

For Immediate Release  
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## **The *Holiday Train Show* Returns with New Replicas of the Original Yankee Stadium and Historic Hudson Valley Landmarks**

**Saturday, November 19, 2005 through Sunday, January 8, 2006**

The holiday season is full of family traditions, and the *Holiday Train Show* is one of the most eagerly anticipated. The wonderful and impressive collection of landmark replicas along winding train tracks returns to The New York Botanical Garden on November 19, 2005, with many familiar favorites from seasons past and some spectacular additional structures to amaze audiences anew. Beloved by people of all ages, the popular exhibition will be on display in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory through January 8, 2006. Added to this year's show will be brand new renditions of historic Hudson Valley landmarks as well as a replica of one of the nation's most renowned sports arenas—the original “House That Ruth Built,” Yankee Stadium.

Using a multitude of diverse natural materials such as leaves, twigs, bark, berries, pinecones, gourds, cinnamon sticks, and other botanical resources, the show's designer, Paul Busse, and his team at Applied Imagination, have handcrafted a number of detailed replicas of historic landmarks. Garden-gauge model railway trains and trolleys enliven meticulously crafted scenes, chug across rustic bridges, including a 25-foot-long overhead trestle, and pass waterfalls that cascade into flowing creeks. Streetcars travel across bridges and disappear into tunnels, then reappear across the terrain, which covers more than 6,000 square feet.

**Yankee Stadium**, built in 1923, is one of the most famous American ballparks. The home of one of the most winning franchises in sports history, the stadium has been the site of many legendary athletic achievements by the likes of Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Phil Rizzuto, Whitey Ford, Yogi Berra, Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, and more. The classic stadium, which underwent later redesigns and renovations, will soon be replaced by a modern arena nearby, but the lovingly detailed *Holiday Train Show* structure forever captures the original ballpark etched in the collective memories of New Yorkers and baseball fans throughout the world.

Other new structures this year include some of the most eye-catching landmarks along the Hudson River Valley, rich in history and full of extraordinary examples of architectural and landscape design. Visitors will see reproductions of:

- **Van Cortlandt Manor House** (1748), at the confluence of the Croton and Hudson Rivers in Croton-on-Hudson, a sandstone, granite, and brick house that was the center of the agricultural, milling, and shipping empire of the most prosperous branch of the Van Cortlandt family.
- **Montgomery Place** (1804–1805), a house museum set in a 434-acre estate in Annandale-on-Hudson, an intact historical landscape with a strong connection to mid-nineteenth-century landscape history and to Andrew Jackson Downing, the famous horticulturalist, nurseryman, and landscape and architectural theorist. The open pavilion on the north side, with its high arcade articulated by engaged Corinthian columns and framing wide views of the river, is unique in American architecture.

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- **Lyndhurst** (1838–1865), in Tarrytown, the quintessential American Gothic Revival house and one of the finest traditional estate landscapes in America. Despite its Gothic seriousness and its almost ecclesiastical quality, Lyndhurst was built as a weekend and summer house, a rural retreat for New Yorkers.
- **Olana** (1870–1891), in Columbia County, a monument to the Aesthetic Movement, a massive limestone rubble building with three towers, designed by the great American landscape painter Frederic Edwin Church in collaboration with the architect Calvert Vaux. The view is among the most celebrated in North America.
- **Kykuit** (1906–1913), the Rockefeller estate in Pocantico Hills in Westchester County, set on the highest point of the property purchased by John D. Rockefeller, Sr., with sweeping views of the Hudson River and the Palisades, surrounded by magnificent gardens.

The new structures will join previously built Hudson Valley structures, including Boscobel, Washington Irving’s Sunnyside, Philipsburg Manor Upper Mills, Wave Hill, the Jurst-Pierrepont Estate, and Highland Gardens, as well as other iconic and familiar sights: the Brooklyn Bridge, New York’s City Hall, the Apollo Theater, the Statue of Liberty, Radio City Music Hall, the Empire State Building, and many more, all made of plant parts.

The *Holiday Train Show* will stretch across two galleries of the Conservatory in a reproduction of natural landscapes—rivers, waterfalls, wooded mountains—all showcasing the spectacular representations of New York’s skyline, landmark buildings, skyscrapers, historic homes and townhouses, and other famous structures in New York.

The holiday season at the Botanical Garden is full of events for the whole family. Children can enjoy *Gingerbread Adventures* in the Everett Children’s Adventure Garden and the Holiday Puppet Theater presentations of *The Little Engine That Could* in the Arthur and Janet Ross Lecture Hall. The Shop in the Garden will offer a wide selection of superb holiday gifts and large-gauge holiday train sets, starter sets, and train toys for sale. In addition, the Shop will have an outdoor, large-gauge train display, along with model train experts on hand every weekend. The Snowdrop Queen and Evergreen King will delight and inspire with tales from the plant kingdom and lead the Winter Garden Parade weekend afternoons. Adults can experience a variety of spectacular exhibitions: *Glasshouse Winter Flowers* in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, *Flowers by Redouté*, *Artist for an Empire* in the William D. Rondina and Giovanni Foroni LoFaro Gallery of the LuEsther T. Mertz Library, and *Plants and Fungi: Ten Current Research Stories* in the new Nathaniel Lord Britton Rotunda and Elizabeth Britton Gallery.

Guests continue to visit the Bronx every holiday season to be charmed by the lights, the intricately detailed structures made entirely of plant parts, and the trains running along a thousand feet of track, making the *Holiday Train Show* one of the most magical annual attractions in the New York area.

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The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road.  
**HOLIDAY HOURS:** November 19–January 8, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Tuesday–Sunday and Monday holidays. The Botanical Garden is open on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2. The Botanical Garden is closed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, and closes at 3 p.m. on December 9 and December 24.

**Off-Peak Pricing:** Tuesday–Thursday through December 22: Adults \$13, Seniors/Students \$11, Children \$5.

**Peak Pricing:** Weekends Friday–Sunday through December 18 and every day Monday–Sunday December 23 through January 8: Adults \$16, Seniors/Students \$14, Children \$5.

To purchase tickets, order online at [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org) or call 800.965.4827. For more information, visit our Web site or call 718.817.8700.

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