



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

For Immediate Release  
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## **Application Deadline is August 1st for Leading Horticulture Training Program at The New York Botanical Garden**

### **School of Professional Horticulture Students and Alumni are Excelling in the Field!**

The New York Botanical Garden's School of Professional Horticulture, one of the best of its kind, offers students high-quality academic studies with hands-on practical training in a two-year, full-time program in New York City. The School is now accepting applications for the Class of 2017, which starts in January 2015. Interested and qualified individuals have until August 1, 2014 to apply. Prospective students may apply at [nybg.org/edu/soph](http://nybg.org/edu/soph).

"Students who attend the School of Professional Horticulture at The New York Botanical Garden learn the best horticultural practices from some of the world's most skilled horticulturists," said School Director Charles M. Yurgalevitch, Ph.D. "Our mission is to provide students with a strong foundation in professional horticulture. With access to the Garden's unparalleled resources and exposure to cutting-edge horticultural projects around the region, they can learn how to create spectacular green spaces for others to enjoy."

Through classes, rotations, plant walks, educational field trips, internships, group projects, and lectures, students in the School are able to master the science of horticulture in the classroom and practice what they learn on the Garden's 250-acre campus. Students gain real-world experience working closely with NYBG's renowned Horticulture staff in their first year, and in their second year, expand their skills through a six-month internship.

School of Professional Horticulture graduates are highly sought after, and have gone on to pursue rewarding careers in gardening and landscape design, as estate managers, and as horticulturists for major public parks. Among the prominent positions held by alumni are: Executive Director of High Glen Estate in Frederick, Maryland; Director of Growing at Neal Mast & Son Greenhouses, Inc., in Grand Rapids, Michigan; founder of Flora Horticultural Services, Ltd., the company that maintains the grounds at Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York; and Vivian and Edward Merrin Vice President for Glasshouses & Exhibitions at NYBG.

Featured below are profiles of a current student and a recent graduate:



**Marc Wolf** (Class of 2016) attended Williams College in Massachusetts and graduated with a BA in political science and theater. As a writer and performer working in theater, film, and television, he received a National Endowment for the Arts award, an OBIE award, and others. He was a field assistant for native plant garden installations at The New York Botanical Garden and Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and has assisted private garden designers in both New York City and in the Catskills. Wolf's goal is to gain a thorough grounding across the disciplines offered by the School and to continue working with native plants in propagation, design, and ecological restoration.



**Laura Falcones** (Class of 2013) started her own business after graduation: VitaWall is a landscape company that specializes in hydroponic green walls and serves clients in New York with indoor and outdoor projects. Laura received a master's degree in law from Complutense University of Madrid. After working both as a lawyer and Human Resources consultant, she became attracted to horticulture and moved to New York City with her family to pursue this new career path. She volunteered at The New York Botanical Garden and Central Park Conservancy before enrolling in the School in 2011.

**Admissions:**

Admission to the School of Professional Horticulture program is selective and based on a combination of academic achievement and previous horticulture experience. Prospective applicants are required to have 500 hours of previous horticultural work experience through internships, nursery work, or gardening. Classes are kept small to ensure that each student receives maximum attention from staff and instructors.

For information on admission requirements and to apply, visit [nybg.org/edu/soph](http://nybg.org/edu/soph) or call 718.817.8797.

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Begun in 1932 as a professional gardener training program at The New York Botanical Garden, the School of Professional Horticulture became accredited in 2005 by the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) and certified by the U.S. Department of Education to administer Title IV funds (Pell grants and Direct Loans) to eligible students. Its accreditation was renewed for an additional five years in 2011, the maximum length of time allowed.

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

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 prices, 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 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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