

## **New York Botanical Gardens Online Class**

Leaf and Grass Floral Techniques

Design Instructor: Trish O'Sullivan

### **Floral Design Materials Summary**

Welcome designers,

When selecting flowers aim for a balanced composition using the **four key floral design elements: focal, complementary, accent flowers and botanical material.**

#### **1. Focal leaves ( Floral Sculpture )**

Leaves create the structure for the arrangement.

- 10 stems aspidstria leaves
- 10 to 20 stems grass ( bear grass, lily grass- any slender tall grass)
- 10 stems fresh green tulip leaves from **1bunch of long tulips**- keep leaves on tulips until class
- 3 small monstera leaves
- 10 stems fern

#### **2. Complementary Flowers (Adds Volume and Depth)**

Flowers create depth.

- 1 bunch chamomile
- 5 to 10 stems waxflower

#### **3. Accent Material (Adds Movement & Interest – Unique or Textured Blooms)**

Flowers give the design a personal touch, creating interest.

- 5 to 10 stems of pansies

#### **4. Botanical Material (The Supporting Cast – Adds Texture & Completes Design)**

These botanical materials balance the design, frame the flowers, and set the design style.

- 5 to 10 stems Pussy Willow

#### **5. Vase Choices**

Select a **glass** vase, considering the **size of the opening** to ensure proper stem support and proportion for the arrangement. Here are some commonly used vases:

- **Size Options & Opening:**
  - **Small:** 4" diameter (Opening: 4")
  - **Medium:** 5" diameter (Opening: 5")