

***Fiesta de Flores* at The New York Botanical Garden**

Celebrate the People and Plants of Latin America and the Caribbean and Enjoy the Final Weekend of *Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise*

Saturday–Sunday, September 15–16

On September 15–16, celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at *Fiesta de Flores*, a weekend festival at The New York Botanical Garden, commemorating the people and plants of Latin America and the Caribbean. Enjoy the beauty of the Garden while being treated to live music, dancing, delicious food specialties, storytelling, and more. Take in the tropics on a tour through the final weekend of *Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise*, the lush exhibition of Caribbean island flora, such as hibiscus, passionflower, bougainvillea, orchids, and more, inside the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Discover what Garden scientists have been researching for the last century, originating from the first exploration in the Caribbean, and learn about current projects such as the Virtual Herbarium in the exhibition *Plants and Fungi: Ten Current Research Stories*.

Caribbean Music and Dance

On the Conservatory Lawn

Salsa Dancing Lessons with Tito Sandoval

Saturday and Sunday, 11:30 a.m., 1:15 and 3 p.m.

Salsa lessons have been enormously popular this summer at the Garden. Visitors can learn how to tap, step, turn, and spin from Tito Sandoval, renowned *bailarín de salsa*, who has performed with the Eddie Torres Dancers and Nydia Ocasio at the World Salsa Congress.

Indigenous Taino Music

Saturday and Sunday, 12 and 1:30 p.m.

Journey to another place and time while listening to indigenous Taino music with members of the Cacibajagua Taino Cultural Society. Learn about this indigenous culture's instruments and how the music is tied to the natural environment.

Ilu Aye

Saturday, 2:30 and 4 p.m.

Ilu Aye entertains with the rhythms of traditional Dominican music. Trained by master musicians and versed in sacred and popular rhythms such as bata, guiro, and rumba (Cuba); bomba and plena (Puerto Rico); and palos, salves, and congas (Dominican Republic).

Something Positive

Sunday, 2:30, 3:30, and 4:30 p.m.

Utilizing a unique blend of poetry, storytelling, theater, music, and dance, the performance group Something Positive specializes in multimedia performing art presentations.

Science in the Caribbean

In the Perennial Garden

Explore the expertise The New York Botanical Garden has amassed regarding the flora of the Caribbean. Since its first expedition to the Caribbean in 1898, the Botanical Garden has shared its collections and knowledge with other researchers as well as the local community.

Film screenings of *Ethnobotany Explorers*

Saturday and Sunday, ongoing

In the Conservatory GreenSchool.

Discover how plants play a central role in our lives at a screening of the film *Ethnobotany Explorers*. It depicts the research of Botanical Garden scientist Dr. Michael Balick and his colleagues, who study traditional uses of medicinal plants in far-flung places such as Belize, as well as right here in New York City. The film was created by the Garden's Children's Education department to accompany a high school curriculum unit.

Café Scientifique

In the Perennial Garden

Saturday and Sunday, 12–1 p.m.

Take advantage of this opportunity to have an informal conversation with Botanical Garden specialists about the science initiatives at the Garden that take them to the Caribbean and around the world.

Special Presentation: *Medicinal Plants of Indigenous Caribbean Cultures*

Saturday and Sunday, 2:30 p.m.

In the Conservatory GreenSchool

Join Roberto Mucaro Borrero (Taino), Senior Program Coordinator at the American Museum of Natural History, for an engaging presentation on the medicinal plants used historically and traditionally by the Caribbean's indigenous peoples.

Taste of the Caribbean

On the Conservatory Lawn

The diverse flavors of the fruits, spices, and specialties of the Caribbean will inspire your own creativity in the kitchen. Stop by the booths for samples of traditional Latin cuisine and marvel at a fantastic display of the fruits and roots that grow on the islands. Refresh yourself with a taste of sweet and tart juices. Complete your enjoyment with the purchase of a full meal of *Fiesta*-inspired dishes from the Garden Cafe.

Fiesta de Flores Celebration throughout the Garden

Face Painting

Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

On the Conservatory Lawn

Celebrate in style and join in the festive cheer of the weekend with decorated face painting! Ruby Rodriguez transforms you into colorful creatures of nature.

Caribbean Storytelling

Saturday and Sunday, 12:45 and 3 p.m.

On the Conservatory Lawn

Visitors young and old will be enchanted as they listen to Bobby Gonzalez spin Taino Indian and Caribbean folktales about flowers, nature, and traditional Caribbean culture.

Guided Tour of the Rose Garden

Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.

Meets at the Rose Garden entrance

Join an exuberant and knowledgeable docent for a tour of the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden. Visitors have called this glorious garden an “encyclopedia of roses” and a “living catalog” of what can be grown at home.

Guided Tour of *Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise*

Saturday and Sunday, 12:30 p.m.

Meets at the Conservatory entrance.

Explore the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, an acre of plants under glass, with one of the Garden’s docents, will also take you through the stunning exhibition *Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise*. Stroll through a Spanish courtyard garden overflowing with lush, tropical flora. Immerse yourself in the fragrances and colors of dozens of exotic plants.

Home Gardening Demonstration: *Roses are Red*

Saturday and Sunday, 1:30 p.m.

In the Home Gardening Center

From pruning to fertilizing, join Sonia Uyterhoeven, Gardener for Public Programs, to learn the basics of how to care for your roses.

Film Screening

Saturday and Sunday, ongoing

In the Conservatory GreenSchool

Continue to celebrate flowers in bloom around the Botanical Garden. View a film screening of *Love at First Sight: America’s Affair with the Rose*, an inside look at the dedication required to plant and select top winning roses by the non-profit organization All-America Rose Selections. Be sure to visit the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, in full bloom for its fall encore.

Other Activities to Enjoy at the Botanical Garden During *Fiesta de Flores*

While at the Garden, participants in *Fiesta de Flores* may also enjoy a number of other activities during the weekend of September 15–16.

In the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory (*fee*)

- ***Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise***

Stroll among lush tropical flora and enjoy the final weekend of this spectacular flower show, inspired by the tradition and formality of Spanish courtyard gardens in the Caribbean region and the variety and vividness of tropical plants.

- ***Waterlilies and Lotus***

See this display of exotic and tropical plants in the dramatic pools of the Conservatory Courtyards.

- ***A World of Plants***

Complimentary English, Spanish, and children’s Audio Tours are available when visiting the historic Victorian-style glasshouse for an ecotour of the Conservatory’s permanent exhibitions. Journey from the *Palms of the Americas Gallery* through the *Lowland* and *Upland Tropical Rain Forest Galleries* and on to the *Deserts of the Americas* and *Africa Galleries*.

In the Library Building's Britton Science Rotunda and Gallery

Explore *Plant and Fungi: Ten Current Research Stories*, an exhibition that reveals some of the exciting work being conducted around the world by the Botanical Garden's science team.

In the Everett Children's Adventure Garden *(fee)*

Children 2 to 12 explore nature through hands-on activities. There's a Boulder Maze for climbing, a Touch Tank for getting up-close to water-loving plants, and an indoor "living laboratory" for junior plant scientists.

In the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden

Come to the Family Garden to visit the Caribbean Garden. Dig for worms, plant, water, and weed. Children can join the Children's Gardening program and grow their own gardens.

In the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden

Garden regulars who expected to see roses only in June and then reflowering again in the fall have been treated to a lovely surprise this year. The renovated Rockefeller Rose Garden has been in beautiful bloom since it starting flowering in late spring. With 1,700 new roses planted last May, and thanks in part to the Rose Garden's new irrigation system and the diligent work of its gardeners, the flowers have doubled, tripled, and even quadrupled in size during the last four months! Savor this spectacular display of flowers and fragrance now until the first frost in October.

At Shop in the Garden

Discover garden-inspired merchandise, specialty plants, and the outstanding gardening and horticultural bookstore. Take a memento of the Garden home with you.

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

Exhibitions in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory are made possible by the Estate of Enid A. Haupt.

Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise has been made possible by Mr. & Mrs. Marvin H. Davidson.

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 Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April through October. PRICING: \$18, Seniors/Students \$16, Children \$5. Advance tickets are available online at www.nybg.org. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit our Web site at www.nybg.org

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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