



# Colorful Leaves A Coloring Book of Artwork from Nature

*Gail Selfridge*

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If you want to create botanical art either for yourself or as part of an educational program but are unsure of how to start, then the line drawings and color information in *Colorful Leaves* is for you.

Getting started requires an underlying image. *Colorful Leaves* combines color inspiration from nature with a selection of reproducible and/or transferrable preliminary line drawings. There is also information on how to develop scientifically accurate line drawings from materials found in your own neighborhood, a practice section with step-by-step illustrations matching colors found in nature to colors available in art materials, and a listing of all the colors/materials that were used to create the examples.

## **Using the Images in Colorful Leaves**

In addition to personal use *Colorful Leaves* can serve as a tool for introducing botanical art and illustration into a classroom setting or educational outreach program. There are several different methods for working with the line images:

1. Work can be done directly on the pages of the book (Exact Vellum Bristol) using crayons, colored pencils, and graphite pencils. For watercolors I recommend transferring the image to watercolor paper and to bleedproof paper for markers.
2. The images can be copied on a copy machine and coloring can be done on the copies. *Permission is given for making copies of these line drawings for personal use.*
3. Images can be transferred to suitable art paper on which the coloring is then done. This method preserves the original drawings, and images can be repeatedly transferred for experimenting with different papers and various techniques including colored pencils, watercolors, crayons, graphite pencils, markers, pen and ink.

*Colorful Leaves* is funded in part by a grant from the *American Society of Botanical Artists*.

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