

For Immediate Release November 19, 2014

## THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN RECEIVES \$250,000 GRANT FROM NEWMAN'S OWN FOUNDATION

## Part of \$10 Million to Improve Fresh Food Access and Nutrition Education

(Bronx, New York) – The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) has been awarded a two-year, \$250,000 grant from Newman's Own Foundation, the independent foundation created by the late actor and philanthropist Paul Newman. The award to the Botanical Garden was made by Newman's Own Foundation as part of its \$10 million commitment over three years to improve fresh food access and nutrition education for underserved communities.

The grant to The New York Botanical Garden will be used to support the Edible Academy at NYBG, New York's headquarters for edible gardening, providing hands-on gardening, nutrition, and plant and environmental science education through on-site programs for students and families; community outreach; and school garden teacher training, integrating gardens into their schools' curricula. Through this grant, communities and school teachers will receive horticultural advice, technical assistance, and hands-on training to create community and school gardens that promote health and nutrition. Residents and teachers will be given the knowledge and resources to cultivate open spaces into green oases, and grow fresh fruits, vegetables, and flowers to use for themselves, share with their neighbors, or sell at



community markets in neighborhoods where access to fresh, affordable food is difficult.

"The Edible Academy is a critical undertaking that provides the basis for a lifelong interest in gardening, good nutrition, and healthful living," said Dr. James Boyer, Stavros Niarchos Foundation Vice President for Children's Education at The New York Botanical Garden. "The funds provided by organizations like Newman's Own Foundation are helping make a lasting difference in the lives of thousands of children, their families, their teachers, and the community at large. We are grateful for their efforts on behalf of this program and the Garden."

The New York Botanical Garden is an iconic botanical garden and an urban oasis. A National Historic Landmark, 250-acre site, the Garden's verdant landscape centers on a 50-acre, old-growth forest, and features more than one million living plants. These extensive living collections contain a remarkable diversity of tropical, temperate, and desert plants—a greater variety than at any other garden in America. Each year more than 900,000 visitors enjoy the Garden for its special programs that range from exhibitions in the Haupt Conservatory such as the *Holiday Train Show*<sup>®</sup> to music festivals on Daffodil Hill.

The Garden is a significant educational institution. More than 300,000 visitors—families and Bronx school children and teachers—learn about plant science, ecology, and healthful eating through hands-on, curriculumbased educational programs. Approximately 90,000 of them are children from underserved neighboring communities who attend local public schools. Nearly 3,100 teachers—mainly from New York City public schools—participate in professional development programs that train them to teach science to all grade levels.

"There are so many challenges to improving nutrition access and education, especially for those who are most disadvantaged," said Lisa Walker, Managing Director, Newman's Own Foundation. "We are excited to help The New York Botanical Garden and many other nonprofits across the country make an impact in improving nutrition in urban and rural communities."

For more information about Newman's Own Foundation nutrition grants, visit: www.newmansownfoundation.org

For more information about The New York Botanical Garden, 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 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

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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