A New Portrait' Awarded

Inspired by the Linnean Society’s new acquisition (right) by historic botanical artist John Tyley, we asked budding artists to create self-portraits alongside historic botanical portraits, to generate new (realistic) portraits for the Linnean Society. We received many gorgeous portraits in a variety of styles from across the world, and on 22 March 2022 the staff at the Society awarded 11-year-old Emily from Hampshire 1st Place for the New Portrait Competition. Congratulations to Emily!

The Linnean Society is home to over 2,400 watercolours and thousands of drawings and prints of plants, with our own precious reference thorns. Send us your creations, and they might be featured on our dedicated website!

Activity suggestion

We are big fans of pressed plants, with our own precious collection dating back to the 1700s. Herbarium sheets capture multiple ‘moments’ you might have captured of the same plant as it springs to life & moves through thick clouds, casting shadows over them. When you leave your car engine running, they mutter when you leave it, they cry as you run through fields, and sing when the sun breaks through the curtains.

Imagining a world where plants can speak, and therefore, give to plants? What value does the average person give to plants?

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