

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Studying, exhibiting, and conserving plants for 120 years

For Immediate Release
November 15, 2011

Experience the Magic of the Holiday Season at The New York Botanical Garden

Schedule of Events for November 19, 2011, through January 16, 2012

Conservatory Exhibition

***Holiday Train Show*—Saturday, November 19, 2011, through Sunday, January 16, 2012**

Celebrating its 20th year, the *Holiday Train Show* in The New York Botanical Garden's Victorian-style Conservatory, beckons visitors to enter a magical world under glass brimming with history and enchantment. Experience the wonder of large-gauge model trains and trolleys wending their way past more than 140 replicas of New York landmarks, including the original Penn Station and Yankee Stadium, Statue of Liberty, Brooklyn Bridge, and Radio City Music Hall—all created from plant materials such as bark, moss, twigs, berries, and pine cones. A new feature this year, The Artist's Studio, provides an insider's look at how the replicas are constructed.

Everett Children's Adventure Garden Program

***Gingerbread Adventures*—Saturday, November 19, 2011, through Monday, January 16, 2012**

Vibrant vignettes of a gingerbread town deck the halls of the Discovery Center, where children explore the plant ingredients that make up a classic gingerbread recipe in *Gingerbread Adventures*. Kids can step inside a child-sized gingerbread playhouse and explore the outdoor galleries of the Adventure Garden. The entire family can enjoy the display of elaborate gingerbread creations by renowned bakers: Lauri DiTunno, Cake Alchemy, Manhattan; Irina Brandler, Sugar and Spice Bake Shop, the Bronx; Kay Hansen, Riviera Bakehouse, Ardsley; Kate Sullivan, Lovin Sullivan Cakes, Manhattan; and Mark Tasker, Balthazar Bakery, Manhattan.

Holiday Tree Lighting and Sing-Along

Saturday, November 19, 4 p.m.

View the lighting of a stunning conifer display in the Reflecting Pool in the Leon Levy Visitor Center. Then join in an old-fashioned sing-along, featuring carols from many traditions, with the Westchester Chordsmen. It's an evening of holiday cheer the whole family will enjoy.

Holiday Film Festival

Fridays–Sundays, November 19–January 1; check times and film titles at nybg.org.

Enjoy holiday classics and cartoon favorites. Plus, get a behind-the-scenes look at the creation of the *Holiday Train Show* in a PBS documentary narrated by David Hartman and featuring exclusive interviews with designer Paul Busse.

In Ross Hall

-more-

Live at NYBG Concert Series

A Classical Concert of Holiday Favorites

Sunday, December 4, 5 p.m.

A beautiful harmony of string and wind instruments by a trio led by Conrad Harris gets you into the spirit of the season. Classics and recognizable holiday favorites fill the program. Your ticket includes an after-hours viewing of the *Holiday Train Show*. (Advance tickets recommended; Non-Member \$25/Member \$15.)

Puppet Show

***The Little Engine That Could*TM**

Tuesdays–Thursdays, November 29–December 29, and Monday, December 19, 11:30 a.m.

Daily, December 26–29, 1, 2, and 3 p.m.

The classic tale of *The Little Engine That Could*TM is brought to life in an exciting presentation by New York City puppet master Ralph Lee. The whole family can join the fun to get the determined train over the mountain! (©Penguin Group USA)

Thomas the Tank Engine & FriendsTM Visit

All Aboard with Thomas & FriendsTM at the Holiday Train Show

Daily, January 2–16; check times and purchase tickets at nybg.org

Thomas & FriendsTM are pulling into the station! Join Thomas and Driver Sam on a fun-filled, sing-along, mini-performance adventure by helping Thomas find his way from Knapford Station to Brendam Docks using teamwork, friendship, and discovery. Bring your camera; each mini-performance includes a photo op with Thomas.

(Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends ©2011 Gullane [Thomas] Limited.)

Shop in the Garden

Don't miss this one-of-a-kind holiday shopping experience with distinctive, delightful gifts, thousands of glittering ornaments, and the *Holiday Train Show* souvenir book, *All Aboard!* for sale.

Founding Sponsors: Victoria and Robert Zoellner

Major Sponsor: Alpine Associates Advisors

Generous support also provided by the Karen Katen Foundation

Additional support provided by Brooks Brothers

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.

HOLIDAY TRAIN SHOW HOURS: During the *Holiday Train Show*, November 19, 2011–January 16, 2012, The New York Botanical Garden will be open 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday. Closed all day on November 24 and December 25.

Closing at 3 p.m. on December 9 and 24. Extended hours, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., on select Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays and during holiday weeks: November 20, 25, 26, 27, December 4, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and January 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 15.

PRICING:

NON-HOLIDAY: Adults \$20, Seniors/Students \$18, Children ages 2–12 \$10, Children under 2 Free, Members Free.
HOLIDAY WEEKS (December 19–January 2): Adults \$25, Seniors/Students \$22, Children ages 2–12, \$15, Children under 2 Free, Members Free. Advance timed tickets are strongly recommended and are available at nybg.org. Discounts available for groups of 15 or more. Contact Group Tours: 718.817.8687. For more information, please visit our Web site at nybg.org or call 718.817.8700.

Contact: Deborah Wetzel 718.817.8637/8616; dwetzel@nybg.org **Images and video b-roll available**