



City Arts Center

Natural Dyes Program

Natural dyes are not only beautiful, they are gentle to the earth and to those who inhabit it. Today, these nontoxic, nonpolluting sources of color are being rediscovered by artists and artisans in a variety of techniques: quilting, knitting, crocheting, tapestry, clothing design and creation, paper making, book arts, basketry and weaving.

City Arts Center's **Natural Dyes Program**, is one of few such programs offered nationally in a community arts setting, gives both novices and experts the opportunity to explore this exciting creative process.

Our classes are geared to students of all levels.
No previous experience required!

City Arts Center
3000 General Pershing Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73107



What are natural dyes?

Natural dyes are dyes made from plants (leaves, bark, wood chips, roots, berries, flowers), insects or minerals, that yield a tantalizing array of colors, from indigo blue to the rich red of madder root to the deep gold of osage orange.

How permanent are natural dyes?

The dyes we use at CAC are amongst the most light fast and colorfast of all the natural dyes: indigo (blues), madder (brick red), cochineal (fuschia), onion skins (golden brown), osage orange (yellow) and logwood grey (grey to black). Prior to the 1850's, all dyes used were from natural sources. From the cave paintings of Lascaux to the European tapestries of the Middle Ages, everything was created with natural dyes and pigments.

Why use natural dyes?

Natural dyes are an ecological alternative to synthetic dyes. Natural dyes may be used on any natural fiber, including cotton, wool, silk, paper, or reed. They work equally well on fabric, fleece or yarn.





Natural Dye Workshops

Our classes are geared to students of all levels.
No previous experience needed!

Scarf Party

Wear the Beauty of Nature

Use eco-friendly natural dyes to create brilliant colors on gossamer silk scarves for summer, or plush velvet scarves for winter. Participants will each dye two scarves to take home.



Natural Dye Day

for Knitters and Weavers

Dye yarn designed for a future project in the beautiful colors of a seasonal palette. Take home an array of colorful yarns ready to weave or knit.

Rainbow of Color

Join us as we create a rainbow of vibrant colors on silk cloth while learning an easy immersion dye technique. Participants will dye and take home a packet of color samples and a rainbow scarf.

Pattern on Cloth

Clamp it, stitch it, tie it, twist it and dye it!
Explore a range of techniques for resist-dyeing fabric and discover the intricate patterns that emerge when you unbind the cloth.
Create a collection of fabric squares exemplifying each technique.

Earth Painting

Get down to earth! Start with colorful pigments made from rocks, minerals and earth. Add soy milk and enjoy a fun ecological method of painting, printing and stenciling on fabric.

Indigo T's

Indigo is an ancient and magical dye process and very beginner friendly. Bring a T-shirt to dip in indigo and watch it turn to blue before your eyes! Learn how to make a multitude of patterns using clothespins, rubber bands, wood blocks and string.



Family Dye Days: Art for All Ages!

We offer dye workshops especially designed for international groups. Moms, kids, dads, grandparents, scout groups and youth groups: come make your mess with us!



ALL CLASSES HELD AT
City Arts Center
951.0000
3000 General Pershing Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73107
www.cityartscenter.org

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST
Send your email or mailing address to
eliawoods@cox.net for updates on classes.

A special thank you to our sponsors

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