

EDUCATION CORNER

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2nd Annual World Carnivorous Plant Day – a huge success.

World Carnivorous Plant Day (WCPD) was first brought to the attention of the ICPS Board of Directors in 2020 by Krzysztof Banaś of Poland. Krzysztof envisioned a day that brought carnivorous plants into the spotlight of public awareness and education. ICPS wanted to host it in the Northern Hemisphere spring to take advantage of the plants coming out of dormancy. We wanted to select a weekday to encourage schools and children to participate. We also needed to avoid the first Saturday in May, as that is World Naked Gardening Day which could be a dangerous combination with carnivorous plants.

We thank everyone who created content for this annual celebration of carnivorous plants. Here is the playlist which can be viewed on the ICPS YouTube channel and Facebook:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/CarnivorousplantsOrg1972/videos>

<https://www.facebook.com/InternationalCarnivorousPlantSociety/videos>

1. Happy 2nd Annual World Carnivorous Plant Day from around the world
2. Growing carnivorous plants in Australia by Rob Gibson
3. *Heliamphora* phylogeny and evolution by Sukuan Liu
4. Carnivorous plants of the Grampians National Park, Australia by Boaz Ng
5. Carnivorous plant care in a tropical environment by Brynt Christian Realubit Rodriguez, owner of Pet Plants Philippines
6. Calcium-imaging of the Venus flytrap by Hiraku Suda
7. *Nepenthes* nomenclature and breeding by Geoff Mansell of Exotica Plants
8. Growing carnivorous plants in Shanghai, China by G.H.
9. Ingenious traps - by Siggi & Irmgard Hartmeyer, Stephen E. Williams, Jan Schlauer, Simon Poppinga
10. Carnivorous plant taxonomy and why we should care by Aurélien Bour botanist & scientific curator at Nantes Botanical Garden
11. Captivated: The allure of carnivorous plants (2021) by Jonathan S. Kui
12. Creating carnívoras de Costa Rica by Marco Acuña
13. Unraveling the mystery of *Drosera afra*, and two new species of *Drosera* from South Africa by Alex Dietrick
14. *Drosera capensis* in the wild by Hendré Barnard
15. A comprehensive guide to *Cephalotus* by Anthony Cangemi
16. Lowland *Nepenthes* greenhouse tour and propagation by Manny Herrera
17. Lee's Botanical Gardens, reminiscing about a life with carnivorous plants by Bruce Bednar
18. Minnesota's carnivorous plants and conservation by David Remucal
19. Can *Byblis* be germinated solely by water? By John Ende
20. *Sarracenia* garden with cultivation tips by David Fefferman

21. Why everyone should grow carnivorous plants from seed by Damon Collingsworth
22. Using pitcher plants as model systems for ecological and environmental research and learning by Aaron Ellison
23. Growing *Heliamphora* by Rupert Corneliuss
24. *Darlingtonia* in Butterfly Valley by Kate Halpin
25. Australian carnivorous plant diversity by Greg Bourke
26. ICPS Annual Photo Contest

On World Carnivorous Plant Day, I posted the videos hourly. Last year and this year we had ten countries contribute to the main 24 videos which feature cultivation and conservation content. Participating countries included: Australia, China, Costa Rica, England, France, Germany, Japan, Poland, South Africa, and United States. All contributions were greatly welcomed.

One submission that stood out was Jonathan S. Kui's full length documentary, titled, "Captivated: The Allure of Carnivorous Plants (2021)", which follows the lives of four carnivorous plant growers over the course of one year. Another was Boaz Ng's "Carnivorous plants of the Grampians National Park, Australia". Ng's cinematography is on par with a David Attenborough-esque film. It makes me want to go out and explore wild carnivorous plants.

I received the most private messages saying Hiraku Suda's submission of "Calcium-imaging of the Venus flytrap" was astonishing. Sigi Hartmeyer said "Science at its best, visualizing the memory of the VFT. Congrats to all participants for this successful project."

Aside from ICPS's introduction compilation video, the most views of the 2022 set was for "Carnivorous plant care in a tropical environment" by Brynt Christian Realubit Rodriguez, owner of Pet Plants Philippines, which is in Filipino and dubbed in English.

If you want to participate next year, please contact kenny@carnivorousplants.org.

WCPD ended with our annual photo contest which was open to any ICPS member or anyone who follows our social media pages. Participants from twenty-one countries entered the contest.



Screen grab from the WCPD video "*Darlingtonia* in Butterfly Valley with Kate Halpin".

Annual Photo Contest Winners:



People and Plants: Boaz Ng, *Utricularia dichotoma* x *oppositiflora*.



Plants in the Wild: Zachary Lim, *Pinguicula primuliflora* growing on a stump within a creek in central Georgia, USA.

Thank you, Stéphane Joly, Krzysztof Banaś, and Phillip Bernie for being the judges this year. We are excited to announce that the winners of this year's contest will serve as the judges for next year's photo contest.

Start photographing your plants now to enter in next year's photo contest. Each winner receives a 1-year membership to ICPS.

From Richard Nunn, President ICPS

The ICPS is very pleased with the momentum building around WCPD. In this, only our second year, we have seen an increase in the content and participation, and we are very happy with the number of countries with representation. WCPD is a key platform for helping the ICPS become a more international society, we are very aware that there are many members of the global CP community outside of our traditional English-speaking markets and this vehicle in an important way to connect with them. In a divided world, it was very heartening to see the joy and community spirit evident in the opening welcome video montage.

Over time we expect the event to increase in popularity as more people become aware and the quality of our video content is recognized as it is disseminated through open access platforms.

New content for 2022

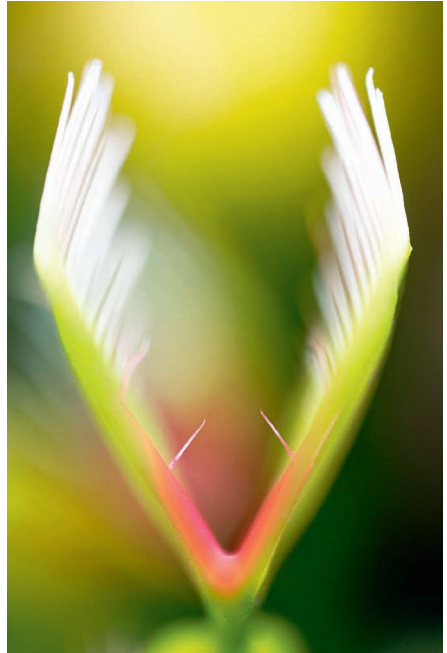
With a lot of information available about cultivation and conservation of carnivorous plants, one of the aims as Education Director for ICPS is to provide a premium education service to our members. In 2022, we added monthly webinars. To view the topic, speaker, and link for the monthly virtual webinars, sign into <https://icps.clubexpress.com/>. ICPS members can attend these sessions live to interact and ask questions of the experts. If you are unable to attend, the recording of the webinars can be viewed by members and non-members on the ICPS Facebook page and YouTube page about a week after the live event. If you have a suggestion for a topic or presenter, contact kenny@carnivorousplants.org.

In addition, we are holding monthly happy hours to serve as a digital pub where ICPS members can discuss problems and come up with solutions for growing of carnivorous plants. Recently, with so much great information shared, including field sightings, our happy hours have been turning into happy two-hours.

I am also creating content for those wanting to start to grow carnivorous plants or learn about their workings. As part of this initiative, I wrote five animated videos prior to World Carnivorous Plant Day. The topics cover:

What are Carnivorous Plants?

How to Grow Carnivorous Plants Indoors



Plant Portrait: Nicolas Bogaert, A regular Venus flytrap in my own collection, in my peatbog.

How to Grow Carnivorous Plants Outdoors
How to Acclimate Carnivorous Plants to Your Home
How to Feed Indoor Venus flytraps



John Brittnacher and Richard Nunn edited the scripts. I then submitted them to an animation studio in Canada providing notes for a storyboard. Once the storyboard was approved, animators spent a few weeks on each of the five videos. After several edits and about 6 months, the videos were released on the ICPS YouTube and Facebook channels the week prior to WCPD. We hope you enjoy them and share them with your friends!

By the end of this year, I would like to create more materials that can be used in the classroom. In August, we will be holding our second annual Carnivores in the Classroom Grant for teachers in public and private schools around the world to add carnivorous plants in their teaching space to get kids excited about botany and these well adapted plants.



All education initiatives are funded by generous donations through <https://www.carnivorousplants.org/donate> or by purchasing World Carnivorous Plant Day or ICPS merchandise at <https://world-carnivorous-plant-day.creator-spring.com/> All links are available through our website: [carnivorousplants.org](https://www.carnivorousplants.org).