

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Studying, exhibiting, and conserving plants for 120 years

For Immediate Release
September 20, 2011

Enjoy Spooky Halloween Fun in *The Haunted Pumpkin Garden*

Hundreds of Creatively Carved Pumpkins, Pumpkin Parties, Giant Pumpkin Carving, and More Await at The New York Botanical Garden

Saturday, October 1–Sunday, October 30, 2011

From Saturday, October 1, through Sunday, October 30, *The Haunted Pumpkin Garden* at The New York Botanical Garden will treat visitors to frightful Halloween fun. Pumpkin sculptures of spooky scarecrows, frightening spiders, sneaky snakes, and more await discovery at every turn in the Everett Children’s Adventure Garden. Every day youngsters can play inside a “gourd-geous” Pumpkin House, put on a scary show at the Pumpkin Puppet Theater, look for wiggly worms under a rotting log, and join a Halloween Parade, while every weekend offers even more treats.



The brainchild of visual artist Michael Natiello, Creative Director for Historic Hudson Valley’s Great Jack O’Lantern Blaze, the display includes more than 500 pumpkins intricately carved to create scarecrows, bugs and insects, bats, spiders and snakes, and creepy nighttime trails through the Children’s Adventure Garden.

A list of all activities during October is below. For more information, visit nybg.org/exhibitions/haunted-pumpkin-garden/index.php

Halloween Parades

Every day throughout October, Weekdays at 2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 2 and 4 p.m. Kids of all ages are encouraged to wear costumes for parades through the Adventure Garden.

Creepy Creatures Weekend

Ugh! Bugs!

Saturday, October 1, 1 and 3 p.m.

Get up close to creepy crawly insects such as Madagascar hissing cockroaches, the emperor scorpion, the pink toe tarantula, crickets, and millipedes.

Gone Batty!

Sunday, October 2, 1 and 3 p.m.

Come face to face with a variety of bats, including the gigantic flying fox bat from Malaysia, which has a wingspan of nearly six feet.

Spooktacular Pumpkin Party

October 8, 9, and 10, all day (Columbus Day Weekend)

Delight in the fantastical creations of master puppeteer Ralph Lee. Take part in spooky storytelling, puppet-making, and creepy hands-on fun for the entire family.

Giant Pumpkin Carving Weekends

Saturday & Sunday, October 22 & 23, all day

Watch master carver and two-time *Food Network Challenge* winner Ray Villafane transform pumpkins into monsters!

Saturday & Sunday, October 29 & 30, all day

See Michael Natiello transform pumpkins into amazing sculptures, releasing the beast from within!

Spooky Nighttime Adventure

Saturdays, Oct. 22 & 29, 6–7:30 p.m.

Grab a flashlight and explore the spooky sculptures of the Adventure Garden after dark.

Trick-or-treat along the paths and decorate a pumpkin to take home. Kids of all ages:

Non-Member \$20/Member \$15. *Advance tickets recommended*

Visit nybg.org/visit/tickets.php to purchase tickets.

Get Set for Grown-Up Halloween Fun at the Garden

This year The New York Botanical Garden is offering a Halloween activity especially for adults. On Friday, October 28, from 7 to 9 p.m., **Bugs and Brews** thrills the kid in you with spooky fun while treating your adult side to bubbling artisanal beers and insect delicacies—if you dare!

There will be live music and guided spooky walks. Non-Member \$30/Member \$20 (Adults 21 and over); includes complimentary beer. *Advance tickets recommended*

Visit nybg.org/visit/tickets.php to purchase tickets.

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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.

During the *Haunted Pumpkin Garden*, 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 Garden, and Tram Tour: \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and students with ID, \$8 for children ages 2–12, free for children under 2. Discounts available for groups of 15 or more; contact Group Tours at 718.817.8687. Grounds-only admission is free all day on Wednesdays and from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturdays. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit nybg.org

The New York Botanical Garden, 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York 10458

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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