



Succulent Pumpkin Challenge and Raffle

October 25 to November 29, 2021

Hey MIIA friends! Sara is back! Do you need some decorating ideas for the fall? Join Sara Barrios for a Pre-Recorded workshop as she shows us how to turn a pumpkin into a living work of art! No carving needed, as freshly cut succulents and dried mosses sit on top of the pumpkin.

*A list of supplies for your creations is included below and Sara will show you in her video as well.

Here's our raffle opportunity for the video!

[View the video](#)

- Assemble your own succulent pumpkin.
- Send us a photo and your information form (below) by November 29, 2021 to Mary Harrington at mharrington@mma.org.
- Each name will be entered into our raffle. MIIA will randomly choose 5 lucky winners. Winners will be notified by Dec 6, 2021.
- Raffle prizes include a choice of:
 - [MIIA Gardener's kit](#)
 - [Felco pruning shears; item FELCO 6](#)
 - [\\$50 Duncraft Wild Bird Superstore](#)
 - [\\$50 Etsy gift card](#)
 - [\\$50 gift card to Michaels](#)
 - [\\$50 gift card to BIPOC owned Lukafit](#)

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Directions and guidelines:

- [View Sara's video.](#)
- Take a photo or 2 of your piece(s).
- Submit photo(s) and the completed information form on the next page by 5:00 pm November 29, 2021 to Mary Harrington at mharrington@mma.org.
- Only MIIA/BCBS members are eligible for the raffle.
- Raffle winners will be notified by 5:00 pm December 6, 2021.
- Raffle winners and photos will be posted in our e-newsletter with permission.

Supplies for Succulent Pumpkin:

- Small to medium size pumpkin or gourd, with a flatter top
- Sharp pair of clippers
- Aleene's tacky glue
- Aleene's tacky spray adhesive
- Handful of spagnum moss
- Assorted colored dried mosses such as reindeer, Spanish and forest mosses
- Assorted succulents such as sempervivum, echeveria, sedums, string of pearls
- Optional – dried botanicals such as seeded eucalyptus, preserved ferns, mini lotus pods
- A simple wooden dowel about 4-6"
- Disposable shallow vessel to house glue in, such as a baking cup
- Paper towels

Sara's tips:

- Choose mosses and succulents which have different textures and contrasting shades.
- Mosses and glues are available at Michael's craft store.
- Succulents can be always found at your local garden center. Box stores too if you hit them within 2 weeks of a fresh delivery, otherwise they get leggy and aren't properly cared for.
- Dish gardens with assorted succulents are a much better value than buying a bunch of 2". Also, a 4" pot with multiple plants (cuttings) is still a better value than individual 2" singles.
- Prep work – Cut succulents the night before to about 1-1/2" and allow the wound to dry overnight.
- How to care for your succulent pumpkin.
 - Once a week, fill a container with water, turn your pumpkin over and soak for about 3-5 seconds. The most important thing is to get the bed of spagnum moss wet underneath the succulents. This is how your succulents will hydrate themselves by rooting into the moss! Choose a bright area to display your pumpkin as succulents need a lot of light.
 - Once the pumpkin has naturally decomposed, the entire top can be removed and replanted into soil, or broken up into smaller pieces and planted. Then, water lightly every 2 weeks.

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Please complete this form. Attach the form and your photos to the email you send to Mary Harrington at mharrington@mma.org. Deadline is 5:00 pm November 29, 2021.

Personal information:

Name: _____ Employer: _____

MIIA/BCBS subscriber: ☐ Yes ☐ No Email: _____

Phone: _____ Mailing address: _____

If your name is pulled in our raffle, do you give permission to:

Use your first name and last initial in the newsletter and our website? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Use your photo(s) in the newsletter and our website? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Thank you for participating and for sending us your photos!

