

For Immediate Release May 31, 2013

America's National Flower on Display throughout the Summer in Award-Winning, Sustainable Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden

Thousands of New Roses Showcase Color, Fragrance, Variety, and Disease Resistance
June through October



Long lauded as one of the most beautiful rose gardens in the United States, the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden at The New York Botanical Garden has been transformed into one of the most sustainable rose gardens in the world, with more than 4,400 roses in over 680 varieties. The Botanical Garden's annual five-month-long showcase of the beloved plant, America's national flower, planted in the Rockefeller Rose Garden's magnificently landscaped beds, begins with a two-week peak bloom in June and continues with a kaleidoscope of color throughout the summer months until the end of October. Friday tours and weekend home gardening demonstrations provide visitors to the Garden opportunities to appreciate and learn more about the iconic flower whose beauty continues to fascinate.

The Rose Garden was designed in 1916 by celebrated landscape architect Beatrix Jones Farrand, whose full vision for the site was realized in 1988 thanks to the generosity of David Rockefeller in honor of his wife. The garden was meticulously renovated in 2007 and continues to charm and delight all who walk its paths. In October 2012, the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden was recognized as one of the best rose gardens in the world and presented the "Award of Garden Excellence" by the World Federation of Rose Societies.

During the past few years, over 3,500 new roses have been added to the increasingly comprehensive collection, with the goal of growing a diversity of varieties of roses from around the world that are not only stunningly beautiful but disease resistant as well. The Rose Garden now boasts over 680 total varieties.

The Rose Garden's Heritage Rose Border is one of the largest Heritage Rose Collections in the Northeast. Starting with species roses and ending with the first modern hybridized rose ('La France,' 1867), this encyclopedic border allows visitors to stroll along and see the "evolution" of roses and learn how their flower form has developed over the past two centuries.

The entire Rockefeller Rose Garden is evaluated on a monthly basis using the EarthKindTM Rose Trials system. This provides yearly quantitative results and provides a basis for varieties on disease resistance and fragrance, helping transform the Rose Garden into one of the most sustainable public gardens in the world as well as one of the most beautiful rose gardens in America.

Shop in the Garden offers many rose-related items for sale, including rose plants, rose-inspired merchandise, and much more.

For more information, go to nybg.org or call 718.817.8700.

###

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.



Media Contact: Nick Leshi at 718.817.8658; nleshi@nybg.org—Images available