

The New York Botanical Garden

Teacher: Trish O'Sullivan

Online Floral Design Class **FDN3700**

The Art of Sunflowers: Floral Design Inspired by Vincent Van Gogh

10am-12pm

Hi Designers,

Thank you for joining NYBG in our presentation of The Art of Sunflowers: Floral Design inspired by Vincent Van Gogh. Please find the list of floral, herbal and botanical materials to consider. One week before Online class, I will send you the list of materials I will be purchasing for the creation of floral art.

The class is fun and easy to follow with time for question and answer... ensuring a beautiful design with your personal touch. The tricks and tips of the trade in keeping your arrangement fresh and long-lasting will be discussed.

Please contact me at tosullivanfloraldesign@gmail.com with any questions.

See you all soon for our adventure in floral design.

Trish

The Art of Sunflowers: Floral Design Inspired by Vincent Van Gogh The list offered is a general guideline. You are the designer... add or substitute as you wish.

Container: There is no limit in the choice of container. Use everything & any object as long as it holds water with an opening between 4" to 5" wide. When designing with sunflowers a sturdy and balanced container is needed, for sunflower heads are heavy. Check out trishosullivanandesign.com for great ideas in repurposed containers. **The trick of great design is a container with an opening no larger than 5"- I use 4" to 5".**

List of Floral Materials and Floral Supply Sources

Floral Material: Trader Joes, Whole Foods, Costco, Supermarkets, Farmers Market

Floral Supplies: Jamali Garden in-store or online at jamaligarden.com,

Michaels in-store or online at Michaels.com

Design Tools:

Please fill the container $\frac{3}{4}$ with cool water

1 roll of clear $\frac{1}{2}$ " florist tape or any strong scotch tape

2 dozen Green Florist Wires, your choice of gauge 18 to 22

Cotton rag or paper towel

Floral clippers, knife, **wire cutter**, scissors

Bouquet Ingredients Breakdown

When selecting flowers from a store-bought bouquet, aim for a balanced composition using the **three key floral elements: focal flowers, complementary flowers, and accent flowers.**

1. Focal Flowers (The Showstoppers – Large, Eye-Catching Blooms)

These flowers create the centerpiece of the arrangement and draw the most attention.

- **Examples:**
 - Sunflower Large head, your choice of color
 - Sunflower Medium to Small head, your choice of color

2. Complementary Flowers (Adds Volume and Depth)

These flowers create depth and spotlight focal flowers.

- **Examples:**
 - Cushion or Button Mums
 - Solid Aster

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

These flowers give the design a personal touch, creating interest.

- **Examples:**
 - Peppers Small yellow or orange
 - Hypericum Berries Brown
 - Kale Purple

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

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

- **Examples:**
 - Vines and Ivy
 - Curly Willow Thin Branches or Tips
 - Sedum

Vase Choices

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

3. Ceramic, Metal Urn or Compote Container (Elegant Modern Garden)

- **Size Options & Opening:**
 - **Small:** 5" diameter (Opening: 4-5")
 - **Medium:** 8" diameter (Opening: 6-7")
- **Best for:** Soft, rounded arrangements, casual or romantic styles

2. Square Vase (Contemporary & Compact)

- **Size Options & Opening:**
 - **Small:** 4" x 4" x 4" (Opening: 3.5-4")
 - **Medium:** 5" x 5" x 5" (Opening: 4-5")
 - **Large:** 6" x 6" x 6" (Opening: 5-6")
- **Best for:** Tight, compact arrangements, modern aesthetics

1. Cylinder Vase (Classic & Versatile)

- **Size Options & Opening:**
 - **Short:** 4" x 4" (Opening: 3-4")
 - **Medium:** 6" x 4" (Opening: 4-5")
 - **Tall:** 10" x 4" (Opening: 4-5")
- **Best for:** Structured arrangements, tall stems, modern or minimalist designs