

For Immediate Release  
November 15, 2004

## **The *Holiday Train Show*, a Favorite New York City Tradition, Returns to the Garden with New Features**

**Friday, November 19, 2004 through Sunday, January 9, 2005**

*The Holiday Train Show*, a spectacular and intriguing collection of landmark replicas along winding train tracks, returns to The New York Botanical Garden on November 19, 2004. Beloved by people of all ages, the popular exhibition will be on display in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, America's preeminent Victorian glasshouse, through January 9, 2005. Added to this year's show will be a new, larger interpretation of the Brooklyn Bridge, a model of the Jewish Museum on Fifth Avenue, and replicas of historic Bronx firehouses in New York City. The new structures will join other iconic and familiar sights, including New York's City Hall, The Apollo Theater, The Statue of Liberty, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Radio City Music Hall, The Empire State Building, and many more, all made of plant parts. Visitors will also be able to purchase copies of the fast-selling, lavishly illustrated souvenir book on the exhibition, *All Aboard!*, at the Shop in the Garden, located in the new Leon Levy Visitor Center.

Using a multitude of diverse natural materials like 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. For instance, the piers of the new Brooklyn Bridge are made of elm, oak, and hickory barks with cabling of willow branches. The bridge's arches soar to 14 feet, with keystones made of sugar pine cone seeds.

Garden-gauge model railway trains and trolleys enliven meticulously crafted scenes, chug across rustic bridges, including a 25-foot-long overhead trestle, pass waterfalls that cascade into flowing creeks and other familiar spans, disappear into forest tunnels, and reappear across the terrain, which covers more than 6,000 square feet. In celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the New York City Transit System, two streetcars travel across the new reproduction of the Brooklyn Bridge, complete with lights, bells and the "clickety-clack" of the wheels on the tracks.

The 13th annual *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 models of the city's famous skyline, landmark buildings, skyscrapers, historic homes and townhouses, and other famous structures from New York City and the Hudson Valley region.

Visitors can enjoy the holiday experience throughout the Garden, from the Holiday Train Show in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, to Gingerbread Adventures in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden, which has a new attraction this year—"Winter Wonderland of Gingerbread Houses," a display in the Bendheim Global Greenhouse of gingerbread buildings that represent the town of the Gingerbread Man, the popular children's book character. Reindeer made of vines adorn the entry to the Shop in the Garden, where regal new characters, the Snowdrop Queen and Evergreen King, greet families and holiday shoppers looking for the perfect gift.

Guests of all ages have visited the Bronx every holiday season since 1992 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 popular and 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 in the Bronx. From December 17, 2004 through January 2, 2005, The Garden offers extended holiday hours: Daily, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. The Garden is closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. It will be open Christmas Eve, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., and New Year's Day, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *Garden Passport*, which includes admission to the grounds, Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Everett Children's Adventure Garden, and Tram Tour, and costs \$13 for adults, \$11 for seniors and students, and \$5 for children 2-12 (free for children under 2). For more details, call 718.817.8700 or visit our Web site at [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org).

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