

For Immediate Release
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MARTHA STEWART TO REDESIGN HISTORIC HERB GARDEN AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Martha Stewart's Culinary Herb Garden One of the Highlights of *The Edible Garden*, A Summer Event Celebrating Edible Plants June 27 – September 13, 2009

Martha Stewart's Culinary Herb Garden, a display of the finest culinary herbs personally selected by Martha Stewart and her team of gardening experts, will be one of the highlights of *The Edible Garden*, The New York Botanical Garden's campus-wide summer program celebrating edible plants. Martha Stewart brings her distinctive design aesthetic, which has inspired millions of fans around the world, to the Botanical Garden's historic Nancy Bryan Luce Herb Garden (seen in the image below), redesigning it to display a rich selection of herbs that are perfect for any recipe. Visitors will have the opportunity to see the newly designed garden as part of the season-long celebration of edible plants, from June 27 through September 13, 2009 at The New York Botanical Garden.

Martha Stewart's design will be anchored by the architectural foliage of the cardoon, a plant cultivated for its edible leafstalks and roots, and will feature many types of culinary herbs, from common chives to savory curry plants to aromatic artemisia. Large groupings of herbs will be placed so that their colors and textures repeat throughout the Herb Garden's symmetrical space. The display is slated to feature over 50 types of herbs, including 5 types of basil, 4 types of thyme, and 3 types of lavender. The garden's perimeter piers will feature handmade pots by Ben Wolff of Goshen, Connecticut, and will include parsley and violas for spring and rosemary, scented geranium, and oregano for summer.



Martha Stewart's Culinary Herb Garden will be both beautiful and informative, with interpretive signage on the herbs' many uses in the kitchen and around the home. Visitors will see Martha's design of the tranquil and fragrant garden, full of golden-edged salvia and Mediterranean cardoon set among the double-knot of clipped boxwood that is the Herb Garden's central visual feature. An assortment of herbs from around the world, like French tarragon and sorrel, English thyme, Italian parsley, Mexican cilantro, and Greek oregano, will create a living spice rack to spark viewers' imagination. Beds brimming with dill, lemongrass, fennel, chamomile, mint, and more will also surround the garden.

Martha Stewart will offer extensive information about culinary herbs—including how to utilize herbs in recipes, how to plant and grow herbs, and the benefits of fresh herbs—via her expansive multimedia portfolio. Ideas and inspiration will be available through her award-winning magazines—*Martha Stewart Living*, *Body+Soul*, and *Everyday Food*; the nationally syndicated, Emmy Award-winning television series *The Martha Stewart Show*; *Martha Stewart Living Radio* on SIRIUS channel 112 and XM Radio channel 157; marthastewart.com and wholeliving.com; and her best-selling books. The Martha Stewart Collection available at Macy's also includes an array of culinary tools that can be used to prepare herbs for cooking.

The Edible Garden will be a four-month long 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 will showcase 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 nybg.org or call 718.817.8700.

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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 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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