

## **Death's Head Hawkmoth Pinning Class- SUNDAY 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**2 hrs**

### **Class Description:**

Learn the art and technique behind insect preservation in this beginner-friendly, hands-on class hosted by Silver Moon Curiosities. Join us as we explore the beautiful *Acherontia atropos*, commonly known as the *Death's Head Hawkmoth*. This unique skull-patterned moth is often recognized from the film, "Silence of the Lambs".

In this class, you will learn about the art of entomology as you are guided through the process involved in manipulating a real moth for display. You will then be given all the guidance necessary to successfully mount your moth in a provided shadow box frame at home once dried (about one week). This evening will include;

- A brief history of the species along with its taxonomy, anatomy, and distribution.
- An introduction to all the materials required for insect pinning.
- A discussion about how your moth was treated prior to class to prepare it to be pinned into position (and how to do this on your own for butterflies and moths in the future).
- Step-by-step guidance through the entire process of manipulating your moth while preserving its structural integrity and beauty.
- An overview of the unpinning and mounting process once your moth has dried into position.
- Information about sourcing specimens in the future (in case this becomes a new addiction).
- Important information for the longevity of your moth.

This class will also include access to the Silver Moon Curiosities digital insect pinning course to take home and use as a refresher whenever you need it. You will be able to skip ahead to review the unpinning and mounting process when you are ready to frame your finished moth.

### **Materials included:**

- One real Death's Head Hawkmoth
- Insect Pinning Kit, including a foam board, spade tweezers, vellum paper, and stainless steel entomology pins.
- One pre-matted 8x8" shadowbox frame for display
- Access to the digital version of the class, "The Complete Guide to Pinning Butterflies".

### **Additional information:**

This class is appropriate for learners ages 12 and up.

While you are welcome to take notes, this class is designed to keep your focus on enjoying the process of playing with bugs rather than writing! All the information discussed will be available within the digital class provided as a take-home.

One ticket allows one seat. Unfortunately we cannot accommodate spectators in this class. Parents of minors will need to be present only at check-in with their learner

Photographs are encouraged, especially if you share them with your instructor.

\*Please note: Moths are known to carry the same joint protein as shellfish. Learners with shellfish sensitivities will have an option to wear gloves if this is a concern.

**About your instructor:**

Your instructor for this class is Kristin Silver. The owner and artist behind Silver Moon Curiosities, Kristin has a fifteen-year history in art education with both children and adults. For eight years, she has been creating artistically curated entomology displays that focus on the simple beauty of insects. Her goal is for everyone to enjoy trying something new and hopefully gain a new appreciation for the fascinating creatures of the insect world.