



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

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The New York Botanical Garden Announces the Arrival of *So Much Spring* Exciting Season of Colors, Scents, Exhibitions, and Events Runs April to June 2009

The New York Botanical Garden heralds the new season with *So Much Spring*, a variety of attractions at the Garden from April to June. Visitors to the Botanical Garden can partake in a rich, multi-sensory experience of floral delights, both outdoors and indoors, enjoying emerging flowers around the grounds as well as exhibitions, programs, and events. This year's rich spring offerings include a **multitude of flowering trees and plants** throughout the Garden's historic 250-acre landscape, a **new flower show** in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, an **art exhibit** in the LuEsther T. Mertz Library's Gallery, a **newly designed and planted Seasonal Walk**, a **plethora of programming** for Earth Month in April, **tours, demonstrations, workshops, and much more.**



Celebrate Spring with Beautiful Exhibitions



In celebration of the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's arrival in New York, the Botanical Garden brings a touch of Holland to the Bronx with ***The Glory of Dutch Bulbs: A Legacy of 400 Years*** in the Haupt Conservatory from May 1–June 7. The indoor exhibition is inspired by the world-famous gardens of Keukenhof, located near Amsterdam and famed for spring displays of flowering bulbs. It will showcase large swaths of vibrantly-colored flowering bulbs and companion plants. Though many types of bulbs will be featured during the flower show, focus will be placed on tulips and lilies. Nearly 50,000 bulbs will be forced for display in the flower show.

In the Rondina and LoFaro Gallery, located in the 6th floor of the Library Building, ***Georg Ehret: The Greatest Botanical Artist of the 1700s*** is on display from April 18–July 19. This exhibition gathers together for the first time for public viewing magnificent examples of Ehret's paintings from public and private collections, alongside his published works from the holdings of the LuEsther T. Mertz Library.

Immerse Yourself in the Outdoor Experience

The outdoor attractions at the Botanical Garden are the perfect antidotes for spring fever, a grand pageant of spring's flowering sequence in settings that range from expansive, wide-open hillsides and valleys to the carefully designed gardens and landscapes brimming with plants from around the world. Guests can enjoy a rainbow of colors, from flowering magnolia, cherry, magnolia, and crabapple trees to magnificent springtime favorites like tulips, daffodils, azaleas, and more.

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A Newly Designed Seasonal Walk of Glorious Bulbs

Waves of flowers roll across the 250 acres of the Botanical Garden as spring unfolds. Visitors revel in spring's return as buds unfurl on the ancient trees of New York City's largest remaining tract of native forest and spring rain swells the waterfall in the City's only freshwater river.

Internationally renowned Dutch garden designers Piet Oudolf and Jacqueline van der Kloet have collaborated to create a custom, four-season installation on **Seasonal Walk**, which will begin to be realized this spring. The two design stars teamed up to design Seasonal Walk to feature many spring and summer-blooming bulbs, anchored by flowering perennials and ornamental grasses, a number of which are Piet Oudolf introductions. The Dutch designed Seasonal Walk will be a dynamic outdoor complement to the Botanical Garden's Conservatory exhibition, *The Glory of Dutch Bulbs: A Legacy of 400 Years*.

Waves of Color from the Rock Garden to Flowering Trees

The **Rock Garden** displays thousands of colorful alpine plants, many grown from seeds, from flowers of mountainous regions throughout the world, including specimens from six of the seven continents. A sparkling stream flows past primroses and woodland blossoms to a flower-rimmed pond. The Botanical Garden has one of the largest collections of daffodils in the United States, with daffodils stretching across the Liasson Narcissus Collection, sweeping up Daffodil Hill, and bordering Daffodil Walk.

Elsewhere, along the landscaped paths, under the specimen trees, and in the garden beds, **waves of colorful minor bulbs**—chionodoxas, crocuses, scilla, and many more—break the drabness of winter's memory with intense splashes of color. Witch-hazels and early flowering shrubs and trees add their own touches of unusual shapes, colors, and fragrances.

As spring progresses, the **Botanical Garden's superb collections of flowering trees and shrubs** provide bolder strokes of color and more pronounced fragrances. Flowering cherries—including wonderful specimens interplanted among the mature pines, firs, and spruces in the historic Arthur and Janet Ross Conifer Arboretum—are in peak flower during late April. The month of April brings to flower a variety of Asian and American magnolias, leading into May, when lilacs and crabapples begin to flower. The azalea and rhododendron collections infuse vivid hues of many colors into seven acres of woodland.

April is Earth Month

In celebration of **Earth Month**, The New York Botanical Garden is planning a variety of programming in April as part of the global observance of environmental awareness. **Earth Day** is April 22 and **Arbor Day** is April 24, but the Garden offers rich programming throughout the month as part of the celebration, including tree plantings, garden openings, new exhibitions, picnics, and poetry.

Saturday, April 4 (1-5:30 p.m.) marks the opening of the **Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden** with digging, planting, and growing for the whole family. The weekend also offers *Climate Change and Sustainability at the Garden*, an interpretive cell phone tour guiding visitors through the Garden grounds while educating them on how Garden research contributes to the study of climate change, the challenges being faced, and what actions can be taken to mitigate the effects.

From April 9–19 as many schools are closed for their spring holidays, students and families can partake in a number of programs scheduled as part of The New York Botanical Garden’s ***Break for Biodiversity***. Children can become “Plant Hunters” and tour the Haupt Conservatory’s permanent exhibit *A World of Plants*. At a Biodiversity Discovery Station in the Everett Children’s Adventure Garden, Explainers teach the importance of rain forests around the world. A Garden Scavenger Hunt for Families, created by Watson Adventures, uncovers the diversity of the plant world through the Conservatory and Garden grounds.

An Explorers Walk for Families offers the opportunity to learn the history of the Garden’s 50-acre Forest with highlights of some of its notable trees. An Herbarium Specimen Making Workshop in the Arthur and Janet Ross Gallery enables children to press their own plants as the Garden’s scientists do in the field.

From family activities in the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden and Everett Children’s Adventure Garden to tours, home gardening demonstrations, and more, April kicks off the spring season at the Garden with a lot to see and do for visitors of all ages.

Tree Plantings, Spring Picnics, and Poetry During Earth Month

Pre-scheduled volunteers can participate in a **Forest Tree Planting** on April 18 and 19, and again on Arbor Day, April 24, and on April 25, all from 9 a.m.–12 p.m. The trees will be planted in the northern portion of the Botanical Garden’s Forest, along both the Main Trail and the Oak Trail. Contact the Volunteer Services department at 718.817.8564 to register.

On Saturday, April 25, and Sunday, April 26, enjoy ***Picnic on the Planet***. Purchase a bag lunch at the Garden Cafe or Visitor Center Cafe, from 11 a.m.–2 p.m., take it out to Daffodil Hill and enjoy the spring blossoms. Don’t forget to pack a blanket to spread out on the grass.

April is also National Poetry Month. On April 30, celebrate National Poem in Your Pocket Day at The New York Botanical Garden. Read poems inspired by the plant world and enjoy the spring beauty of the Garden collections. Create your own nature inspired poem or pick up a poem to share with friends and family after you leave the Garden. From 3-5 p.m., enjoy an outdoor poetry reading experience in the Native Plant Garden. Listen to readings of favorite nature-inspired poetry and celebrate Mother Nature through poems from around the world.

Gardens and Plant Collections Provide Inspiration

Many of the individual gardens and plant collections, such as the Ladies’ Border and the Jane Watson Irwin Perennial Garden, provide a showcase for unusual plants and how to use them in the garden. The Home Gardening Center is a wonderful resource for visitors to see hot new plants and great old favorites, learn time-saving techniques to make their home gardens more beautiful and more manageable, gather ideas for creative design for gardens and landscapes, and obtain solutions for common problems and answers to many gardening questions. Elsewhere on the grounds, beds of peonies, both herbaceous and tree, and beds of irises contribute further vivid displays in May.

In the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden, children help prepare the garden, planting flower and vegetable seeds, composting, and digging for worms in the fresh soil. The Everett Children’s Adventure Garden provides young visitors with the chance to explore nature and go on a spring scavenger hunt.

Late spring through the month of June is dominated by the exuberant flowering and distinctive fragrance of roses. The Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, a dramatic design nestled in a verdant valley, provides gorgeous vistas and an encyclopedia of rose varieties, both heritage and modern.

Additional Indoor Spring Offerings

To complement their outdoor excursions this spring, visitors can see spectacular images on display in the Ross Gallery now through September 13 in *The Heirloom Tomato: An Exhibition of Photographs by Victor Schrager*, featuring portraits of historic tomato varieties from the gardens of acclaimed food writer Amy Goldman. The 34 glorious color images are a sampling of the amazing 500 varieties grown every year by Amy Goldman.

The Library building's Britton Science Rotunda and Gallery features *Plants and Fungi: Ten Current Research Stories*, an ongoing exhibition of research by Botanical Garden scientists in the field, laboratory, library, and herbarium, probing the mysteries of the evolution, ecological roles, and economic uses of plants.

A Complete Visitor Experience

While at The New York Botanical Garden, visitors will also want to explore the gateway to the Botanical Garden, the Leon Levy Visitor Center, for its cafe, outdoor plaza and reflecting pool, and **Shop in the Garden**, featuring wonderful books, plants, and products for sale that reflect the specimens on display at the Garden. In addition, weekend demonstrations, tours, and presentations offer visitors the opportunity to tap into the knowledge of the Botanical Garden's experts.

For more information, visit www.nybg.org or call 718.817.8700.

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*The Glory of Dutch Bulbs is co-curated with Henry Hudson 400
with bulbs and planting design provided by Anthos and the International Flower Bulb Center.*

Exhibitions in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory are made possible by the Estate of Enid A. Haupt.

*Exhibitions in the Mertz Library are made possible by the LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust
and William D. Rondina and The Carlisle Collection.*

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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 Botanical Garden is open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays. 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, Rock and Native Plant Gardens, and Tram Tour: \$20 for adults, \$18 for seniors and students with ID, \$8 for children ages 2–12, children under 2 are free. A *Grounds-Only Pass* is available: \$6 for adults, \$5 for adult Bronx Residents; \$3 for seniors, \$2 for students with ID, \$1 for children ages 2–12, children under 2 are free. Grounds-only admission is free all day on Wednesdays and from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit www.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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