but welcome to everyone, stay tuned on how to get your FREE copy of the booklet and become a C-Bee!



Extending a special thank you to the CB Rotary Club! for their support!



Pre-Festival Events

Sunday, June 22

		Page	
8:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	• J01	58

Monday, June 23

8:30-11:30am	Cell Phone Photography	P03	43
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Monday, June 30

9am-12pm	Follow the Bloom	• H01	62
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Monday, July 7

9am-12pm	Follow the Bloom	• H02	62
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Tuesday, July 8

9am-12pm	Member Event: Reading the Landscape	• M01	38
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Festival Events

Friday, July 11

Video LinkActive	Virtual Wildflower Tour	H03	59
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5am-9pm	One-Day Photo Workshop	P04	45
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7:30 - 10:30am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	• H04	65
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7:30am-12:30pm	Wildflowers & Waterfalls of Lake Irwin	• H05	71
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7:45am-12:45pm	Three Lakes Hike	• H07	70
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7:45am-2:45pm	Wildflowers & Waterfalls of the Oh-Be-Joyful Valley	◆ H06	79
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8am-12pm	How to Bring the Scene Alive: Outdoor Creative Writing	■ A21	25
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8am-3pm	Beckwith Pass Hike	■◆ H08	74
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8:15am-12:15pm	Geology of Paradise	■ R01	33
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8:15am-1:15pm	Medicinal Plants of the Mountains	■■ C01	33
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9-11:30am	Capturing Wildflowers with Colored Pencils	A01	20
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9am-12pm	Watercolor Workshop in the Garden	A02	28
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9:30am-12:30pm	Wonderful Wildflower Connections	• H09	66
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10am-1pm	ABCs of Wildflower Pollination	• F01	48
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10:30am-12:30pm	Member Event: Wildflower ID Walk	• M02	39
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1-3:30pm	Ken Collins Historic Garden Tour	• G01	57
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5-7:30pm	Member Event: Dinner with a Wildflower Scientist	M03	36
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5-9pm	Top of the World Wildflowers	P05	46
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Festival Events *continued*

Saturday, July 12

		Page	
6-10am	Landscapes & Wildflowers	P06	44
7:30-11:30am	Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers	•■ F02	49
7:45am-3:45pm	Poverty Gulch & Daisy Pass	◆◆ H10	77
7:45am-4pm	Rustler's Gulch	◆ H11	78
8am-12pm	Splendor on Snodgrass	• H12	63
8am-12:30pm	Lily Lake Wildflowers	■ H13	68
8:30am-12:30pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	• H02	58
8:30am-2:30pm	Botany Bounty in the Slate River Valley	■◆ B01	31
9am-12:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Nerdy Naturalist Nature Walk	• B02	31
9:30am-12:30pm	A-Bee-Cs of Wildflower Pollination	• F03	48
9:30am-12:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Create Your Own Tunnel Book	A04	20
9:30am-12:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Drawing En Plein Air	A03	21
9:30am-12:30pm	Gothic Wildflowers	• H14	62
10am-12pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	• G02	56
10am-2pm	Butterflies of Kebler Pass & Lake Irwin	• F04	50
12-3pm	Cell Phone Photography	P07	43
1-3pm	Wildflower ID Walk	• H15	64
1:30 -4pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Exploring Nature Journaling	A05	22
1:30 -4pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: DIY Kaleidoscope	A06	21
4:30-6pm	Member Event: Appreciation Party	M04	34



Festival Events *continued*

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Sunday, July 13

			Page
6-10am	Close-up & Abstract Wildflowers	P08	43
7:30 - 10:30 am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	• H16	65
7:30 - 11:30 am	Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers	• F05	49
7:30am-12 pm	Explore Emerald Lake Basin	• H17	61
7:45 am-11:45 pm	Splendor on Snodgrass - Intermediate	■ H18	69
7:45 am-2:45 pm	Lost Lake & Beckwith Pass	◆ H19	76
8 am-12 pm	Baxter Gulch	■◆ H21	73
8 am-1 pm	Trail 403 to Viewpoint	• ■ H20	70
8:30-11:30 am	Identifying Wildflowers Using Mobile Apps	• B03	32
9 am-12:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Nerdy Naturalist Nature Walk	• B04	31
9 am-1 pm	Member Event: Alpine Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte	■ M05	36
9:30am-12 pm	Flowers from the Garden Watercolor Workshop	A08	25
9:30am-12:30 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Botanical Illustrations, Beginners	A07	20
9:30am-12:30 pm	Wildflowers Fit for a Garden	• H60	66
10 am-12 pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	• G03	56
10 am-2 pm	Butterflies of Lily Lake	• ■ F06	50
12-3pm	Cell Phone Photography	P09	43
12:30-3pm	Cheree Hamblen Historic Garden Tour	• G04	57
1-4pm	Cell Phone Photography	P10	43
1:30-4:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Exploring Cyanotype	A09	21
1:30-4:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor Miniatures	A10	22
2-9pm	Adventure Photography Workshop: Session 1 - Day 1	P01	41
4:30- 7 pm	Member Event: Wildflower Watercolor & Wine	M06	39
5-9pm	Wildflower Master Class	P11	46

Festival Events *continued*

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Monday, July 14

6-10am	Top of the World Wildflowers	P12	46
6 am- 10 pm	Adventure Photography Workshop: Session 1 - Day 2	P01	41
7:30- 11:30 am	Birding Among the Woods Walk Wildflowers	● F07	49
7:45- 11:45 am	Splendor on Snodgrass - Intermediate	■ H23	69
7:45 am- 4 pm	Rustler's Gulch	◆ H22	78
8 am- 10 pm	<i>Member Event: Gothic Townsite Tour</i>	M07	37
8 am- 12 pm	Upper Loop to Tony's Trail	● H24	64
8 am- 1 pm	Discoveries Along the Dyke Trail	■◆ H25	74
8:30 am- 12:30 pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	● J03	58
8:30 am- 1:30 pm	Walrod's Wildflowers & Caves	■ H26	71
8:45- 10:15 am	Wildflower Bouquet Arranging	A29	29
8:45 am- 12:45 pm	Westside Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte	■ H27	71
9 am-12 pm	Watercolor Workshop in the Garden	A11	28
9 am-12:30 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Nerdy Naturalist Nature Walk	● B05	31
9:30 am-12:30 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Drawing En Plein Air	A28	21
9:30 am-12:30 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Exploring Cyanotype	A13	21
9:30 am-12:30 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor Prints	A12	23
9:30 am-1:30 pm	What's in a Name	● B06	32
9:30 am-1:30 pm	Wildflowers & Folklore	● H28	65
10 am-2 pm	Butterflies of Copper Creek	●■ F08	50
1:30- 4:30 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor Prints	A15	23
1:30- 4:30 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Zoom-In! Drawing Macro Flowers	A14	23
3- 5:30 pm	<i>Member Event: Gardens & Ghosts</i>	● M08	37
4-8 pm	Evening of Wildflower Photography	P13	44

Festival Events continued

Tuesday, July 15		Page
5-9am	Sunrise Photography at Peanut Lake	P14 45
6 am- 10pm	Adventure Photography Workshop: Session 1 - Day 3	P01 41
6 am- 10pm	Hike to Aspen	◆◆ H62 75
7:30 - 11:30am	Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers	●■ F09 49
7:30am-2pm	Scarp Ridge	◆ H29 78
7:45am-12:45 pm	Three Lakes Hike	●■ H30 70
8am-12pm	Explore Judd Falls	● H31 61
8:15am-12:15pm	Aquatic & Carnivorous Plants of Crested Butte	● B07 30
8:15am-1:15pm	Medicinal Plants of the Mountains	●■ C02 33
8:30 - 10:30am	Member Event: Wildflower ID Walk	● M09 39
8:30 - 11:30 am	Reading the Landscape	■ H32 69
9am-1 pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Meadows & Mountains	A16 22
9am-1:30 pm	Lily Lake Wildflowers	■ H33 68
9:30am-12:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: DIY Kaleidoscope	A17 21
9:30am-12:30pm	Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor Miniatures	A18 22
9:30am-12:30pm	Gothic Wildflowers	● H34 62
10am-12 pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	● G05 56
10am-12 pm	Wildflower ID Walk	● H35 64
10am-1 pm	Butterflies of Brush Creek	● F10 49
10am-1 pm	Plant Defenses and Survival Strategies	● B08 32
4:30-7pm	Wildflower Watercolor & Wine	A19 29
5-9pm	Wildflower Sunset Adventure	P15 47



Betty Horn

Festival Events *continued*

		Page
Wednesday, July 16		
7:30-11:30 am	Birding Among the Brush Creek Wildflowers	F11 48
8-10 am	Member Event: RMBL Herbarium Tour	M10 38
8 am-2pm	Wildflowers & Wetlands of Swampy Pass	■ H36 72
8:30 am-12:30 pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	● J04 58
9:30 am-1:30 pm	Still Life Drawing: Hiking Theme	A20 28
10 am-1 pm	Snow and Bloom	● H37 63
2-9 pm	Adventure Photography Workshop: Session 2 - Day 1	P02 42
5-9 pm	Wildflower Sunset Adventure	P16 47
Thursday, July 17		
5 am-10 pm	Adventure Photography Workshop: Session 2 - Day 2	P02 42
7:30-11:30 am	Birding Among the Woods Walk Wildflowers	● F12 49
7:30 am-12:30 pm	Trail 403 to Viewpoint	● ■ H38 70
7:45 am-2:45 pm	Wildflowers & Waterfalls in the Oh-Be-Joyful Valley	◆ H39 79
8 am-12:30 pm	Lily Lake Wildflowers	■ H40 68
8:15 am-1:15 pm	Medicinal Plants of the Mountains	● ■ C03 33
8:30 am-2:30 pm	Botany Bounty in the Slate River Valley	■ ◆ B09 31
9-11 am	Mountain Wildflower Needle-Felting	A23 27
9 am-12 pm	Watercolor Workshop in the Garden	A22 28
9 am-1 pm	Lower Deer Creek Trail	■ H42 68
9:30 am-12:30 pm	Wildflower and Bee ID at RMBL	● F13 51
9:30 am-12:30 pm	Wildflowers Fit for a Garden	● H61 66
9:30 am-12:30 pm	Wonderful Wildflower Connections	● H43 66
9:30 am-1:30 pm	Linoleum Stamp Making	A24 26
10 am-12 pm	Member Event: Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	● M11 39
10 am-2 pm	Butterflies of Kebler Pass & Lake Irwin	● F14 50
11:30 am-1:30 pm	Member Event: Lunch with A Wildflower Scientist	M14 38

Festival Events continued

Friday, July 18

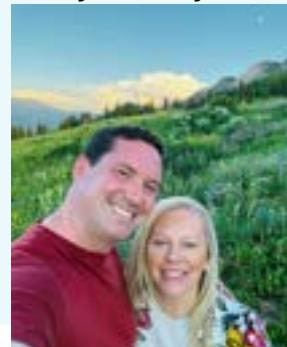
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5 am-9 pm	Adventure Photography Workshop: Session 2 - Day 3	P02	42
6-10 am	Landscapes & Wildflowers	P17	44
7:30-10:30 am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	• H44	65
7:30-11:30 am	Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers	• F15	49
7:45-11:45 am	Splendor on Snodgrass - Intermediate	■ H46	69
7:45 am-1:45 pm	Scarp Ridge	◆ H45	78
8-10 am	Gothic Townsite Tour	• H41	62
8am-12pm	Explore Judd Falls	• H47	61
8:15 am-12:15 pm	Geology of Paradise	■ R02	33
8:30 am-12:30 pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	• J05	58
8:30am-1:30pm	Walrod's Wildflowers & Caves	■ H48	71
9 - 11 am	Mountain Wildflower Needle-Felting	A25	27
10am-2 pm	Butterflies of Lily Lake	• ■ F16	50
10:30 am-2:30 pm	Wildflowers & Folklore	• H49	65
12:30-3:30pm	Plein Air Sketchbook Painting	A26	27
1:30-4:30pm	Cell Phone Photography	P18	43
3-5:30pm	Gardens & Ghosts	• G06	56
4-8pm	Member Event: Evening of Wildflower Photography	M12	37
5-9pm	Top of the World Wildflowers	P19	46

Selfie-Contest Winners



Rachel Mondragon

Kristy Hawley



Festival Events continued

Saturday, July 19

			Page
5am-9pm	One-Day Photo Workshop	P20	45
6-10am	Close-Up and Abstract Wildflowers	P21	43
7:30-11:30 am	Birding Among the Woods Walk Wildflowers	● F17	49
7:30 am-12:30 pm	Wildflowers & Waterfall of Lake Irwin	● H50	71
7:45 am-1:45 pm	The Ruby of the Rockies	■◆ H51	77
8am-12pm	Explore Judd Falls	● H52	61
8:30 am-12:30 pm	A Carnivorous Aquatic Plant and More	● B10	30
9am-12:30pm	Mixed Media Wildflowers	A27	26
9am-1 pm	Member Event: Alpine Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte	■ M13	36
9:30am-12:30pm	Gothic Wildflowers	● H53	62
10am-12 pm	Tour of Crested Butte Gardens	● G07	56
11:30am-1:30 pm	Wildflower ID Walk	● H54	64
12-3pm	Cell Phone Photography	P22	43
12:30-3pm	Hawley Historic Garden Tour	● G08	57
5-9 pm	Top of the World Wildflowers	P23	46

Sunday, July 20

6-10am	Wildflower Master Class	P24	46
7:30- 10:30 am	Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light	● H55	65
7:30 am-12:30 pm	Trail 403 to Viewpoint	● ■ H56	70
8-11 am	Paseo de Identificación de Flores Silvestres	● H57	64
8:30 am-12:30 pm	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour	● J06	58
8:45am-12:45 pm	Westside Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte	■ H58	71
9 am- 12 pm	Mountain States Bumble Bee Atlas	● F18	51
10:30 am- 12:30 pm	Wildflower ID Walk	● H59	64
10:30 am- 1 pm	Craig and Carmen's Historic Garden Tour	● G09	57

Hiking Key

- Beginner *level, rolling terrain*
- Intermediate *mostly rolling with some steep, rocky terrain*
- ◆ Advanced *steep, rocky, uneven terrain*
- ◆◆ Expert *very steep, rocky, uneven and exposed*

Hikes by Level of Difficulty

Beginner

<u>Botany</u>	Aquatic & Carnivorous Plants of Crested Butte DBG Presents: Nerdy Naturalist Nature Walk Identifying Wildflowers Using Mobile Apps Plant Defenses & Survival Strategies
<u>Garden Tours</u>	Gardens & Ghosts Historic Garden Tour  Tour of Crested Butte Gardens
<u>Hikes</u>	Explore Emerald Lake Basin Follow the Bloom Gothic Townsite Tour Gothic Wildflowers Wildflower ID Walk (Paseo de Identificación de Flores Silvestres) Wildflowers & Folklore Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light Wildflowers Fit for a Garden Wonderful Wildflower Connections
<u>Jeep Tours</u>	Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour
<u>Members Only</u>	Gardens & Ghosts Tour of Crested Butte Gardens Wildflower ID Walk
<u>Pollinators</u>	A-Bee-Cs of Wildflower Pollination Birding Among the Woods Walk Wildflowers Butterflies of Brush Creek Mountain States Bumble Bee Atlas Wildflower & Bee ID at RMBL

Advanced Beginner

<u>Botany</u>	What's in a Name?
<u>Hikes</u>	Explore Judd Falls Snow and Bloom Splendor on Snodgrass (Washington Gulch) Upper Loop to Tony's Trail
<u>Pollinators</u>	Butterflies of Kebler Pass & Lake Irwin

Hikes by Level of Difficulty continued

Advanced Beginner - Intermediate

<u>Hikes</u>	Three Lakes Hike Trail 403 to Viewpoint Wildflowers & Waterfalls of Lake Irwin
<u>Medicinal</u>	Medicinal Plants of the Mountains
<u>Pollinators</u>	Birding Among the Brush Creek Wildflowers Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers Butterflies of Copper Creek Butterflies of Lily Lake

Intermediate

<u>Art</u>	How to Bring the Scene Alive
<u>Botany</u>	A Carnivorous Aquatic Plant & More
<u>Geology</u>	Geology of Paradise
<u>Hikes</u>	Beaver Ponds & Wetlands of Ohio Pass Lily Lake Wildflowers Lower Deer Creek Trail Reading the Landscape Splendor on Snodgrass - Intermediate Walrod's Wildflowers & Caves Westside Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte Wildflowers & Wetlands of Swampy Pass
<u>Members Only</u>	Alpine Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte Reading the Landscape

Intermediate - Advanced

<u>Botany</u>	Botany Bounty in the Slate River Valley
<u>Hikes</u>	Baxter Gulch Beckwith Pass Hike Discoveries Along the Dyke Trail Ruby of the Rockies

Advanced

<u>Hikes</u>	Lost Lake & Beckwith Pass Wildflowers & Waterfalls in the Oh-Be-Joyful Valley

Advanced - Expert

<u>Hikes</u>	Rustler's Gulch Scarp Ridge

Expert

<u>Hikes</u>	Poverty Gulch & Daisy Pass

Expert/Extreme

<u>Hikes</u>	Hike to Aspen

Crested Butte Artist Captures Nature's Essence in Oil Paint:

A Journey to the 2025 Wildflower Festival Poster with Susan Marrion

In the heart of Crested Butte, a local artist is making a name for herself by capturing the beauty of the world around her in oil paintings. This summer will mark a significant milestone for her career as Susan Marrion has been chosen as the official poster artist for the Wildflower Festival.



Her journey as an artist began in 2004, when she picked up a paintbrush for the first time under the guidance of Crested Butte's own John Ingham, a renowned local painter. Before that, she had never imagined herself as a painter, but the world of oil painting quickly became an outlet for her deep connection to the natural world.

"John helped me change the way I see things in nature," she explains. "He taught me how to look beyond what my eyes simply perceive and to notice the subtle forms, shadows, colors, and values that make up the landscape. There's so much more going on than what we initially realize, and painting has helped me understand that."

With every brushstroke, she discovered a new way to translate her feelings into art, and it became clear that painting, much like her past love of writing, was an ideal medium to convey the emotions she felt in the presence of nature.



"I grew up writing about what I observed—light, color, form, and mood in nature. When John asked me why I wanted to paint, I realized it was for the same reason I had wanted to write. It's about expressing and sharing the things I feel when I'm out in the natural world; the awe, wonder, beauty, appreciation and gratitude for it all" she reflects.

Her art has since evolved into a beautiful fusion of landscape and emotion, each piece offering viewers a window into her personal connection to the natural world. The Wildflower Festival poster commission was the perfect opportunity for her to share this gift with the community. For the 2025 poster, she brought her vision to life in a stunning work, "Splendor on the Lupine Trail," which celebrates the vibrant colors and delicate forms of wildflowers on one of our beloved trails.

"This year's Wildflower Festival poster is a special honor for me. It's an opportunity to showcase the beauty of Crested Butte's Wildflowers, which I hold dear to my heart. They're my favorite subjects to paint. To be able to represent this iconic event and its celebration of nature through my art feels like a beautiful full circle," she says with a warm smile.

Whether it's a delicate flower bending in the wind or the play of light on the mountain's edge, this local artist continues to inspire and delight through her artistic vision. Her passion for both nature and the art of painting shines through in every piece, reminding us of the beauty that surrounds us every day. As the 2025 Wildflower Festival poster artist, she will undoubtedly leave a lasting mark on the community, one brushstroke at a time.



2024 Photo Contest

Kathy Krucker ➤

First Place



Jae Jarrat ➤

Second Place





◀ **Lisa Mainz**
Third Place

Brian Schratz ▼
Fourth Place



◀ **John Haefeli**
Honorable Mention

Workshops



Art

Botany

Culinary & Medicinal

Geology

Members Only

Photography

Popular Pollinators

Capturing Wildflowers with Colored Pencils

Peggy Stenmark

\$80

Join us indoors and out of the sun to learn the basics of drawing flowers, focusing on getting the correct shapes and proportions of various blossom types. Work with paper and reference photos to sketch and color the wildflowers endemic to the Crested Butte area. After practicing these basics, you'll be ready to draw any flower you see! Bring a sketchbook and colored pencils.



A01 Friday, 7/11

9-11:30am

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Botanical Illustration for Beginners

Lori Ann Levy-Holm

New!

\$85

Flowers are inspiring art subjects but can be intimidating to draw. In this short class, learn a few basic botany principles along with some useful drawing techniques to help you render flowers with more confidence and accuracy. You'll create small illustrations in black and white using graphite and micron ink pens. All materials supplied; no previous drawing experience needed.

A07 Sunday, 7/13

9:30am-12:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Create Your Own Tunnel Book

Melinda Laz

New!

\$85

Tunnel books are an old form of pop-up book whereby pages are cut out and assembled to create the illusion of depth. In this class, you'll use images from nature to design your own tunnel book. All materials will be supplied, but bring your own magazine, photos, or collage materials to incorporate into your finished artwork.

A04 Saturday, 7/12

9:30am-12:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: DIY Kaleidoscope

New!

Hannah Craft

\$85

Design and build your very own kaleidoscope! This class invites you to explore the fascinating world of light, color and pattern as well as the art and science behind kaleidoscopes. Experiment with various designs and discover how to create mesmerizing patterns to make a kaleidoscope that reflects your own creative vision. All materials supplied.

A06 Saturday, 7/12

1:30-4pm

A17 Tuesday, 7/15

9:30am-12:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Drawing En Plein Air

Lori Ann Levy-Holm

\$85

Inspiration abounds in this three-hour outdoor art class. We will offer a few tips and tricks for capturing the essence of your surroundings, while giving you time and space to create in a tranquil setting. Bring a sketchbook and art media of your choice. Stools and some drawing materials supplied.

A03 Saturday, 7/12

9:30am-12:30pm

A28 Monday, 7/14

9:30am-12:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Exploring Cyanotype

New!

Hannah Craft

\$85

Known for its striking blue tones and unique printmaking process, cyanotype is a photographic technique that utilizes sunlight to create stunning images. In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn the fundamentals of this historic method while experimenting with natural materials and found objects to create your own beautiful prints. All materials supplied.

A09 Sunday, 7/13

1:30-4:30pm

A13 Monday, 7/14

9:30am-12:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Exploring Nature Journaling

New!

Lori Ann Levy-Holm

\$85

An artist's nature journal documents the beauty of nature in a unique and personal format. Filled with scientific observations or imaginative drawings and notes, nature journals can enhance your appreciation for your surroundings. In this class, you'll walk, look, listen, and record your observations. Receive drawing prompts and tips throughout the class session. Bring your own sketchbook and drawing materials. Portable stools and some drawing materials will be supplied.

A05 Saturday, 7/12

1:30-4pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Meadows and Mountains: Sketching Your Hikes

Lori Ann Levy-Holm & Vanessa Callahan

New!

\$85

Join staff from the Denver Botanic Gardens on a guided nature hike, stopping along the way for nature sketching. Walk slowly on the trail taking time to look and listen, while learning about the surrounding ecosystem and native plants. You'll stop for guided nature sketching time where you'll be given drawing prompts and helpful tips. Bring a sketchbook and your favorite drawing supplies. A camp stool will be available to carry with you should you wish.

A16 Tuesday, 7/15

9am-1pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor Miniatures

New!

Melinda Laz

\$85

Intimidated by watercolor? No need to fear! In this class, you'll create miniature 2"x4" masterpieces using watercolor and watercolor pencils. Learn helpful tips and tricks for working with the media, then adapt them on a miniature scale. You'll leave class with a finished miniature painting set into a miniature frame! All materials supplied.

A10 Sunday, 7/13

1:30pm-4:30pm

A18 Tuesday, 7/15

9:30am-12:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Watercolor Prints

New!

Melinda Laz

\$85

Watercolor prints (also called watercolor monotypes) are loose, impressionistic, and so much fun to create! You'll paint scenes from nature, flowers or plants onto prepared plexiglass or vellum using watercolors and watercolor pencils, then transfer them onto damp paper. In this low-tech printmaking technique, the printed image is soft and luminous, ideal for rendering natural subjects. All materials supplied. If desired, bring photographs, drawings or other reference material to inspire your art.

A12 Monday, 7/14

9:30am-12:30pm

A15 Monday, 7/14

1:30pm-4:30pm

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents: Zoom-In! Drawing Macro Flowers

New!

Lori Ann Levy-Holm

\$85

Flowers are beautiful and wondrous especially up close. In this class, look closely and zoom in on your floral subject to capture every petal and leaf detail. Learn a few basic botany principles along with some useful drawing techniques to help you render flowers accurately from a bug's point of view. Use a variety of graphite pencils to create your final drawing. All materials supplied.

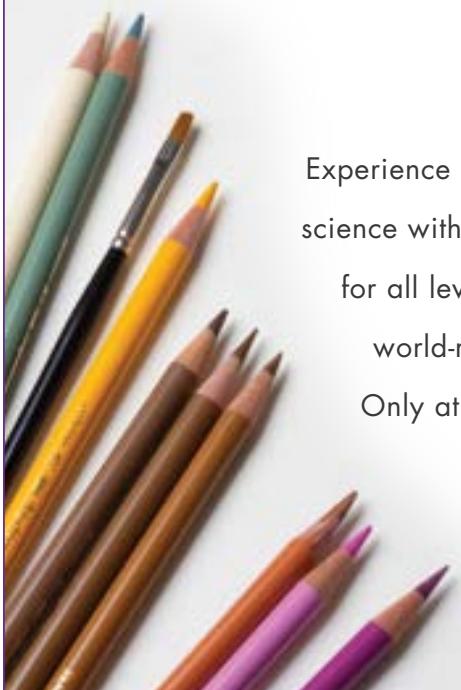
A14 Monday, 7/14

1:30-4:30pm



Cathleen McKinzie

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DENVER BOTANIC
GARDENS

Flowers from the Garden Watercolor Workshop

Denise Leibl

\$85

Surround yourself with unbelievable wildflowers and the guidance of encouraging instruction in this course focusing on the basics of watercolor, using wildflowers as our subjects. Set up in front of floral still life bursting with the yellows, reds, oranges, purples, and pinks of local Colorado wildflowers, and capture your favorites in small watercolor vignettes. Renowned artist and instructor, Denise Liebl, teaches techniques to lay colors into one another, focusing on how the paint moves and dries as you work, and how to choose and utilize different brushes for various effects. Learn how to consider and incorporate good composition into your work.



A08 Sunday, 7/13

9:30am-12pm

How to Bring the Scene Alive: Outdoor Creative Writing

Morgan Tilton

\$95

Level: ■ Intermediate (hiking)

Length: 3 miles on well packed trail with some rocky, steeper terrain

With Mule's Ears and Elephant's Head as a piece of inspiration, writers will practice sensory engagement with their writing to hook readers and bring them into the scene. Led by national award-winning travel writer and Crested Butte local Morgan Tilton, we will hike through wildflower meadows to a jaw-dropping Gothic Valley overlook, where we'll share a 60-minute creative writing workshop. We will walk through writing and editing exercises that help us capture place, and provide writers with tools that they can use for future storytelling, to document experiences and trips. Class size is limited to six participants in order to maximize interaction with the instructor. Expect to hike approximately three miles on easy to moderate terrain.

A21 Friday, 7/11

8am-12pm

Linoleum Stamp Making

Linsey Bachofer

New!

\$95

In this hands-on class, you'll learn the art of linoleum block printing to create custom stamps and unique prints. Starting with the basics, you'll discover how to design, carve, and print your own linoleum stamps, which can be used to decorate cards, fabric, paper, or even to create limited edition art prints. Through step-by-step instruction, you'll explore the carving process, learning how to safely and effectively use carving tools to create bold, clean lines and intricate patterns. You'll also experiment with different printing techniques, to bring your designs to life with rich texture and contrast. This class is perfect for beginners and those looking to refine their printmaking skills, offering a fun, creative outlet for making personalized designs. By the end of the course, you'll have a collection of custom stamps and prints, along with the confidence to continue experimenting with this versatile medium.

A24 Thursday, 7/17

9:30am-1:30pm

Mixed Media Wildflowers

Linsey Bachofer

\$95

In this class, you'll discover the dynamic possibilities of combining different materials and techniques to create vibrant, textured landscapes. Using a mix of media—such as watercolor, acrylics, colored pencils, ink and pastels—you'll explore how to layer, blend, and contrast these materials to bring depth and energy to your scenes of nature. Ideal for students of all levels, this class encourages creativity and self-expression, offering guidance on both technical skills and personal style. By the end, you'll have a completed landscape piece that showcases your unique approach to mixed media art.

A27 Saturday, 7/19

9am-12:30pm

Mountain Wildflower Needle-Felting

Megan Hammer

\$85

Learn the art of needle-felting! You'll learn techniques to create beautiful felted wool art using just wool and a needle in this beginner-friendly workshop.



Follow along step-by-step to create a picturesque Crested Butte Mountain landscape and your favorite wildflowers, or create freely with a rainbow of colors! All tools and supplies will be provided for use during the workshop, including a 4" hoop for framing your work. Led by artist Megan Hammer, www.meganhammer.com

A23 Thursday, 7/17

9-11am

A25 Friday, 7/18

9-11am

Plein Air Sketchbook Painting

Linsey Bachofer

\$85

Join us as we explore plein air watercolor painting in beautiful Crested Butte! Plein air, meaning "open air" in French, refers to the practice of painting outdoors, directly from nature.

Guided by a former art educator and local artist, you'll learn essential techniques to capture the landscapes around you.

Whether you're a novice seeking to explore your creative potential or an experienced artist looking to refine your skills, this class is designed to inspire and elevate you. Throughout the course, you'll discover the unique characteristics and versatility of watercolor paints, brushes, and paper, learn how to effectively observe and interpret natural light, colors, and atmospheric conditions, gain insight into composition, color theory and perspective, develop confidence in plein air painting through demonstrations, individualized feedback, and hands-on practice, and cultivate a deeper connection with the environment as you translate its beauty onto paper, fostering a greater appreciation for the local landscape. Please bring your own sketchbook and chair, everything else will be provided

A26 Friday, 7/18

12:30-3:30pm

Still Life Drawing: Hiking Theme

Linsey Bachofer

New!

\$85

In this class, you'll explore the delicate beauty and intricate details of flowers and other objects through the art of still life drawing. Using pencil and colored pencil—you will learn to capture the form, texture, and subtle nuances of the objects. We will focus on observing natural lighting, how it shapes the flower's structure, and the play of shadows and highlights that bring the composition to life. Whether you're a beginner or have some experience, this class will guide you step-by-step through techniques like shading, proportion, and perspective, helping you develop a deeper understanding of how to represent nature in your artwork. By the end of the course, you'll have a completed still life drawing, as well as the skills to approach future still life projects with confidence and creativity. Paper will be provided, please bring your own colored pencils. Prismacolor pencils are recommended.

A20 Wednesday, 7/16

9:30am-1:30pm

Watercolor Workshop in the Garden

Annie Starr

\$95

In this plein air watercolor painting workshop participants will be inspired by mountains and flowers in the Three Ladies Park. This location has it all with beautiful views of Paradise Divide and a stunning wildflower garden. All materials are provided, we will be creating with liquid watercolors on Aquaboard. Please wear comfortable clothing, bring a camp chair, hat, sunscreen, and water.

A02 Friday, 7/11

9am-12pm

A11 Monday, 7/14

9am-12pm

A22 Thursday, 7/17

9am-12pm

Wildflower Bouquet Arranging

Heather Seekatz

New!

\$60

Join us for a fun and hands-on fresh cut flower arranging class where you'll learn the art of creating a beautiful wildflower-inspired bouquet. You will learn how to select and arrange the flowers needed to look as though they were gathered from a mountainside field. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned flower enthusiast, this class will tap into your creativity. You'll leave the session with a personalized, pint sized mason jar arrangement to enjoy during your time in Crested Butte, and the skill to recreate it at home. All materials are provided—just bring your love for flowers! And, remember, we never pick the wildflowers!

A29 Monday, 7/14

8:45-10:15am

Wildflower Watercolor & Wine

Zach Bauer

\$85

Join local watercolor artist, Zach Bauer, for a step-by-step watercolor painting class with wildflowers as the subject. Zach will guide the group through a watercolor painting from start to finish, giving instruction on setting up to paint, wash and watercolor painting techniques, composition, and more. Wine and wine spritzers are provided to participants 21 and older, so you can relax and create! All watercolor supplies and your wine are included. Absolutely no watercolor experience is necessary!

A19 Tuesday, 7/15

4:30-7pm



Botany



Susan Yoke

Aquatic & Carnivorous Plants of Crested Butte

Luke Tembrock

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed trail, some rolling/steep terrain

A mere 10,000 years ago the Slate River Valley and surrounding feeder drainages played host to a vast quantity of glacial ice; when that ice melted, water loving plants thrived! Many of those plant species remain, including the common Bladderwort, a carnivorous plant with some of the fastest “jaws” in nature and beautiful snapdragon-like flowers. On this hike we will visit Crested Butte’s Bladderwort hotspot and examine other aquatic and riparian species along the way.

B07 Tuesday, 7/15

8:15am-12:15pm

A Carnivorous Aquatic Plant and More!

Laura Johnston

\$80

Level: ■ Intermediate

New!

Length: 4-5 miles on well-packed trail, with steep sections

Did you know Crested Butte has carnivorous plants? On this hike in the Cement Creek area we will explore a local hotspot and learn about a fascinating aquatic plant that captures its diet. How does it do it? What does it look like above and below the water? Then, the hike will continue uphill into the aspens and cross meadows full of wildflowers with a few small creeks.

B10 Saturday, 7/19

8:30am-12:30pm

Botany Bounty in the Slate River Valley

Jennifer Ackerfield/Richard Davis

\$100

Level: ■♦ Intermediate-Advanced

Length: 4-5 miles with steep and rocky terrain

The Oh-Be-Joyful trail is one of the most scenic trails in Crested Butte. On this trip, we will begin at Slate River, winding our way up the trail through a glacial valley on the east side of Ruby Range. Wildflower filled meadows await! Along the way we will also encounter waterfalls as well as some uncommon wildflowers.

B01 Saturday, 7/12 8:30am-2:30pm Jennifer Ackerfield

B09 Thursday, 7/17 8:30am-2:30pm Richard Davis

Denver Botanic Gardens Presents:

Nerdy Naturalist Nature Walk

Vanessa Callahan

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 3.5 miles, some steep, uneven terrain

On this scenic hike you'll learn fascinating, fun, and (even racy) facts about wildflowers, flower reproduction and the ecosystems that support these lovely but temporal blooms. Learn to look closely and observe things that were always right in front of you along the trail!

B02 Saturday, 7/12

9am-12:30pm

B04 Sunday, 7/13

9am-12:30pm

B05 Monday, 7/14

9am-12:30pm



Beth Parker

Identifying Wildflowers Using Mobile Apps

Jennifer Ackerfield

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed trail, some steep/rocky terrain

Have you ever wanted to learn how to identify wildflowers with a mobile app? Join Jennifer Ackerfield, Director of the Charles Maurer Herbarium and Assistant Professor of Botany at Colorado State University, as she guides you through the most popular identification apps available for Colorado wildflowers. You will also learn how to use the iNaturalist app, enabling you to not only identify your photographs but to also become a citizen scientist. Bring your smartphone device and come away confident in your wildflower identifications!

B03 Sunday, 7/13

8:30-11:30am

Plant Defenses & Survival Strategies

Jennifer Ackerfield

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2.5 miles on well-packed trail, some rolling/steeper terrain

For the biology lover! This hike will highlight particular plant species' defensive and offensive strategies for survival, including production of plant toxins, responses to herbivory, and competition for territory and pollinators—and how these affect human beings!

B08 Tuesday, 7/15

10am-1pm

What's in a Name?

Jennifer Ackerfield

\$80

Level: • Advanced Beginner

Length: 3.5 miles, some steep, uneven terrain

Have you ever wondered how plants get their scientific and common names? Or why those names change? On this hike, you will learn the process of naming plant species and why disagreements can exist among botanists. We will even play a game of botanical bingo as we hike, with the winner receiving a fabulous prize at the end! This hike will take place on the beautiful Snodgrass trail, offering a multitude of wildflowers and views of Crested Butte Mountain along the way.

B06 Monday, 7/14

9:30am-1:30pm

Culinary & Medicinal

Medicinal Plants of the Mountains

Leanne Benton

\$90

Level: ■ Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: 3-4 miles with some rocky and steep terrain

The wildflowers along the Horse Ranch Park trail are not only beautiful, many have served as the grocery store and pharmacy for earlier people and are still used today. We will focus on these edible and medicinal species, plus learn about toxic species to avoid! *Note: the event time includes a 30-min drive to trailhead.*

C01 Friday, 7/11

8:15am-1:15pm

C02 Tuesday, 7/15

8:15am-1:15pm

C03 Thursday, 7/17

8:15am-1:15pm



David Kish

Geology

Geology of Paradise

Jeff Delaney

\$85

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 3 miles on well packed trail, some steep/uneven terrain

Crested Butte rocks! And why does it rock? The spectacular geology, of course! Learn how this valley was formed from magma, sedimentary rock, and glaciers as we walk through wildflower-filled meadows and woods. You'll find out why this valley is so unique and otherwise known as Paradise.

R01 Friday, 7/11

8:15am-12:15pm

R02 Friday, 7/18

8:15am-12:15pm

Members Only

As a nonprofit organization, we owe much of our success to our Wildflower Festival Members! Membership allows us to continuously improve the Wildflower Festival experience. This includes but is not limited to offering new and exciting events, implementing preservation efforts that support our mission, and partnering with other local, like-minded nonprofit organizations. We cannot exist without our Members! As a special thank you, we offer the following complimentary Members Only events.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Member benefits and how you can support the Wildflower Festival!

Lupine Members & Above

Member Appreciation Party

Come mingle with Festival Leaders, staff, and Board of Directors, and enjoy appetizers and cocktails. You won't want to miss this fun-filled event, which includes a drawing for great door prizes.



- Lupine, Columbine & Scarlet Gilia Members +1 guest
- Mariposa Lily Members +2 guests
- Fairy Slipper & Wildflower Garden Members +4 guests

M04 Saturday, 7/12

4:30-6pm

Reservations required - we will email a link to RSVP for the party in the early summer.



Scarlet Gilia Members & Above will receive an email with links to register for both our regular and Members Only events on the day Member registration opens for their wave. Please use the following guidelines when registering:

Scarlet Gilia Members

- Register yourself for one Members Only event

Mariposa Lily Members

- Register yourself +2 guests for our **Dinner or Lunch with a Wildflower Scientist**
- Register yourself for two additional Members Only events

Fairy Slipper Members

- Register yourself +4 guests for our **Dinner or Lunch with a Wildflower Scientist**
- Register yourself for three additional Members Only events

Wildflower Garden Members

- Register yourself +4 guests for our **Dinner or Lunch with a Wildflower Scientist**
- Register yourself for an unlimited number of Members Only events

It is possible there may be availability in some of the events once everyone has selected their first choices. We will be happy to allow Members to register for additional Members Only events and will provide ongoing email communications with availability and registration links until the events are filled.



*Thank you for your
continued support!*



Alpine Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte

Leanne Benton

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 2+ miles rocky, steep, uneven terrain

Join Leanne for a wonderful opportunity to see alpine and subalpine wildflowers without having to hike up! You'll ride up the Silver Queen lift and do some hiking on Mt. Crested Butte to around 11,500 ft. Leanne will show you the significant features of gorgeous alpine wildflowers while you enjoy the spectacular views of the valley, especially on the lift ride down.

M05 Sunday, 7/13

9am-1pm

M13 Saturday, 7/19

9am-1pm

Dinner with Wildflower Scientist

New!

Mariposa Lily Members and above, join Dr. Paul CaraDonna for an engaging event at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory! Enjoy an insightful talk followed by a complimentary buffet-style meal in the beautiful Dining Hall at RMBL. This event offers a unique opportunity to connect with fellow nature enthusiasts, learn from Dr. CaraDonna's expertise, and indulge in delicious food in a stunning mountain setting on the RMBL campus. Don't miss this memorable experience!

M03 Friday, 7/11

5:30-7:30pm



Evening of Wildflower Photography

Jan Runge

*Level: Beginner-Advanced Need: Digital camera, tripod
4WD/high-clearance vehicle recommended.*

Build your understanding of digital camera settings, how to control exposure, sharpness, and speed, as well as point-and-shoot options and limitations. Understand the difference between beautiful and photogenic! You'll learn to make the most of low, medium, and high contrast, and how to work with the direction and intensity of light.

M12 Friday, 7/18

4-8pm

Gardens & Ghosts

Glo Cunningham

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Is Crested Butte haunted? Perhaps, but the ghosts of this town are of the Casper variety – friendly, harmless, and playful. On this tour you'll stroll the alleys and gardens of Crested Butte while listening to stories about the antics of old timers whose spirits remain.

M08 Monday, 7/14

3-5:30pm

Gothic Townsite Tour

Greta Schoonover

Level: • Beginner Length: 1 mile of walking

New!

Explore the historic Gothic Townsite on a guided tour through the heart of Gothic, Colorado, home to the renowned Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory. Discover the rich history, fascinating stories, and scenic beauty of this charming alpine town. This tour offers a unique glimpse into the past while showcasing the area's natural wonders. Join us for an unforgettable journey through Gothic's captivating history and stunning landscapes!

M07 Monday, 7/14

8-10am



Lunch with Wildflower Scientist

New!

Mariposa Lily Members and above, join Dr. Carol Boggs for an engaging event at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory! Enjoy an insightful talk followed by a complimentary buffet-style meal in the beautiful Dining Hall at RMBL. This event offers a unique opportunity to connect with fellow nature enthusiasts, learn from Dr. Boggs' expertise, and indulge in delicious food in a stunning mountain setting on the RMBL campus. Don't miss this memorable experience!

M14 Thursday, 7/17

11:30am-1:30pm

Reading the Landscape

New!

Jackie Fitzgerald

Level: ■ Intermediate Length: 4+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Hike in the shadow of Gothic Mountain and explore stunning wildflower displays while learning the fascinating stories of the land's evolution. Our guide will share how geological forces and human history have shaped the ecosystems, offering a deeper understanding of the environment. Unlike typical hikes that focus on plant identification, this experience invites you to see the landscape through a historical and geological lens, making it ideal for nature lovers, history buffs, and anyone curious about the land's rich heritage.

M01 Tuesday, 7/8

9am-12pm

RMBL Herbarium Tour

New!

Rick Williams

Join Dr. Rick Williams for an informative tour of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory Herbarium. Delve into the fascinating world of plant specimens, learn about the important research conducted at the Herbarium, and discover the diverse flora of the region. Dr. Williams will share his expertise and insights as you explore this valuable resource. Don't miss this opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of plant science in one of the most biodiverse areas of the Rocky Mountains!

M10 Wednesday, 7/16

8-10am



Tour of Crested Butte Gardens

Roxie Lypps

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Enjoy a guided tour of our local gardens while you admire and identify both wild and tame flowers. Our stroll will move at a leisurely pace; however, plan to walk up to 2 miles.

M11 Thursday, 7/17

10am-12pm

Wildflower ID Walk

Jackie Fitzgerald/Greta Schoonover

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

Join us for a wildflower identification walk at a leisurely pace, with time for questions and photographing the beautiful blooms! We'll take you where the flowers are at their best!

M02 Friday, 7/11 10:30am-12:30pm Jackie Fitzgerald

M09 Tuesday, 7/15 8:30-10:30am Greta Schoonover

Wildflower Watercolor & Wine

Zach Bauer

Join local watercolor artist, Zach Bauer, for a step-by-step watercolor painting class with wildflowers as the subject. Zach will guide the group through a watercolor painting from start to finish, giving instruction on setting up to paint, wash and watercolor painting techniques, composition, and more. Wine and wine spritzers are provided to participants 21 and older, so you can relax and create! All watercolor supplies and your wine or wine spritzer are included. Absolutely no watercolor experience is necessary!

M06 Sunday, 7/13

4:30-7pm



Join us in sending a big thank you to our 2025 poster underwriters and long-time Members, Craig & Carmen Alexander!



"Craig and I have been involved with the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival (CBWF) for almost 10 years. We started coming to Crested Butte back in the late 80's, but we didn't venture up during the summer months until several years later. As a Master Gardener and Docent at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden Japanese Garden, I am a longtime "plant geek;" Craig is a more recent horticultural enthusiast.

One of my favorite memories from the CBWF was the focus (and series of lectures) on bees a few years ago. At home (in Texas), I am a big fan of perennials, native/ adapted plants, and pollinator gardens. Learning more about the significance of bees within the unique mountain environment was fascinating! Craig and I truly look forward to the Members Only events - learning about unique plant adaptations and hearing, firsthand, from scientists who are conducting groundbreaking research. Connecting with other Members who share that enthusiasm is also wonderful! And what could possibly be more magical than hiking across a wildflower meadow on Rustler's Gulch or capturing the perfect shot of a Fairy Slipper or Mariposa Lily in full bloom?

We are genuinely delighted to have the opportunity to underwrite the 2025 CBWF poster. Advocating for the appreciation and preservation of wildflowers *anywhere* is a worthy endeavor. We are honored to support the CBWF and to join with others to educate, inform, and preserve the natural beauty and majesty of such a special place - Crested Butte!"

-Carmen Day-Alexander

Photography



Adventure Photography Workshop - Session 1 From Grand Landscapes to Smaller Scenes

Sarah Marino

Level: Intermediate-Advanced

New!

\$1,750



This three-day workshop offers a well-rounded and highly resourceful educational experience, appropriate for any level of outdoor photographer. We will take advantage of the soft light at the edges of the day along with changing light

throughout the morning and afternoon. This means that you will have longer field sessions than workshops that focus exclusively on sunrise and sunset. During your time in the field, Sarah will share lessons on learning how to see photographic opportunities, composition, working with a broad range of lighting conditions, and overcoming technical challenges.

The workshops will include extensive time in the field, guided lessons to extend your learning, time for personal exploration, and two classroom sessions. You will also share meals as a group to allow time for discussion about all topics related to nature photography, travel, and the places you will be visiting. Everyone in the group will be expected to practice Leave No Trace and Nature First Principles to help protect Crested Butte's wildflowers. During our first in-person session, Sarah will share more information about Nature First and how we be respectful of this sensitive landscape.

P01

Sunday, 7/13 - Tuesday, 7/15

Adventure Photography Workshop - Session 2

Quiet Landscapes

Sarah Marino

New!

\$1,750

Level: *Intermediate-Advanced*



This three-day workshop will focus exclusively on photographing nature's smaller scenes. Specifically, we will seek out intimate landscapes, abstract renditions of natural subjects, portraits of plants and trees, and macro subjects including flowers. This workshop offers a well-rounded and highly resourceful educational experience, appropriate for any level of outdoor photographer. You should however be very familiar with your camera, and its operations. We will take advantage of the soft light at the edges of the day along with changing light throughout the morning and afternoon. This means that you will have longer field sessions than workshops that focus exclusively on sunrise and sunset. During your time in the field, Sarah will share lessons on learning how to see photographic opportunities, composition, working with a broad range of lighting conditions, and overcoming technical challenges. The workshops will include extensive time in the field, guided lessons to extend your learning, time for personal exploration, and two classroom sessions. You will also share meals as a group to allow time for discussion about all topics related to nature photography, travel, and the places you will be visiting. Everyone in the group will be expected to practice Leave No Trace and Nature First Principles to help protect Crested Butte's wildflowers. During our first in-person session, Sarah will share more information about Nature First and how we be respectful of this sensitive landscape.



P02

Wednesday, 7/16 - Friday, 7/18

Cell Phone Photography

David Kish/Eric Phillips/Dave Snyder & Jeff Johnson \$125

Level: Beginner

Need: Cell Phone with camera capability

You don't need a bulky and expensive camera to take amazing pictures. Cell phones today have amazing capability. Venture into the field armed with your cell phone to take broad landscapes as well as flower closeups. We will teach you the basics of composition, adjusting exposure, when to use flash, in addition to other applications you might consider for slow shutter work creating fantastic artistic abstract effects. The class will also discuss some of the editing tools available on top of the tool sets provided by your phone.

P03	Monday, 6/23	8:30-11:30am	David Kish
P07	Saturday, 7/12	12-3pm	Eric Phillips
P09	Sunday, 7/13	12-3pm	David Kish
P10	Sunday, 7/13	1-4pm	Dave Snyder
			& Jeff Johnson
P18	Friday, 7/18	1:30-4:30pm	Eric Phillips
P22	Saturday, 7/19	12-3pm	Dave Snyder
			& Jeff Johnson

Close-up & Abstract Wildflowers

David Snyder & Jeff Johnson

\$125

Level: Beginner-Intermediate

Need: DSLR camera, wide lens, macro lens, sturdy tripod, screens/reflectors if you have them.



In this class we will take you out to wildflower fields and get down on the ground focusing on the small details of the flowers. We will discuss focusing techniques (hyperfocal distance focusing, focus stacking), composition, and camera setting options using the exposure triangle. We will use light modifiers (reflectors as well as screens). We'll spend hours in the field with endless flowers and scenery you'll not want to leave. With Colorado's high country being one of the premier locations for wildflowers and breathtaking scenery, this is a can't miss opportunity for you. From fields of Columbine to individual blossoms of many other colorful flowers, this workshop will satisfy your desire to create fine art images you'll want to hang on your wall!

P08	Sunday, 7/13	6-10am
P21	Saturday, 7/19	6-10am

Evening of Wildflower Photography

Jan Runge

\$115

Level: Beginner-Advanced

Need: Digital camera, tripod

4WD/high-clearance vehicle recommended.

Build your understanding of digital camera settings, how to control exposure, sharpness, and speed, as well as point-and-shoot options and limitations. Understand the difference between beautiful and photogenic! You'll learn to make the most of low, medium, and high contrast, and how to work with the direction and intensity of light. Kids 12+ with supervision.

P13 Monday, 7/14

4-8pm

Landscapes & Wildflowers

David Snyder & Jeff Johnson

\$125

Level: Beginner-Intermediate

Need: DSLR camera, wide lens, macro lens, sturdy tripod, screens/reflectors if you have them. The instructors will have two high clearance vehicles. We will be looking for 1-2 other volunteers with hi-clearance, 4WD vehicles to assist with driving.



In this class we will take you out to wildflower fields as foreground with broader valleys and mountains in the background. We will discuss focusing techniques (hyperfocal distance focusing, focus stacking), composition, and camera setting options using the exposure triangle. We'll spend hours in the field with endless flowers and scenery you'll not want to leave. With Colorado's high country being one of the premier locations for wildflowers and breathtaking scenery, this is a can't miss opportunity for you. From fields of Columbine to individual blossoms of many other colorful flowers, this workshop will satisfy your desire to create fine art images you'll want to hang on your wall!

P06 Saturday, 7/12

6-10am

P17 Friday, 7/18

6-10am

One-Day Photo Workshop

Eric Phillips

\$295

Level: Intermediate-Advanced

Need: DSLR Camera with Lenses and knowledge of basic functions/ how to adjust aperture, ISO, & shutter speed, extra batteries, SD Cards, & ND or Polariser filters, sturdy tripod and head, camera backpack or carrying system with rain cover, hiking boots, headlamp/ flashlight, snacks/water, sun screen, rain gear. Cell phone app PhotoPills (very useful but not required).

Join Crested Butte Landscape Photographer Eric Phillips on a one-day wildflower workshop! This workshop will be broken into three parts, the sunrise, mid-day photo and editing, and the sunset. After photographing the sunrise we will shoot through mid-morning before a break for late breakfast/early lunch. Mid-day we will cover editing techniques and more specific camera techniques like HDR Photos and Focus Stacking. We will break again for an early dinner around 3-4 pm before heading out on a sunset adventure to put our newly learned photo techniques on an epic sunset hike.

P04 Friday, 7/11

5am-9pm

P20 Saturday, 7/19

5am-9pm

Sunrise Photography At Peanut Lake

Eric Phillips

\$125

Level: Beginner-Intermediate

Need: DSLR Camera with Lenses and knowledge of basic functions/ how to adjust aperture, ISO, & shutter speed, extra batteries, SD Cards, & ND or Polariser filters, sturdy tripod and head, camera backpack or carrying system with rain cover, hiking boots, headlamp/ flashlight, thermos for coffee/tea, cell phone app PhotoPills (very useful but not required)

Photograph all the stages of the sunrise over beautiful Peanut Lake. Learn the best settings for shooting golden hour, sunrise, and daytime matched with one of the best compositions of Crested Butte. Lupine and Alpine Sunflower will be the main flowers photographed. There is also a good chance to see and photograph wildlife at the lake.

P14 Tuesday, 7/15

5-9am

Top of the World Wildflowers

David Snyder & Jeff Johnson

\$185

Level: All, expect up to 1 mile of easy hiking on well packed trail

Need: DSLR camera, wide lens, macro lens, sturdy tripod, screens/reflectors if you have them.



In this class we will take you out to high alpine wildflower meadows where we will explore broad landscapes, and get down on the ground focusing on the small details of the flowers. We'll spend hours in the

field with endless flowers and mountain views, and a sunset or sunrise you'll not want to leave. With Colorado's high country being one of the premier locations for wildflowers and breathtaking scenery, this is a can't miss opportunity.

From fields of flowers to individual blossoms of many colorful flowers, this workshop will satisfy your desire to create stunning pieces of art. Some easy hiking at high altitude (9,000-11,000) feet is anticipated.

P05	Friday, 7/11	5-9 pm
P12	Monday, 7/14	6-10am
P19	Friday, 7/18	5-9pm
P23	Saturday, 7/19	5-9pm

Wildflower Master Class

David Snyder & Jeff Johnson

\$185

Level: Intermediate-Advanced

Need: DSLR with wide angle and telephoto lens capability, sturdy tripod, shutter remote (if you have one), laptop with internet capability, preferred editing software (the instructors will be using Lightroom and Photoshop).

This class consists of a morning or evening shoot and in-class instruction/critiques. The instructors will coach this small group on light, planning toolsets, advanced composition options, panorama creation, exposure bracketing, and use of modifiers when shooting closeups.

P11	Sunday, 7/13	5-9pm
P24	Sunday, 7/20	6-10am

Wildflower Sunset Adventure

Eric Phillips

\$125

Level: Beginner-Advanced

Need: Digital Camera & camera gear, tripod, jacket, and a headlamp.

Join Crested Butte Photographer Eric Phillips on an epic sunset wildflower adventure. You'll head out at 5pm to Snodgrass Mountain where we will hike into the wildflowers and photograph the alpenglow and stages of the sunset with a foreground of wildflowers. This class will go over various camera techniques for photographing wildflowers in sunlight and sunset. Be prepared to spend the entire sunset shooting and we will walk out together in the dark.

P15 Tuesday, 7/15

5-9pm

P16 Wednesday, 7/16

5-9pm



John Schultz

Popular Pollinators



John Haefeli

A-Bee-Cs of Wildflower Pollination

Paul CaraDonna/Jackie Fitzgerald

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, level terrain

What is that bee? Why do our wildflowers depend on them? Join pollination ecologists from Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory on this pollinator/wildflower walk and explore the intricate relationship between our wildflowers and native bees. You'll have the opportunity to view a variety of bees up close, learn how scientists study wildflower nectar, and view wildflowers with hand lenses to delve into how this interdependency really works.

F01 Friday, 7/11 10am-1pm

Paul CaraDonna

F03 Saturday, 7/12 9:30am-12:30pm

Jackie Fitzgerald

Birding Among the Brush Creek Wildflowers

Jacque Fisher

New!

\$80

Level: •■ Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: Approximately 3 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

Discover the birds and wildflowers of Crested Butte's newest trail segment at Brush Creek! Be ready to stop, look, and listen; you'll learn to identify birds by sound as well as sight. Flower and bird checklists provided. Bring binoculars and field guide(s). Kids 13+ with supervision.

F11 Wednesday, 7/16

7:30-11:30am

Birding Among the Upper Loop Wildflowers

Drew Kelly/Jacque Fisher

\$80

Level: • Adv. Beginner–Intermediate

Length: Approximately 3 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

Discover the birds and wildflowers of the Upper Loop! Be ready to stop, look, and listen; you'll learn to identify birds by sound as well as sight. A final stop to view a blue heron rookery along the Slate River concludes our morning. Flower and bird checklists provided. Bring binoculars and field guide(s). Kids 13+ with supervision.

F02	Saturday, 7/12	7:30-11:30am	Drew Kelly
F05	Sunday, 7/13	7:30-11:30am	Jacque Fisher
F09	Tuesday, 7/15	7:30-11:30am	Jacque Fisher
F15	Friday, 7/18	7:30-11:30am	Jacque Fisher

Birding Among the Woods Walk Wildflowers

Jacque Fisher/Drew Kelly

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, level terrain

Birds abound! We'll meander the nearby Woods Walk trail enjoying and identifying the wildflowers and birds. If we're lucky, we'll discover babies in the nest! A final stop to view a blue heron rookery along the Slate River concludes our morning. Flower and bird checklists provided. Bring binoculars and field guide(s). Kids 13+ with supervision.

F07	Monday, 7/14	7:30-11:30am	Jacque Fisher
F12	Thursday, 7/17	7:30-11:30am	Jacque Fisher
F17	Saturday, 7/19	7:30-11:30am	Drew Kelly

Butterflies of Brush Creek

Sara Simonson

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: Approximately 2 miles on well-packed, level terrain

Learn to take notice of the beautiful butterflies that surround Crested Butte. This family-friendly hike follows a dirt road and trail, and passes through a variety of montane streamside habitats, colorful meadows, and wildflower-covered rocky slopes. Kids of all ages are welcome with supervision.

F10	Tuesday, 7/15	10am-1pm
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Butterflies of Copper Creek

Sara Simonson

\$80

Level: • Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: 3.5 miles with rocky and steep terrain

Search for butterflies and other native pollinators in scenic wildflower meadows on this moderate hike past Judd Falls, along Copper Creek. We'll discuss the rich diversity of butterflies in Colorado and view examples of research conducted at the Rocky Mountain Biological Lab. We'll hike at a naturalist's pace and end the hike with a stop at the RMBL Visitor's Center. Kids 12+ with supervision.

F08 Monday, 7/14

10am-2pm

Butterflies of Kebler Pass & Lake Irwin

Sara Simonson

\$80

Level: • Beginner-Adv. Beginner

Length: 3 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

This moderate hike passes through subalpine forests and wetlands, with lush streamside butterfly habitats and showy wildflower meadows. We'll visit a variety of habitats that are important to local butterflies and pollinators, and search for interesting aquatic plants and animals near the lake. Kids 12+ with supervision.

F04 Saturday, 7/12

10am-2pm

F14 Thursday, 7/17

10am-2pm

Butterflies of Lily Lake

Sara Simonson

\$80

Level: • Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: 3.5 miles with steeper and rocky terrain

This moderate hike winds through subalpine forests and wetlands, including diverse butterfly habitats and scenic wildflower meadows. We'll take a break at a lovely lily-covered pond that supports rare dragonflies and other unique wetland animals. Kids 12+ with supervision.

F06 Sunday, 7/13

10am-2pm

F16 Friday, 7/18

10am-2pm

Mountain States Bumble Bee Atlas

New!

Amy Dolan

Level: • Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well packed, level terrain

\$25

The Mountain States Bumble Bee Atlas is a community science project aimed at documenting the location and habitat of bumble bees across Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and Nevada. Our goal is to gather current information about the habitats these pollinators are relying on in order to inform future conservation actions. Come learn more about the what, why, and how of the Atlas while seeing which species are foraging on our local wildflowers. Amy Dolan, conservation biologist with the Xerces Society and coordinator of the Atlas project, will answer questions about the project, teach the Atlas's protocol, and provide time for hands-on practice.

F18 Sunday, 7/20

9am-12pm

Wildflower & Bee ID at RMBL

Ceci Rigby

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well packed, level terrain

What is that bee? Why do our wildflowers depend on them for survival? Ceci Rigby will help you explore the world of bees. You'll spend time in both the classroom/laboratory and wildflower meadows learning the basics of bee identification and their importance to our ecosystems during this hands-on workshop.

F13 Thursday, 7/17

9:30am-12:30pm



Jane Radford



EVERY STAY HAS A STORY

MAKE THIS A SUMMER TO REMEMBER



Lodging discounts available for
Wildflower Festival Guests

[Click here](#)

Honoring former CBWF Board President Dr. Chelsea Stangl

Passionate about the preservation of wildflowers in our valley and helping people experience the magic of Crested Butte in the summertime, Dr. Chelsea Stangl joined the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival Board in 2023. Moving into the role of President in 2024, Chelsea's compassionate and tactful leadership was instrumental in conducting the search and onboarding of a new Executive Director. Dr. Stangl leaves behind a legacy of making the Wildflower Festival more accessible, ensuring it can inspire and engage a broader, more diverse audience—many of whom may not yet realize their own passion for wildflowers, the outdoors, and exploring our valley.



Dr. Chelsea Stangl has been a part of the Crested Butte Community since 2014 and moved here full-time in 2017. She and her husband own Crested Butte Dental in CB South, where they live. Since the first moment she laid eyes on Crested Butte in 2011, she has felt the magic of the town, the mountains, and the community and feels incredibly grateful to call Crested Butte home.

We are deeply thankful for Chelsea's dedication to the Festival and wish her the best of luck in her next endeavors!

Hikes & Tours

Garden Tours

Jeep Tours

Virtual Tours

Beginner Hikes & Walks

Intermediate Hikes

Advanced & Expert Hikes

Hiking Key

- Beginner *level, rolling terrain*
- Intermediate *mostly rolling with some steep, rocky terrain*
- ◆ Advanced *steep, rocky, uneven terrain*
- ◆◆ Expert *very steep, rocky, uneven and exposed*

Garden Tours

Gardens & Ghosts

Glo Cunningham

\$55

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Is Crested Butte haunted? Perhaps, but the ghosts of this town are of the Casper variety – friendly, harmless, and playful. On this tour you'll stroll the alleys and gardens of Crested Butte while listening to stories about the antics of old timers whose spirits remain.

G06 Friday, 7/18

3-5:30pm

Tour of Crested Butte Gardens

Roxie Lypps

\$35

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Enjoy a guided tour of our local gardens while you admire and identify both wild and tame flowers. Our stroll will move at a leisurely pace; however, plan to walk up to 2 miles. Kids 10+ with supervision. *Note: This event is similar to the Historic Garden Tour (slightly shorter event).*

G02 Saturday, 7/12

10am-12pm

G03 Sunday, 7/13

10am-12pm

G05 Tuesday, 7/15

10am-12pm

G07 Saturday, 7/19

10am-12pm



David Kish

Historic Garden Tour

Glo Cunningham

\$55



Level: • Beginner

Length: 2 miles of level, paved walking

Join us for an accessible garden walking tour through the historic town of Crested Butte! This easy-paced, 1.5-mile tour is designed for all, including those with strollers or wheelchairs. Led by Glo Cunningham from the Crested Butte Museum, you'll explore the wildflower gardens, streets, and alleys while learning about the town's heritage. Enjoy a leisurely stroll, on relatively flat terrain, and discover the beauty of both wild and cultivated flowers in our local gardens. Perfect for families with kids 10 and up. *Note: This event is similar to the Tour of Crested Butte Gardens (slightly longer event with more history).*

Ken Collins Historic Garden Tour

G01 Friday, 7/11 1-3:30pm

Cheree Hamblen Historic Garden Tour

G04 Sunday, 7/13 12:30-3pm

Hawley Historic Garden Tour

G08 Saturday, 7/19 12:30-3pm

Craig and Carmen's Historic Garden Tour

G09 Sunday, 7/20 10:30am-1pm

We are deeply grateful to the extraordinary individuals who have generously answered the call to become Wildflower Garden Members of the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival, our highest level of membership. Their support is a testament to their passion for preserving the beauty of our natural world. In recognition of their exceptional contributions, we are proud to announce that a Historic Garden Tour has been named in honor of each of these remarkable Members. Their dedication ensures the continued growth and vibrancy of our beloved Festival for years to come.

Jeep Tours



Wildflower Adventure Jeep Tour

Jeremy Johndrow

\$210

Level: • Beginner

Length: The tour includes optional short walks on uneven terrain at various stops for photo opportunities and close-up views of flowers.

Mobility is required to enter and exit lifted Jeeps. Please note: seating space in a Jeep is “tight.” If you would like more space, contact JJ’s Jeeps to book a private tour.

For the adventurous wildflower enthusiast, JJ’s Jeeps will take you off the beaten path to incredible places many will never see! Escape the crowds and experience the stunning beauty of Crested Butte’s world-famous wildflowers from the comfort and safety of a legendary Jeep! Enjoy the sun on your face and jaw-dropping vistas of the Elk Mountains from all directions in their custom open top (weather permitting) Jeep Wranglers. Our local guides will not only teach you about the wildflowers, but they are knowledgeable in the local history, wildlife, and geology as well!

J01	Sunday, 6/22	8:30am-12:30pm
<i>Almont Wildflowers</i>		
J02	Saturday, 7/12	8:30am-12:30pm
J03	Monday, 7/14	8:30am-12:30pm
J04	Wednesday, 7/16	8:30am-12:30pm
J05	Friday, 7/18	8:30am-12:30pm
J06	Sunday, 7/20	8:30am-12:30pm

Jeep Tour "Tag-Along"

New!

Do you want to drive your own Jeep? We offer “tag-along” options for all of the Jeep Tours (\$350). Email us at: info@cbwildflower.com to reserve your “tag-along” tour.

Virtual Tours

New!

Crested Butte Virtual Wildflower Tour

David Kish

\$25

Length: Approximately 30 minute video

Can't make it to Crested Butte this year? We have you covered! Join us for a virtual wildflower tour through the breathtaking landscapes of Crested Butte. Experience the vibrant colors and diverse flora of this renowned wildflower capital from the comfort of your home. Led by our Executive Director, this immersive online experience will highlight the region's most stunning blooms, while offering insights into their ecological importance and unique characteristics. Whether you're a nature lover, photography enthusiast, or simply curious about the beauty of Colorado's wildflowers, this virtual tour promises to be a visual feast and educational journey. Don't miss this opportunity to explore one of nature's most spectacular seasons!

H03

Video link will be emailed to all participants



David Kish

Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory

Interpretive Wildflower Hikes



R M B L
science. **OUTSIDE.**

This summer, learn common wildflowers names while discussing applicable RMBL research connections & natural history with a Visitor Center staff member! [Click Here!](#)



Beginner/Intermediate 2-hr Hike

Check out the Gothic Campus!

@ RMBL Visitor Center

Intermediate 3-hr Hike

Trek through Campus, Judd Falls/401, and into Wilderness Area.

@ RMBL Visitor Center

Intermediate 2-hr Hike

Hike near the proposed Village at Mt. Crested Butte, Crested Butte Land Trust Stewardship, and U.S. Forest Service Land.

@ the Snodgrass West side trailhead off of Gothic Road

Beginner Hikes & Walks

Beginner walks/hikes are generally suitable for most people who can walk at a leisurely pace of 2 miles/hour. These hikes are level, with some rolling terrain, and utilize wider, well-packed trails and Jeep roads. Keep in mind that the altitude in Crested Butte can often make these hikes feel more challenging than their counterparts at sea level. Plan to travel 2-4 miles with up to 500 feet of elevation gain/loss. Wear sturdy walking/hiking shoes (NO flip flops or sandals!). Bring sunscreen, bug spray, snacks, and carry at least **16 ounces of water**. Children ages 12+ welcome with supervision.



Sue Little

Explore Emerald Lake Basin

Ken Collins

\$90

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed road with some rocky & steeper terrain

Explore the Emerald Lake basin and its tremendous variety of wildflowers. The lake, as its name implies, is an intensely deep green, and this time of the year, should still have extensive snow banks around it. For those who want a relaxed opportunity to see a mix of alpine and subalpine flowers, this is the perfect outing.

H17 Sunday, 7/13

7:30am-12pm

Explore Judd Falls

Ken Collins/Richard Davis

\$80

Level: • Advanced Beginner

Length: 3+ miles on well-packed trail with some rocky & steeper terrain

Along this trail we'll experience excellent displays of wildflowers and wonderful views up the Gothic Valley. We will walk up to the Judd Falls overlook, or time permitting, perhaps a little past it. Judd Falls provides a dramatic turn-around point for our walk.

H31 Tuesday, 7/15

8am-12pm

Ken Collins

H47 Friday, 7/18

8am-12pm

Ken Collins

H52 Saturday, 7/19

8am-12pm

Richard Davis

Follow the Bloom

Rick Reavis

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed trail, some steep & rocky terrain

Join Rick, author of Rocky Mountain Wildflower Guide, for a wildflower identification hike at a leisurely pace with time for questions and photographing the beautiful blooms. The wildflowers in Crested Butte peak at different locations at different times during the summer. He'll take you to where the flowers are at their best!

H01 Monday, 6/30

9am-12pm

H02 Monday, 7/7

9am-12pm

Gothic Townsite Tour

Rick Reavis

New!

\$65

Level: • Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed level, rolling terrain



Explore the historic Gothic Townsite on a guided tour through the heart of Gothic, Colorado, home to the renowned Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory. Discover the rich history, fascinating stories, and scenic beauty of this charming alpine town. This tour offers a unique glimpse into the past while showcasing the area's natural wonders. Join us for an unforgettable journey through Gothic's captivating history and stunning landscapes!

H41 Friday, 7/18

8-10am

Gothic Wildflowers

Mel Harte

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed level, rolling terrain

Get up close and personal with rare and unusual flowers near beautiful Gothic Mountain at the Rocky Mountain Biological Lab (RMBL). You'll learn about and identify 60+ kinds of wildflowers (including 2-3 species of ORCHIDS)! Flower lists are supplied-- but it's the stories behind these fascinating flowers that are emphasized!

H14 Saturday, 7/12

9:30am-12:30pm

H34 Tuesday, 7/15

9:30am-12:30pm

H53 Saturday, 7/19

9:30am-12:30pm

Snow & Bloom

Sara Simonson

New!

\$80

Level: • Advanced Beginner

Length: 3+ miles with some rocky, steep terrain

Delve into the fascinating relationship between snowpack and the wildflowers that emerge when the snow melts. We will explore how snow cover impacts plant survival, growth patterns, and seasonal transitions in the East River Valley. Learn about the vital roles snow plays in regulating temperatures, moisture, and soil health, and discover how wildflowers adapt to thrive. Whether you're a seasoned naturalist or a curious beginner, this event offers an in-depth look at the beauty and resilience of nature's most delicate ecosystems.

H37 Wednesday, 7/16

10am-1pm

Splendor on Snodgrass

Ken Collins

\$80

Level: • Advanced Beginner

Length: 3+ miles with some rocky, steep terrain

Snodgrass Mountain is what makes us the "Wildflower Capital of Colorado!" This hike will take you through fields of flowers in bloom, groves of quaking aspen, stands of spruce and fir trees, with views of Crested Butte Mountain. This lower-elevation wildland and its wetlands also provide habitat for many species, even the elusive Canada lynx. This version of the hike begins on Washington Gulch Road and is appropriate for advanced beginner hikers.

H12 Saturday, 7/12

8am-12pm



Monica Breckenridge

Upper Loop to Tony's Trail

Ken Collins

\$80

Level: • Advanced Beginner

Length: 3+ miles on trail with some rocky, uneven terrain

This relatively easy hike is mostly downhill with varied terrain through forest and grasslands. We're likely to see a wide variety of wildflowers with dramatic views of the south side of Mt. Crested Butte as we traverse the Upper Loop trail and connect to Tony's Trail.

H24 Monday, 7/14

8am-12pm

Wildflower ID Walk

Agustina Hein/Meri Wallace/Jackie Fitzgerald

\$45

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

Join us for a wildflower identification walk at a leisurely pace, with time for questions and photographing the beautiful blooms! We'll take you where the flowers are at their best!

Kids 8+ with supervision.

H15 Saturday, 7/12 1-3pm

Agustina Hein

H35 Tuesday, 7/15 10am-12pm

Meri Wallace

H54 Saturday, 7/19 11:30am-1:30pm

Jackie Fitzgerald

H59 Sunday, 7/20 10:30-12:30pm

Jackie Fitzgerald

Paseo de Identificación de Flores Silvestres

Agustina Hein

NUEVO!

\$25

Nivel: • Principiante

Duración: 2-3 millas en terrenos bien montados y ondulados

Únete a nosotros para una caminata de identificación de flores silvestres en español. Te llevaremos a los lugares donde las flores están en su mejor momento. Las familias son bienvenidas.

H57 Domingo, 7/20

8-11am

Wildflowers & Folklore

Leanne Benton

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

The lives of people and wildflowers have long been intertwined, leading to a rich trove of stories, traditions, and uses about these plants. We'll explore the folklore, myths, histories, and some interesting facts of Crested Butte's beautiful blooms. Fairies, witches, plagues, love, and healing all have a role, as well as a secret language spoken through wildflowers!

H28 Monday, 7/14

9:30am-1:30pm

H49 Friday, 7/18

10:30am-2:30pm

Wildflowers & Yoga in the Morning Light

Alex Lambro

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

This is the perfect way to start your day! You'll stroll through aspens and wildflowers to a perfect spot where you will practice gentle, restorative yoga. Enjoy the stillness morning offers and connect with nature's incredible beauty before the hustle and bustle of the day begins. Expect to walk 2-3 miles. Wear comfortable clothes and bring water, a yoga mat, and a snack.

H04 Friday, 7/11

7:30-10:30am

H16 Sunday, 7/13

7:30-10:30am

H44 Friday, 7/18

7:30-10:30am

H55 Sunday, 7/20

7:30-10:30am



Olivia Murphy-Welconish

Wildflowers Fit for a Garden

Meri Wallace

\$70

Level: • Beginner

Length: 2-3 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

Meander through wildflower paradise and see splendid specimens in meadows and forests that will thrive in your garden. A relaxed pace will allow for discussion on the availability of wildflowers, the ethics of transplanting them from the wild, and the viability of growing wildflowers from seed. We'll finish at a beautiful garden on the edge of town, showcasing the cultivation of wildflowers.

H60 Sunday, 7/13

9:30am-12:30pm

H61 Thursday, 7/17

9:30am-12:30pm

Wonderful Wildflower Connections

Mel Harte

\$80

Level: • Beginner

Length: 1-2 miles on well-packed, rolling terrain

Explore fascinating connections among wildflowers and animals on the Lower Loop. See over 50 different wildflowers, including the Gunnison Mariposa Lily! Flower lists are supplied at the beginning, with common and latin names - but it's the stories behind these fascinating flowers that are emphasized!

Ages 10+

H09 Friday, 7/11

9:30am-12:30pm

H43 Thursday, 7/17

9:30am-12:30pm



Don Leuenberger

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City of
Fort Collins

Intermediate Hikes

Intermediate hikes are suitable for people who consider themselves fit and who participate in jogging/walking/hiking activities on a regular basis. You should be able to comfortably travel at a pace of 2-3 miles/hour. Plan on traveling 3-6 miles on narrower, packed and rocky trails with some uneven footing. These events traverse steeper terrain, with 500-1,000 feet of elevation gain/loss (steep!). Wear sturdy hiking shoes/boots (NOT tennis shoes), and bring sunscreen and bug spray. Bring at least **32 ounces of water** and a snack (or lunch if event is around noon). Rain jacket required. Hiking poles recommended. Children 15+ welcome with supervision.



Marilyn Rodman

Lily Lake Wildflowers

Leanne Benton/Laura Johnston/Molly Murfee \$90

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 4 miles with some rocky, steep terrain

A moderate hike through subalpine forests and meadows carpeted in wildflowers to a lake where Water Lilies bloom against a backdrop of mountains. 86 different flowers have been identified on this hike!

H13	Saturday, 7/12	8am-12:30pm	Leanne Benton
H33	Tuesday, 7/15	9am-1:30pm	Laura Johnston
H40	Thursday, 7/17	8am-12:30pm	Molly Murfee

Lower Deer Creek Trail

Jackie Fitzgerald \$80

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 4+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Discover the beauty of a locally known, yet infrequently utilized wildflower trail. The out and back hike begins on a 4x4 road and narrows to single track. Enjoy a beautiful, meandering hike through open meadows, glacier-created ponds, and centuries old aspen groves. Discover diverse displays of wildflowers and never lose site of awe-inspiring Gothic Mountain. Thorough discussions of the area's wildflowers and natural history will be provided.

H42	Thursday, 7/17	9am-1pm
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Reading the Landscape

Jackie Fitzgerald

New!

\$80

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 4+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Hike in the shadow of Gothic Mountain and explore stunning wildflower displays while learning the fascinating stories of the land's evolution. Our guide will share how geological forces and human history have shaped the ecosystems, offering a deeper understanding of the environment. Unlike typical hikes that focus on plant identification, this experience invites you to see the landscape through a historical and geological lens, making it ideal for nature lovers, history buffs, and anyone curious about the land's rich heritage.

H32 Tuesday, 7/15

8:30-11:30am

Splendor on Snodgrass - Intermediate

Molly Murfee/Richard Davis/Krista Hildebrandt

\$80

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 3+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Snodgrass Mountain is what makes us the "Wildflower Capital of Colorado!" This hike will take you through fields of flowers in bloom, groves of quaking aspen, stands of spruce and fir trees, with views of Crested Butte Mountain. This lower-elevation wildland and its wetlands also provide habitat for many species, even the elusive Canada lynx. Please note this event begins at the trailhead on Gothic Rd. with a steep ascent.

H18 Sunday, 7/13 7:45-11:45am

Molly Murfee

H23 Monday, 7/14 7:45-11:45am

Richard Davis

H46 Friday, 7/18 7:45-11:45am

Krista Hildebrandt



Jess Forbes



Cathleen McKinzie

Three Lakes Hike

Krista Hildebrandt

\$90

Level: •■ Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: 3 miles with rocky, very steep, and uneven terrain

A moderate loop hike through beautiful aspen forests. We'll visit Three Lakes and be rewarded with stunning views from the top of Beckwith Pass. Expect gorgeous flowers, and some waterfalls along the way. Good chance for mushrooms with a wet summer! Ages 12+. *Note: event time includes 30-min drive to trailhead.*

H07 Friday, 7/11

7:45am-12:45pm

H30 Tuesday, 7/15

7:45am-12:45pm

Trail 403 to Viewpoint

Ken Collins/Laura Johnston/Molly Murfee

\$90

Level: •■ Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: 3-4 miles with some steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

This moderate hike has one of the richest wildflower displays in the valley along with spectacular views of the Elk Mountains and Maroon Bells area. We'll hike up towards Gothic Mountain to the high point where you'll find both alpine and subalpine wildflowers including Silvery Lupine, Paintbrush, and Spotted Saxifrage. *Note: Event time includes a 30-min drive to trailhead, high clearance/4-wheel drive vehicle required.*

H20 Sunday, 7/13

8am-1pm

Laura Johnston

H38 Thursday, 7/17

7:30am-12:30pm

Ken Collins

H56 Sunday, 7/20

7:30am-12:30pm

Molly Murfee

Walrod's Wildflowers & Caves

Laura Johnston

\$90

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 4-5 miles with rocky, **very steep**, and uneven terrain

Walrod Gulch meanders across a southern-facing slope in the Cement Creek Valley and is home to one of the most impressive displays of Mule's Ear Sunflowers and Lupine in the valley! Incredible views of Cement, Red, and Whetstone Mountains. Explore hidden caves as you meander among the wildflower meadows.

H26 Monday, 7/14

8:30am-1:30pm

H48 Friday, 7/18

8:30am-1:30pm

Westside Wildflowers of Mt. Crested Butte

Rick Reavis

\$80

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 3+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

This scenic hike meanders through meadows, aspens, and evergreen forests on the western flanks of Mt. Crested Butte. Expect to find a wonderful display of diverse species of wildflowers including the Coralroot Orchid in certain years. Thorough examinations and discussions will be given to the plants observed along the trail.

H27 Monday, 7/14

8:45am-12:45pm

H58 Sunday, 7/20

8:45am-12:45pm

Wildflowers & Waterfalls of Lake Irwin

Ken Collins

\$90

Level: ■ Adv. Beginner-Intermediate

Length: 3-4+ miles with rocky, steep terrain

Join us as we explore the spectacular wildflowers and wetlands surrounding Lake Irwin. The shoreline passes through a variety of habitats including dense fir forest, lush meadows, and beaver ponds. We'll also explore the beautiful falls on the south side of the dam. *Note: event time includes 30-min drive to trailhead.*

H05 Friday, 7/11

7:30am-12:30pm

H50 Saturday, 7/19

7:30am-12:30pm

Wildflowers & Wetlands of Swampy Pass

Ken Collins

\$100

Level: ■ Intermediate

Length: 4-5 miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

Enjoy stunning scenery and spectacular views of the iconic Castles rock formations on this hike! It begins with high mountain meadows blanketed with wildflowers and traverses through beautiful aspen forests. We'll observe an abundance of wildflowers and explore riparian areas while enjoying the gorgeous views of the Ohio Creek Valley. *Note: event time includes 40-min drive to trailhead.*

H36 Wednesday, 7/16

8am-2pm



Robin Bratton

Advanced & Expert Hikes

Expert hikes are suitable for people who are very physically fit, and who incorporate running, cycling, or other strenuous exercise into their schedule on a regular basis. You should be comfortable traveling at a pace of 3 miles/hour...uphill! Plan on traveling 5-8 miles (or



Paige Murray

more) on steep, often rocky terrain, and expect some off-trail hiking across talus slopes. Footing can be tricky and many of these hikes contain creek/river crossings and include traveling across areas that are narrow and exposed to cliffs/drop-offs. Elevation gain/loss can exceed 1,500 vertical feet (very steep!). These hikes are not suitable for anyone with medical issues that prevent them from exerting themselves or who have a history of altitude sickness when traveling to mountain areas. Sturdy hiking BOOTS, complete rain gear (jacket & pants), sunscreen, bug spray, hat, **2 liters of water**, and substantial snacks and lunch required. Hiking poles recommended. Read event descriptions carefully to learn if sandals/river shoes are required. If you have traveled to Crested Butte from sea level it is recommended that you spend at least 24 hours in Crested Butte prior to your event departure time to acclimate to the altitude change.

Baxter Gulch

Rick Reavis

\$80

Level: ■♦ Intermediate-Advanced

Length: 3 miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

This new classic trail took eight years of construction and is a new gem in the mix of trails close to the Town of Crested Butte. You'll ascend through aspen forest then traverse across southern slopes filled with Mule's Ear, Aspen Sunflower, and Lupine. A descent to the creek marks the turn-around point, or if time permits, ascend the wooded slopes on the other side and search for the elusive Fairy Slipper.

H21 Sunday, 7/13

8am-12pm



John Zemaitis

Beckwith Pass Hike

Laura Johnston

\$100

Level: ■♦ Intermediate-Advanced

Length: 6+ miles with rocky, steep terrain including a shallow creek crossing.

This trail provides an abundance of wildflower species and spectacular views of the Ruby Range. Elevation gain is gradual with some short steep sections near the pass. The casual pace allows time for discussion of characteristics of plant families, anatomy of the flowers, and their reproductive and survival strategies. *Note: event time includes 30-min drive to trailhead.*

H08 Friday, 7/11

8am-3pm

Discoveries Along the Dyke Trail

Luke Tembrock

\$90

Level: ■♦ Intermediate-Advanced

Length: 6 miles with steep and rocky terrain

This trip will begin with a focus on the higher altitude flora such as Lupines, various Sunflower family species, and Buttercup family species. As the trail progresses downwards in elevation we will examine the plants and flowers associated with the several south facing parks and the scree plants found adjacent to the trail's namesake – an intrusive igneous Dyke. Thereafter the focus will be on the plants associated with aspen forests (this is one of the largest in North America) as the trail winds down to a glacial bench. The trip will conclude with a final look around the large open meadow that is Horse Ranch Park.

Please note: event time includes 30-min drive to trailhead; we will drop cars at Horse Ranch Park and carpool to the start, then reverse at the end. Please plan on using your vehicle.

H25 Monday, 7/14

8am-1pm

Hike to Aspen

Colorado Backcountry

\$495

Level: ♦♦ *Expert/Extreme*

Length: 11-13 miles with very steep, rocky, uneven terrain and exposed areas

Please note: there may be avalanche debris preventing the shuttle from accessing the trailhead which increases the distance of the hike by 2 miles. Be prepared to hike 13 miles

Creek crossings required-- bring sandals/river shoes!

Join us for our signature event on a trip over Colorado's most scenic mountain pass! From the Crested Butte side of the Elk Range, we'll ascend West Maroon Pass, cross the Elk Mountain Divide, then descend beneath the dramatic flanks of Maroon Bells and Pyramid Peak. This hike is easily Colorado's most spectacular wildflower adventure – the combination of lush vegetation, alpine tundra, and colorful geology are unrivaled. Transportation to the trailhead and from Aspen back to Crested Butte included. We'll grab a "to-go" meal (meal not included) on the return to Crested Butte via shuttle.

H62 Tuesday, 7/15

6am-10pm



David Kish

Lost Lake and Beckwith Pass

Luke Tembrock

\$100

Level: ♦ Advanced

Length: Approximately 8 miles with steep and rocky terrain

This scenic adventure travels through one of the largest aspen forests in North America and meanders through open parks of wildflowers before descending on the Cliff Creek trail to Horse Ranch Park. The meadows between Lost Lake and Beckwith Pass are filled with prime examples of Case's Corydalis, Oshá, and Corn Lily, wildflowers said to be emblematic of the West Elk mountains. Enjoy these species along with numerous other montane flowers along with excellent views of Marcelina Mountain, the Beckwith Mountains, the Ruby Range, and the Dyke Trail.

Please note: event time includes a 30-min drive to trailhead; we will drop cars at Horse Ranch Park and carpool to Lost Lake, then reverse at the end. Please plan to use your vehicle.

H19 Sunday, 7/13

7:45am-2:45pm



Steve Vinciguerra

Poverty Gulch & Daisy Pass

Molly Murfee

\$100

Level: ♦♦ Expert

Length: 6-8+ miles with very steep, rocky, uneven and exposed terrain

Bring sandals/river shoes for creek crossings.

This adventure has it all! Waterfalls around every corner. Wildflowers of every variety blanketing steep hillsides. Dramatic mountain views extending for miles from the Maroon Bells to Scarp Ridge. We'll travel from Poverty Gulch to the top of Daisy Pass and take in the views of the mountains surrounding the Oh-Be-Joyful valley. It's a hiking experience you won't forget. *Note: event time includes a 30-min drive to trailhead.*

H10 Saturday, 7/12

7:45am-3:45pm

The Ruby of the Rockies

Krista Hildebrandt

\$100

Level: ■♦ Intermediate-Advanced

Length: 3-5 miles with rocky, steep and uneven terrain

This hike is referred to in the trail guide as "classic and unique," and for good reason. It skirts the grandiose rock "Dyke" outcrop of the Ruby Range as it weaves and winds through one of North America's largest aspen forests. A wonderful selection of flowers can be seen here, including a few not present in other areas around Crested Butte. *Note: event time includes a 30-min drive to trailhead.*

H51 Saturday, 7/19

7:45am-1:45pm

Rustler's Gulch

Laura Johnston/Molly Murfee

\$100

Level: ♦ Advanced-Expert

Length: 5-6 miles with steep, rocky terrain, mud, and creek crossings.

River shoes/sandals required.

One of our favorite hikes through meadows and pine forest to a beautiful alpine basin. A plethora of waist-high flowers and elusive beauties abound, including Monkey Flower, Parry's Primrose, and Bog Orchid. A variety of rushing water distinguishes this trail and establishes a habitat rich with riparian flora. Be prepared for water crossings! *Note: event time includes 30-min drive to trailhead.*

H11 Saturday, 7/12 7:45am-4pm

Laura Johnston

H22 Monday, 7/14 7:45am-4pm

Molly Murfee

Scarp Ridge

Molly Murfee

\$100

Level: ♦ Advanced-Expert

Length: 4 miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

Join us for this incredible hike above Lake Irwin. You'll traverse across wildflower-covered hillsides and climb above treeline to reach one of the most spectacular ridges in the Elk Mountains. The views include six 14,000 ft. peaks and one of the most abundant and diverse displays of wildflowers in the Gunnison Valley, often including masses of Alpine Sunflowers. *Note: event time includes 30-min drive to trailhead; four-wheel drive needed*

H29 Tuesday, 7/15

7:30am-2pm

H45 Friday, 7/18

7:45am-1:45pm

Wildflowers & Waterfalls in the Oh-Be-Joyful Valley

Jeff Delaney/Molly Murfee

\$100

Level: ♦ Advanced

Length: 6+ miles with steep, rocky, and uneven terrain

Join this spectacular hike through the Oh-Be-Joyful valley!

You'll encounter gorgeous wildflower filled fields, beaver ponds, and waterfalls as we make our way towards the high alpine meadows and basins below Blue Lake. Multiple water crossings along the way. River shoes/sandals required.

H06 Friday, 7/11

7:45am-2:45pm

Molly Murfee

H39 Thursday, 7/17

7:45am-2:45pm

Jeff Delaney



Laurel Moore



WILDFLOWER *festival*

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The Crested Butte Wildflower Festival is an equal opportunity service provider and operated under a special use permit in the Gunnison National Forest.