

# **CARPATHIA WORKSHOP IN SCIENTIFIC BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION JULY 8-14, 2026**

## *A call for applications*

The successful applicants shall be English-speaking students of botany and/or environmental science aged between 18 and 80 fit enough to walk up and down hills in the heat. You shall be a permanent resident in one of the following countries bordered by the Carpathian Mountains: Poland, Czech Republic, Austria, Slovakia, Ukraine, Serbia, Hungary, Moldova and Romania. You are expected to show a knowledge of plants and an aptitude for drawing by hand in your application. If you are not a permanent resident in one of these countries, please do not apply. This workshop is not for complete beginners in botanical illustration.

The workshop will be held in the village of Copșa Mare, a tiny farming settlement in the Greater Târnava Valley in Romania, home of the Transylvania school of botanic art & illustration. The workshop shall be limited to just six students. Under the guidance of their tutors, students shall identify and collect, press, label and illustrate in pen & ink plants found growing in the farmed grassland above the village.

The workshop will last for 5 full days, with students and tutors gathering in the afternoon of Day 1, followed by 5 days of study, with departure on the morning of Day 7. The cost for students will be EUR985 for the stay. This fee covers tuition, food and accommodation. Students shall prepare (and clear away) their meals together, with simple and nourishing local ingredients we shall provide. Students may be required to share a room and a bathroom. The fee does not cover alcohol, travel to and from Copșa Mare (the nearest railway stations are in Mediaș & Sighișoara, the nearest airport in Sibiu), drawing materials such as pens and paper, and any travel & health insurance you may wish to buy.

If your application is accepted, we shall ask you for a EUR400 non-refundable deposit to secure your place, payable by February 15, 2026, with the balance of EUR585 payable no later than May 15, 2026.

### **Our 2026 Tutors**

**Mihaela Sava** is a classically educated botanist and the creator/curator of the school's grassland flora herbarium.

**Deborah Lambkin** is the winner of the 2020 Margaret Flockton Award for her illustration of the new orchid species *Gastrodia agnicellus*, named partly in her honour. Deborah is the official orchid artist of the Royal Horticultural Society.

If you would like to apply, please send an email introducing yourself and attaching your formal CV and some hi-resolution images of your hand drawn illustrations. Deadline for submissions is October 1, 2025. We shall announce the successful applicants in December 2025.

For more details about the school and its work, please visit our website given below.

**Transylvania school of botanic art & illustration**

[www.podart.space](http://www.podart.space) | [@podartspace](https://www.instagram.com/podartspace)

**Please send your applications to [james.decandole@outlook.com](mailto:james.decandole@outlook.com)**

December 2024