

For Immediate Release September 1, 2009

Celebrate Labor Day Weekend at The New York Botanical Garden with Cooking Demos, *Edible Garden* Displays, Tours, and Poetry

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, September 5, 6, and 7

Summer might be winding down, but there is still plenty to see and do at The New York Botanical Garden during the holiday weekend. If you're looking for a one-day getaway, the 250 historic acres of The New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx is the place to go. Easy to reach by train on Metro-North, (20 minutes from Grand Central Terminal and 22 minutes from White Plains), the Botanical Garden is a summer oasis with programming for the entire family. The Garden offers gorgeous flowers, waterlilies, and perennial gardens; secret sylvan retreats; dramatic natural landscapes and *The Edible Garden*, multiple exhibitions that have illustrated that gardening with edible plants is economical, nutritious, and good for the environment.

Set throughout the Botanical Garden's spectacular 250-acre landscape, the summer-long exhibitions inspired visitors to grow, prepare, and eat garden-fresh produce and offered opportunities for children and adults alike to better understand how plants provide the food and drink that are essential to maintaining life and enhancing wellness. For more information visit http://www.nybg.org/edible_garden/.

Greenmarket

Saturday, All Day, Near Mosholu Gate

Affordable, locally grown produce along with fresh and nutritious baked goods are available each week at the Greenmarket. Take part in cooking or gardening demonstrations and learn more about the nutritional and health benefits of gardening and eating locally. At noon, find out about composting, recycling, growing vegetables, and more during a lunchtime demonstration.

Bird Walk

Saturday, 11 a.m., Meets at the Visitor Center's Reflecting Pool Participate in the first Bird Walk of the season.

Guided Tour: The Edible Garden

Saturday and Sunday, 12:30 p.m., Meets at the Visitor Center's Reflecting Pool From coffee and chocolate to mint and tomatoes, learn about the plants and plant parts that we eat every day. Take a walking tour of the Conservatory exhibition.

Cooking Demonstration with Sharon Ackland

Saturday, 1 and 3 p.m., Meets at the Conservatory Kitchen Author and gardener Sharon Ackland shows how to use edible plants in healthy recipes.

Home Gardening Demonstration: Naturalistic Design

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, 2 p.m., Meets at the Home Gardening Center This year our seasonal border has been transformed by a team of Dutch designers who celebrate a naturalistic approach to garden design. Join Gardener for Public Education Sonia Uyterhoeven as she studies the border and provides ideas for you to implement in your own garden.

Docent-Led Tour: Perennial Garden

Saturday, 2:30 p.m., Meets at the Visitor Center's Reflecting Pool Join a Garden docent for a tour of the Jane Watson Irwin Perennial Garden, which combines a vast palette of colors, textures, flowers, and foliage to create interest in every season.

Docent-Led Tour: Rock Garden

Sunday, 2:30 p.m., Meets at the Visitor Center's Reflecting Pool The Rock Garden is a three-acre oasis complete with a pond and waterfall and featuring alpine plants from six of the seven continents. Join an expertly trained Garden docent for a walking tour to see and learn more about these jewel-like plants. (Admission included with an All-Garden Pass)

Season of Poetry

Sunday, 3 p.m., In the Perennial Garden

Enjoy late summer in the garden with poetry readings of classic favorites as well as original works by three local poets in the inspiring setting of the Garden. This event is co-sponsored by the Poetry Society of America.

Docent-Led Tour: Conservatory

Monday, 1 p.m., Meets at the entrance to the Conservatory Explore the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, an acre of plants under glass, with one of the Garden's docents. Take an ecotour around the world through 11 distinct habitats, including two types of rain forest, deserts of the Americas and of Africa, and aquatic and carnivorous plant displays. *(Admission included with an All-Garden Pass)*

The Edible Garden

Summer-long exhibitions and attractions include: Tropical Fruits, Roots, and Shoots Martha Stewart's Culinary Herb Garden Good Food Garden Seed Savers Heirloom Vegetable Garden Beginner's Vegetable Garden Be a Seed Saver The Heirloom Tomato Vegetables and Kids Plants and Fungi: Ten Current Research Stories Farm to Table Edible Plant Tour Edible Plant Tour Greenmarket (on Saturday) Bronx Green-Up's Urban Farms *The Edible Garden* is an exhibition and celebration that exemplifies the diversity, beauty, and importance of food plants in people's lives and in cultures around the world. Through horticulture, education, and science programming, it showcases the essential role that The New York Botanical Garden plays in researching, understanding, and educating the public about the significance of edible plants. For more information, visit <u>nybg.org</u> or call 718.817.8700.

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

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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. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *All-Garden Pass*, which includes admission to the grounds as well as to seasonal gardens, exhibitions, and attractions such as the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Everett Children's Adventure Garden, Rock and Native Plant Gardens, and Tram Tour: \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and students with ID, \$8 for children ages 2–12, children under 2 are free. A *Grounds-Only Pass* is available: \$6 for adults, \$5 for adult Bronx Residents; \$3 for seniors, \$2 for students with ID, \$1 for children ages 2–12, children under 2 are free. 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 <u>www.nybg.org</u> Read the Botanical Garden's popular blog, *Plant Talk: Inside The New York Botanical Garden* at www.nybg.org/wordpress

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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