

For Immediate Release September 7, 2010

## The New York Botanical Garden and New York City Ballet Reunite to Teach Children about Ballet and Nature

## Ballet Among the Blooms Returns for 8th Season on Sunday, September 12 With An Additional Hour of Programming

The New York Botanical Garden's popular and highly anticipated "Ballet Among the Blooms" program featuring New York City Ballet educators and School of American Ballet dancers returns on Sunday, September 12 from 2 to 5 p.m. Developed in 2002 as an avenue for children to explore the beauty of dance and nature, "Ballet Among the Blooms" returns for its 8th season, featuring an additional hour of family-centered programming, by popular demand. During "Ballet Among the Blooms" in the Botanical Garden's Everett Children's Adventure Garden, children will be introduced to the art of ballet and learn the importance of incorporating the environment to serve as inspiration through dance.



Children participating in movement stations led by New York City Ballet Teaching Artists and School of American Ballet dancers in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden at the Botanical Garden. Photo by Kay Wheeler

The program, hosted by New York City Ballet Corps de Ballet member Kaitlyn Gilliland, will include demonstrations by School of American Ballet dancers and movement workshops led by New York City Ballet Teaching Artists. They will guide children ages 3–12 through basic ballet positions and vocabulary. Young participants will practice ballet turns and jumps and also create wearable works of art, using inspiration from flowers, trees, and animals seen in the Garden. Dynamic activities for kids and their families also include: musical entertainment, an arts & crafts station, and a Q&A session with Ballet Corps de Ballet member Kaitlyn Gilliland.

The Everett Children's Adventure Garden is a 12-acre indoor/outdoor museum where children discover plant science through fun, hands-on, and engaging educational programs. Interactive exhibits convey different plant science concepts. Playful elements such as mazes and topiaries, a natural wetland, glorious gardens, and more create an atmosphere of exploration and fun.

Admission to "Ballet Among the Blooms" is included in your ticket to *The Edible Garden*, an exhibition running through October 17 about growing and preparing good food. On Sunday, September 12, families can enjoy hands-on gardening activities for *Lenape Life* in the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden. Starting at 12 p.m., families can investigate the "three sisters" garden and authentic wigwam, shuck and grind corn kernels, help construct a palisade fence, and create a traditional Lenape craft, a cornhusk doll.

Parents can watch cooking demonstrations from Peter Hoffman, chef and owner of Savoy and Black, at 1p.m. and gain gardening tips from demonstrations in the Home Gardening Center. For more information about The New York Botanical Garden and all family-friendly activities, please visit <a href="https://www.nybg.org">www.nybg.org</a> or call 718.817.8700.

## The Edible Garden

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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. ADMISSION PRICES FOR THE EDIBLE GARDEN: Weekends Featuring Celebrity Chefs – Adults \$20, Seniors/Students \$18, Children \$8, Children Under 2 and Members Free; Weekends – Adults \$15, Seniors/Students \$13, Children \$8, Children Under 2 and Members Free; Weekdays – Adults \$10, Seniors/Students \$9, Children \$4, Children Under 2 and Members Free. Proceeds benefit the Children's Gardening program. Discounts available for groups of 15 or more; contact Group Tours, 718.817.8687. Grounds-only admission is free all day on Wednesdays and from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit <a href="https://www.nybg.org/wordpress">www.nybg.org/wordpress</a>

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.

NEW YORK CITY BALLET is one of the foremost dance companies in the world, with an active repertory of more than 150 works, most of which were created for NYCB and many of which are considered modern masterpieces. The company was established in 1948 by George Balanchine and Lincoln Kirstein, and quickly became world-renowned for its athletic, contemporary style and compelling ballets. Now under the direction of Peter Martins, the company has more than 90 dancers, a 62-member orchestra, an official school (School of American Ballet) and an annual 23-week season at Lincoln Center.

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