

The Wolfeboro Historical Society is sponsoring a Victorian Nosegay/Tussie Mussie Workshop presented by Deborah Long-Smith, President of the Wolfeboro Garden Club, at Clark Museum on June 12, 2021. The program will explore the origins of the expression “Say it with flowers!” and teach you about the language of flowers.

A tussie mussie is a nosegay of herbs and flowers originally created for its pleasant scents and aromas that gradually became a way to express special sentiments using the language of flowers. A practical reason for carrying a nose gay was to cover offensive smells emanating from unwashed bodies and smells from the street.

An article in the Granite State dated May 9, 1887, pointed out that: “During the entire of the last warm season people passing along some of our streets were obliged to hold their breath because of the intolerable stench proceeding from these places.” Source: Q.David Bowers, *History of Wolfeboro*.

The popularity of tussie mussies swelled during the Victorian era. Proper Victorians avoided expressing feelings in public and instead exchanged flowers that held an elaborate coded message. In modern times, brides are carrying hand held bouquets which are much larger versions of tussie mussies .

The program cost is \$15 which includes the history, an exploration of flowers and their symbolic meaning talk, and an opportunity to create a fresh tussie mussie to take home using the supplies provided. Deadline for registration: June 10, 2021. Pre-registration is required. Space is limited to 15 participants. Email Deborah Long-Smith at [dls@fullcircleflowers.com](mailto:dls@fullcircleflowers.com). Date: Saturday, June 12, 2021; Time: from 10:00 am to noon; Place: Clark Museum, South Main St., Wolfeboro.

<mailto:dls@fullcircleflowers.com>