

## HOW CAN I TAKE THIS COURSE?

**Blackbird's Daughter Botanicals Sacred Gaian Herbalism Apprenticeship Program** is an interactive, ecologically and spiritually based herbal educational community, designed to offer in-depth herbal education and meaningful connection to the Planet. As **Herbkin** - our inclusive term for all people connected through our work with the healing plants- we pride ourselves on learning together in an academically intense, collaborative, and welcoming environment. Together we learn to embody herbalism in ways that support us as individuals, as a learning community, and as inhabitants of a quickly changing world, through study, ritual, projects, and hands-on experience tending our school apothecary, herb gardens, and **United Plant Savers Botanical Sanctuary**.

We offer the complete program in 12 3-month modules, which you may register and pay for all at once or on a semester-to-semester basis, and which you may participate in as your interest and circumstances allow. Tuition is income based. The more people who learn this form of herbalism, while respecting the mission of the school, as well as their own boundaries, abilities, and time constraints, the stronger, healthier, and more sustainable our communities become.

Not everyone will take the whole 3 year course, nor is it expected.

For those students who wish to become professional herbalists and are looking for a rigorous, academic experience grounded in deep ecology, spirituality, and the art and history of herbalism, **THIS IS IT**.

For those looking to learn herbalism as a hobby and are seeking a supportive community of learners, we also have options for you.

**Read below to determine which level of apprenticeship suits your life best.**

**Enroll as a Certificate-Track Apprentice**- available virtually and in person. Includes full access to all learning opportunities, activities, and groups, including Collaborative Learning Pods and the virtual Cohort Cauldron, discounts at multiple herbal businesses, 10% off at our Apothecary, and discounted mentorship, wellness sessions, coaching, and attendance at classes and events, including intensives (attendance at events is free if you are assisting as part of your practicum hours). Each semester, apprentices are expected to attend all 6 classes,\* 5 Collaborative Learning sessions, and an Open Apothecary Day (if in person), to actively participate in the online Cauldron, and to complete all readings, activities, and assignments, and 24 practicum hours. Includes End of Year Celebration. Requires registration and acceptance to the program. Attendance of prior semesters or similar experiences encouraged.

Successful participation results in a Certificate of Completion for the semester (see rubric). Apprentices who complete all 12 semesters receive a Diploma that marks them as a Graduate of the 3-year Sacred Gaian Herbalism Apprenticeship Program. Cost is \$700 per semester.

**In person apprentices** attend full day learning sessions which include a mix of class time and practicum hours in the garden, apothecary, etc.

**Virtual apprentices** attend six live virtual 3-hour classes, and conduct practicum hours at Blackbird's Daughter or in their own communities through such activities as remedy-making, wildcrafting, digital projects, participating in community gardens, etc.

\*Students may miss one class and make it up privately at a cost of \$65/hour before the end of the semester if they wish to receive a Certificate of Completion.

**Sit In on a Semester (audit)** - Includes access to all virtual classes, handouts, at-home explorations, and the Cohort Cauldron. Students are expected to attend all virtual classes. Participate in other activities (including in-person classes and practicum hours) as you are able, but you will not be assigned a Collaborative Learning Pod, nor expected to complete assignments. Should you wish to re-enroll in that semester at a later date as a certificate-track apprentice, you may do so at a reduced rate, though some activities may have changed. Requires registration and acceptance to the program. Attendance of prior semesters or similar experiences is encouraged. Students who sit in on a semester are welcome to attend the End of Year Celebration. Cost is \$700 per semester.

**Learn At Your Own Pace Packets** - explore a semester independently. Includes all course handouts, activities, and assignments for that semester. If that semester is offered in the 12 months after you purchase this option, you may sit in on as many classes as you wish. Cost is \$700 per semester.

**A la Carte Classes** - take a single class at a time. Sign up for individual classes at \$100 per class. No access to the Cohort Cauldron, collaborative learning, at home activities, handouts, etc. You are welcome to attend practicum hours on the day of the class if you wish. This option is open to the public; you do not need to fill out an application for the Program to attend a la carte classes.

**Herbal Mentorship** - 1-on-1 mentorship and private tutoring is available to students and the public. Cost is \$70 per hour, and \$40/hour for enrolled students.

*Please let us know if you need any accommodations and we will work to support you in your herbal learning!*