

For Immediate Release
September 27, 2005

***Birds of Autumn* Returns to The New York Botanical Garden Promising a Columbus Day Weekend of Discovery**

October 8, 9, and 10, 2005

On Columbus Day Weekend, plants aren't the only things visitors can discover at The New York Botanical Garden. The third annual *Birds of Autumn* offers a series of programs celebrating our native birds.

Marvel at trained falcons and hawks soaring in flight, get *slightly* close and personal with live owls, learn how to attract birds to your home garden, hear entertaining feathery fables, and more.

Birds of Autumn events happen on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, October 8, 9, and 10, between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. All activities meet or take place at Daffodil Hill unless otherwise noted.

Bird Walks

October 8, 9, and 10—11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m.

Hummingbirds love red salvias. Goldfinches are attracted to sunflowers. Walk the Garden grounds with an expert birder and learn more about bird-friendly habitats.

“Show and Tell” with Hawks and Owls

October 8, 9, and 10—11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m.

Meet specialists from the Theodore Roosevelt Audubon Center and Sanctuary, who will bring a variety of birds of prey and teach us about their feathered friends.

Hawks and Falcons in Flight

October 8, 9, and 10—12 p.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m.

Witness the seemingly effortless and magical flight of these winged predators, demonstrated by Brian Bradley with Skyhunters in Flight from the Hudson Valley Raptor Center.

Feathered Fables by The Brothers Grinn

October 8—1:30 p.m.

Join The Brothers Grinn, “A Traveling Troupe of Troubadours, Telling Tales Never Told Before,” as they spin original stories and song, improvised live before visitors. Every performance is original since they are created through suggestions from the audience.

Home Gardening Demonstration, *Creating a Bird Garden*

October 9—1:30 p.m.

Learn from our Gardener for Public Programs, Sonia Uyterhoeven, as she advises on bird-friendly gardening techniques and choosing plants that will attract birds.

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**Booksigning with *Birds of Central Park* author, Cal Vornberger
October 9—2–3 p.m.**

Chat with Cal Vornberger as he shares 175 photographs of birds he has come to know and love in Central Park. Organized by season, Mr. Vornberger's work captures a bird population that is in decline in Central Park and all over the world due to the destruction of natural habitats.

Birds of Autumn weekend at the Botanical Garden also marks the last days for the special program in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden, ***Hummingbirds and Other Feathered Friends***, which ends on October 10. Don't miss this final opportunity to observe the Botanical Garden's winged visitors and update birding journals before some of the birds say goodbye for the winter.

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The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road in the Bronx. The Garden is open year-round, Tuesday-Sunday and on Monday holidays, from 10 a.m. -6 p.m. April-October, and 10 a.m.-5p.m. November-March. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *Combination Ticket* that includes grounds admission, the Conservatory, Rock Garden, Native Plant Garden, Tram Tour, and Everett Children's Adventure Garden. Grounds admission is free to everyone all day Wednesdays and on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. To purchase tickets, call 800.965.4827 or order online at www.nybg.org. For other information, call 718.817.8700.

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