

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Studying, exhibiting, and conserving plants for 120 years

For Immediate Release
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Holiday Train Show Celebrates 20th Year at The New York Botanical Garden

Annual Extravaganza Showcasing New York Landmark Replicas and Model Trains Extended by One Week

New Feature, The Artist's Studio, Offers Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Making of the Amazing Replicas Created from Plant Parts

Saturday, November 19, 2011 through Monday, January 16, 2012

The *Holiday Train Show*, the extraordinary exhibition of New York landmark replicas enlivened by model trains, is celebrating its 20th year at The New York Botanical Garden. Natural materials such as bark, twigs, stems, fruits, seeds, and pine cones, are used to create more than 140 scaled iconic buildings, including the Statue of Liberty, Brooklyn Bridge, Radio City Music Hall, and the original Yankee Stadium. A critically acclaimed and always eagerly anticipated tradition, the *Holiday Train Show* presents an enchanted New York, surrounded by the glow of twinkling lights in America's premier glasshouse, the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory.

More than a dozen large-scale model railway trains—from late-1800s American steam engines and streetcars to modern freight and high-speed passenger trains and trolleys—traverse nearly a quarter-mile of track across rustic bridges, along overhead trestles, through tunnels, and past waterfalls that cascade into flowing creeks. Thomas the Tank Engine™ returns to join the fleet of model trains this year.

The *Holiday Train Show* has been extended by one week through Monday, January 16, 2012, offering visitors more time to experience a truly unforgettable and engaging exhibition.

The Artist's Studio Offers Glimpse at the Making of the Exhibition

This year, for the first time, visitors to **The Artist's Studio** will get an insider's look at how the replicas are constructed. Models in different stages of completion will show how a structure destined for the *Holiday Train Show* is framed and begins taking shape through the addition of plant parts.

The featured replica will be Kykuit, the landmark Rockefeller estate in the Hudson Valley, which is pictured here. Visitors to The Artist's Studio will see photos, interpretive panels, tools, and supplies that help tell the story of how show designer Paul Busse, his son, Brian Busse, and their team at Applied Imagination in Alexandria, Kentucky, create the magic that defines the *Holiday Train Show*.



A Destination for the Holidays

The holiday season at the Botanical Garden offers activities for the whole family.

- Children explore the plant ingredients that make up a classic gingerbread recipe, venture into a child-sized gingerbread playhouse, and decorate a gingersnap cookie with frosting and candies in ***Gingerbread Adventures***.
- Enjoy holiday classics and cartoon favorites during the **Holiday Film Festival**. 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.
- Trains and entertainment go hand-in-hand in ***The Little Engine That Could™ Puppet Show***. This classic tale is brought to life in an exciting presentation by New York City puppet master Ralph Lee. (©Penguin Group USA)
- New for adults, Bar Car Nights provide the opportunity to attend an evening viewing of the Holiday Train Show and sip a complimentary cocktail. Saturdays, December 3, 10, & 17, 7–9 p.m. Advance tickets recommended; includes one free cocktail. <http://www.nybg.org/exhibitions/holiday-train-show-2011/index.php>
- In January, it's **All Aboard with Thomas & Friends™**. Thomas & Friends™ are pulling into the station: Don't miss the opportunity to meet them. On weekends, 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. On weekdays, bring your camera to have a photo op with Thomas and capture the special day! (Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends ©2011 Gullane [Thomas] Limited.)

Visit the Garden's Web site, nybg.org, to check dates and times for all of the Garden's holiday offerings and to purchase advance timed tickets.

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Founding Sponsors: Victoria and Robert Zoellner

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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.

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