



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

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Enjoy the Glorious Return of Spring at The New York Botanical Garden Exciting Season of Colors, Scents, Exhibitions, and Events Runs April to June 2010

The New York Botanical Garden heralds the new season with a variety of attractions at the Garden from April to June. Visitors to the Botanical Garden can partake in a rich, multi-sensory experience of floral delights, both outdoors and indoors, enjoying emerging flowers around the grounds as well as exhibitions, programs, and events. This year's rich spring offerings include a multitude of flowering trees and plants throughout the Garden's historic 250-acre landscape, a new exhibition celebrating the life, gardens, and poetry of Emily Dickinson, and an abundance of programming including tours, demonstrations, workshops, and much more.



The outdoor attractions at the Botanical Garden are the perfect antidotes for spring fever, a grand pageant of spring's flowering sequence in settings that range from expansive, wide-open hillsides and valleys to the carefully designed gardens and landscapes brimming with plants from around the world. Guests can enjoy a rainbow of colors, from flowering magnolia, cherry, magnolia, and crabapple trees to magnificent springtime favorites like tulips, daffodils, azaleas, and more.

Waves of Color from the Rock Garden to Flowering Trees

The Rock Garden displays thousands of colorful alpine plants, many grown from seeds, from flowers of mountainous regions throughout the world, including specimens from six of the seven continents. A sparkling stream flows past primroses and woodland blossoms to a flower-rimmed pond.

The Botanical Garden has one of the largest collections of daffodils in the United States, with daffodils stretching across the Liasson Narcissus Collection, sweeping up Daffodil Hill, and bordering Daffodil Walk.

Elsewhere, along the landscaped paths, under the specimen trees, and in the garden beds, waves of colorful minor bulbs—chionodoxas, crocuses, scilla, and many more—break the drabness of winter's memory with intense splashes of color. Witch-hazels and early flowering shrubs and trees add their own touches of unusual shapes, colors, and fragrances.

As spring progresses, the Botanical Garden's superb collections of flowering trees and shrubs provide bolder strokes of color and more pronounced fragrances. Flowering cherries—including wonderful specimens interplanted among the mature pines, firs, and spruces in the historic Arthur and Janet Ross Conifer Arboretum—are in peak flower during late April. The month of April brings to flower a variety of Asian and American magnolias, leading into May, when lilacs and crabapples begin to flower. The azalea and rhododendron collections infuse vivid hues of many colors into seven acres of woodland.

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Waves of flowers roll across the 250 acres of the Botanical Garden as spring unfolds. Visitors revel in spring's return as buds unfurl on the ancient trees of New York City's largest remaining tract of native forest and spring rain swells the waterfall in the City's only freshwater river.

Internationally renowned Dutch garden designers Piet Oudolf and Jacqueline van der Kloet collaborated in 2009 to create a custom, four-season installation on Seasonal Walk. The two design stars teamed up to design Seasonal Walk to feature many spring and summer-blooming bulbs, anchored by flowering perennials and ornamental grasses, a number of which are Piet Oudolf introductions.

Gardens and Plant Collections Provide Inspiration

Many of the individual gardens and plant collections, such as the Ladies' Border and the Jane Watson Irwin Perennial Garden, provide a showcase for unusual plants and how to use them in the garden. The Home Gardening Center is a wonderful resource for visitors to see hot new plants and great old favorites, learn time-saving techniques to make their home gardens more beautiful and more manageable, gather ideas for creative design for gardens and landscapes, and obtain solutions for common problems and answers to many gardening questions. Elsewhere on the grounds, beds of peonies, both herbaceous and tree, and beds of irises contribute further vivid displays in May.

In the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden, children help prepare the garden, planting flower and vegetable seeds, composting, and digging for worms in the fresh soil. The Everett Children's Adventure Garden provides young visitors with the chance to explore nature and go on a spring scavenger hunt.

Late spring through the month of June is dominated by the exuberant flowering and distinctive fragrance of roses. The Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, a dramatic design nestled in a verdant valley, provides gorgeous vistas and an encyclopedia of rose varieties, both heritage and modern.

Celebrate the Poetry of Spring

Experience one of America's most treasured poets as never before in *Emily Dickinson's Garden: The Poetry of Flowers*. Enjoy a magnificent array of daisies, roses, tulips, lilacs, daylilies, and dozens of other flowers that inspired many of Dickinson's poems. Learn about her life, her garden, and her writings. The New York Botanical Garden will present readings of all of Dickinson's poetry on the opening weekend during The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. *Emily Dickinson's Garden: The Poetry of Flowers* is co-presented with the Poetry Society of America. Tour her Victorian home and garden re-created in the Conservatory filled with tulips, lilacs, lilies, and more. Stroll through Garden paths and read some of Dickinson's most famous works surrounded by the flowers that inspired them. Discover an engaging perspective on Dickinson's life through letters, artifacts, books, and images in the Gallery exhibition. The Children's Poetry Garden in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden is full of activities for the whole family. Kids can start their own herbarium, just as Emily Dickinson did when she was young, and record their nature experiences with words and pictures.

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Additional Indoor Spring Offerings

From May 6 through July 25, a botanical art show, *Losing Paradise? Endangered Plants Here and Around the World* will be featured in the Arthur and Janet Ross Gallery. This traveling exhibition is the result of a three-year project curated by the American Society of Botanical Artists. Seeking to draw attention to plants at risk today, artists from the United States and around the world documented endangered species in botanical gardens, in the field, and in horticultural collections. The continued relevance and importance of botanical illustration are evident in the amazing, life-like renderings, which incorporate traditional standards and conventions to ensure scientific accuracy in scale, color, and structure. Partial proceeds from the sale of the artwork will benefit The New York Botanical Garden.

The Library building's Britton Science Rotunda and Gallery features *Plants and Fungi: Ten Current Research Stories*, an ongoing exhibition of research by Botanical Garden scientists in the field, laboratory, library, and herbarium, probing the mysteries of the evolution, ecological roles, and economic uses of plants.

A Complete Visitor Experience

While at The New York Botanical Garden, visitors will also want to explore the gateway to the Garden, the Leon Levy Visitor Center, for its cafe, outdoor plaza and reflecting pool, and Shop in the Garden, featuring wonderful books, plants, and products for sale that reflect the specimens on display at the Garden.

From family activities in the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden and Everett Children's Adventure Garden to tours, home gardening demonstrations, and more, there is plenty to see and do during the spring season at The New York Botanical Garden for visitors of all ages.

For more information, visit www.nybg.org or call 718.817.8700.

Spring Season sponsored by **MetLife Foundation**

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The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. It is easy to reach by Metro-North Railroad or subway. The Botanical Garden is open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *All-Garden Pass*, which includes admission to the grounds as well as to seasonal gardens, exhibitions, and attractions such as the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Everett Children's Adventure Garden, Rock Garden, and Tram Tour: \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and students with ID, \$8 for children ages 2–12, children under 2 are free. A *Grounds-Only Pass* is available: \$6 for adults, \$5 for adult Bronx Residents; \$3 for seniors, \$2 for students with ID, \$1 for children ages 2–12, children under 2 are free. Grounds-only admission is free all day on Wednesdays and from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Discounts available for groups of 15 or more. Contact Group Tours, 718.817.8687. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit nybg.org Read the Botanical Garden's popular blog, *Plant Talk: Inside The New York Botanical Garden* at nybg.org/wordpress

The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden's general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.

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