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## **NYBG Announces Record-Breaking Attendance of More Than Half a Million for Blockbuster Exhibition *FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden, Life***

**Bronx, NY**—The New York Botanical Garden exhibition *FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden, Life* exceeded half a million visitors during its run from May 16 to November 1, setting a record as NYBG's most-attended art and garden exhibition. Coincidentally Mexican Ambassador Sandra Fuentes-Berain and Secretary of Tourism Claudia Ruiz Massieu were viewing the exhibition today when the Garden welcomed its 500,000th visitor during the show's run.

"We are incredibly excited that so many visitors have enjoyed this exhibition, which examined Frida Kahlo's deep engagement with the natural world," said Gregory Long, CEO and The William C. Steere Sr. President. "Visitors came from around the world to see this focused look at Kahlo's life and work and to experience Mexican culture through a wide range of complementary programming. The response has been tremendous, and we are proud to have had the opportunity to present this inspiring show."

*FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden, Life* was the first exhibition to explore the artist's keen appreciation for the beauty and variety of the natural world, as evidenced by her home and garden as well as the complex use of plant imagery in her artwork. Featuring a rare display of more than a dozen original Kahlo paintings and works on paper, the Garden-wide art and horticultural exhibition reimagined the iconic artist's famed garden and studio at the Casa Azul, her lifelong home in Mexico City.

In response to popular demand, NYBG extended its Saturday evening hours to 8 p.m. and added several more Frida al Fresco evenings to its original schedule of public programming and special events that enriched the visitor experience. *FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden, Life* programs included music and dance performances, a Mexican film series, concerts, lectures, and festivities, providing visitors with additional insights into Frida Kahlo's life and work and offering a view of Kahlo's Mexico from a wide variety of cultural perspectives.

The Garden's next exhibition is the annual *Holiday Train Show*<sup>®</sup>, opening to the public on November 21, which will be newly expanded by 3,000 square feet this year. NYBG will also celebrate its 125th Anniversary in 2016.

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*FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden, Life*

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*Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.*

**# # #**

**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 Garden is open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 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, and Tram Tour. For ticket pricing, please check our Web site. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit [nybg.org](http://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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