

For Immediate Release
April 26, 2005

Public Events for Spring at The New York Botanical Garden

Enjoy a Variety of Programs to Celebrate the Season of Nature's Rebirth

Few places feature as many facets of nature's ever-changing seasonal displays as The New York Botanical Garden. This spring at the Botanical Garden promises an especially rich, multi-sensory agenda of floral experiences, both outdoors and in, complemented by exhibitions, programs, and events. Below is a list of scheduled events through June. (Information subject to change.)

Please call 718.817.8700 or visit www.nybg.org for more information.

EXHIBITIONS

Spring Flower Show: An Aquatic Woodland in the Conservatory

Through June 12

This exhibition brings together the best of the season and presents a lush array of spring beauties amid meandering streams and reflecting pools. The choice plants on display include delicate woodland ephemerals, bold perennials, a delightful kaleidoscope of spring bulbs, and shrubs with both floral and foliage appeal. The changing display will unfold through spring's many phases; there will always be new inspiration for home gardeners and new sights to behold.

In the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory

This exhibition is made possible by the Honoré Wamsler Memorial Fund for the Spring Flower Show.

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

Glasshouses: The Architecture of Light and Air

May 14–August 14

Art and architecture, culture and horticulture come together in this intriguing exhibition in the Garden's LuEsther T. Mertz Library. A selection of drawings, prints, paintings, photographs, and illustrated books illuminate more than three centuries of the evolution of glasshouses, a specialized form of architecture that transcends the normal limitations of nature. The works on display, many from the collections of the Mertz Library itself, tell several different stories, including the history of glasshouses, the glasshouse in America, and glasshouses at The New York Botanical Garden.

In the Rondina and LoFaro Gallery of the Library Building

Glasshouses: The Architecture of Light and Air is sponsored by Andron Construction Corporation.

Additional support provided by Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Nolen, The Indian Point Foundation, and The Helen Clay Frick Foundation.

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

Primrose Palette

May 14–June 12, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Colorful, cheerful primulas—primroses, as they are often called—will lend their charming beauty to *Primrose Palette*, the inaugural display in the Bourke-Sullivan Display House. Starting May 14, some dozen primula species, including rare and choice auriculas, will be featured along with fuchsias, roses, gardenias, ferns, and other classic Victorian glasshouse plants. Because they are diminutive, ephemeral, and delicate, primroses can be shown at their best in the intimately-scaled display house.

In the Bourke-Sullivan Display House of the Nolen Greenhouses

Primrose Palette was made possible by generous support from Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Nolen and Eleanor F. Sullivan, and additional support in memory of Dorothy F. Thorne.

A World of Plants

Permanent Exhibition

A World of Plants showcases the wonders, diversity, and uses of plants and the valuable work of the Garden's scientists. It's like an "ecotour" of the world, via 11 distinct habitats and galleries: You'll see the largest collection of New World palm trees under glass; the rich diversity of life that inhabits the *Lowland and Upland Tropical Rain Forests*; and plants that have adapted to their harsh environments in the *Deserts of the Americas and Africa*. From banana trees and moth orchids to coffee plants and cacti, a world of indispensable plant life awaits you all year-round.

In the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory

NOLEN GREENHOUSES FOR LIVING COLLECTIONS

Grand Opening of the Nolen Greenhouses for Living Collections

May 14 and 15

The New York Botanical Garden's new, state-of-the-art propagation greenhouses, the Nolen Greenhouses for Living Collections, open this May. One section, the Bourke-Sullivan Display House, will be open to the public, displaying special plants and allowing visitors to observe the techniques of the Botanical Garden's horticulturists. Numerous public events will occur all weekend to commemorate the grand opening. Please check our Web site, www.nybg.org, for details.

FAMILY EVENTS

Sensational Spring Surprises

Through June 26

Tues–Fri: 1:30–5:30 p.m.; Weekends, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Explore the buds and blossoms that make springtime so special. Plant seeds to take home, measure the speedy growth of a cattail, and go on a spring scavenger hunt.

In the Everett Children's Adventure Garden

Month of Mother's Day Magic

May 3–29, 1–5:30 p.m.

Enjoy spring blossoms and hands-on gardening with the entire family at the Howell Family Garden's month-long celebration of Mom. The kids can make a paper flower, create a unique Mother's Day card, and pot up a special plant for Mom to take home.

In the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden

Fairy Houses Exhibit

May 7–June 26

Tues-Fri: 1:30-5:30 p.m.; Weekends: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Laura Martin and her daughter Cameron have dreamed up a magical world of fairy dwellings and turned it into a book called *Fairy Island: An Enchanting Tour of the Homes of the Little Folk*. At the Everett Children's Adventure Garden, you can see some of the whimsical houses they created entirely out of botanical materials. Take a peek inside and you'll see that the fairies use dried leaves for their curtains and corn shucks for their wallpaper and sit in tiny twig chairs!

In the Everett Children's Adventure Garden

Mother's Day Tea Party

May 8, 1–3 p.m.

Join Laura Martin and her daughter Cameron for a special Tea Party in the Adventure Garden.

In the Everett Children's Adventure Garden

Wild Wiggly Worms

May 31–June 26, 1–5:30 p.m.

Learn all about worms and how they are hard at work in the garden. Make a worm craft, sift nutritious worm compost to take home for your houseplants, and more.

In the Ruth Rea Howell Family Garden

BOOK SIGNINGS

Fairy Island with Laura Martin

May 7, 2–4 p.m.

Laura Martin signs copies of her book *Fairy Island: An Enchanting Tour of the Homes of the Little Folk*.

In the Shop in the Garden

EXPERT-LED TOURS

"Spring in the Conservatory"

May 21, 2:30 p.m.

Join Sharita Mason, gardener at The New York Botanical Garden, for a tour of the annual *Spring Flower Show: An Aquatic Woodland in the Conservatory*. Experience a beguiling array of delicate woodland ephemerals, flowering perennials, bulbs, and shrubs set amid reflecting pools and flowing streams. This changing display will unfurl throughout spring's many phases and Ms. Mason's tour will provide inspiration and delight to the home gardener. She will also explain the myth and meaning behind many of these exquisite plants.

Meets in the Conservatory Palm Gallery

Tulips by the Thousands

May 7, 2:30 p.m.

The New York Botanical Garden hosts one of the country's most impressive tulip displays every year. Over 45,000 tulip bulbs were planted last fall throughout the Botanical Garden's grounds. Come explore the variety of shapes, colors and sizes of these classic spring beauties with Sarah Carter, Curator of Herbaceous Plants at the New York Botanical Garden. Learn the Garden's strategy of succession planting for year-round interest and how to create plant combinations with other perennials.

Meets at the Conservatory Plaza

Flowering Shrubs for Spring Interest

May 28, 1:30 p.m.

Join Jud Brooks for a walk through the Botanical Garden to experience the flowering trees and shrubs of late spring. You will likely see late-flowering lilacs, azaleas, rhododendrons and some surprises!

Meets at the Snuff Mill Tram Stop

HOME GARDENING DEMONSTRATIONS

You Reap What You Sow: Seed Sowing and Planting Outdoors

May 1, 1:30 p.m.

Join Gardener for Public Programs, Sonia Uytterhoeven, as she takes you through the basic principles of garden preparation and planting in the spring. She will demonstrate simple techniques for sowing annuals and vegetables in the garden as well as providing tips for planting out annuals, vegetables and perennials.

Meets at the Shop in the Garden.

Pots Galore! Mother's Day Container Bonanza

May 8, 1:30 p.m.

From hanging baskets to ornamental strawberry pots, from sun to shade, join Gardener for Public Programs, Sonia Uytterhoeven, as she takes you through container basics and provides you with some exciting combinations for an exotic and colorful container garden.

Meets at the Seasonal Border

Successfully Growing Annual and Perennial Vines

May 15, 1:30 p.m.

Join Gardener for Public Programs, Sonia Uytterhoeven, for a discussion of some of the easiest annual and perennial vines to grow. She will slowly weave her way through a colorful assortment of both annual and perennial vines, providing you with design ideas and basic guidelines for successfully growing vines in your garden.

Meets at the Shop in the Garden.

All about Annuals

May 22 and 29, 1:30 p.m.

Gardener for Public Programs, Sonia Uytterhoeven, will teach you all about annuals and hopefully have you coming back again next year for more.

Meets at the Shop in the Garden.

ANTIQUE GARDEN FURNITURE SHOW AND SALE

Book Signing with Laurence Sheehan

April 29, 12–2 p.m.

Join author Laurence Sheehan for a special signing of his book *The Gardener's Life: Inspired Plantsmen, Passionate Collectors, and Singular Visions in the World of Gardening*, available for purchase at the Shop in the Garden and at its booth at the show.

Takes place at booth #3; book available at Shop in the Garden and at booth #3.

Marvels and Marbles: Garden Ornament and the Grand Tour

April 29 and 30, 12 p.m., and May 1, 2 p.m.

Antique show director Catherine Sweeney Singer leads a walking tour of the Antique Garden Furniture Show and Sale and discusses the origins and current trends in the appreciation and acquisition of antique garden furniture.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent; meets at the centerpiece opposite Booth 8.

Folk Art in the Garden

April 29, 1 p.m.

Join antiques expert Judith Milne of Judith & James Milne to look at ways to use weathervanes, whirligigs, and colorful folk art in your garden.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 7

Alabaster to Zinc: A Garden Antiques Primer

April 29 and 30, 2 p.m., and May 1, 12 p.m.

Cast or carved? Stone or composite? Paint or patina? Twig or *faux bois*? Join antique show director Catherine Sweeney Singer to collect the experts' tips on materials and techniques used in creating garden ornament.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent; meet at the centerpiece opposite Booth 8.

Questions You Should Ask Yourself When Choosing a Garden Antique

April 29, 3 p.m.

What suits your landscape design needs as well as your lifestyle? Join exhibitor and landscape designer Ana Thompson of The Thompson Studio for a presentation and discussion.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 23.

Bringing the Garden Indoors

April 29, 4 p.m.

Join Steve Abeles and Ray Attansio of Balsamo Antiquités as they demonstrate ways to use urns, bird baths, finials, and other garden ornament in your interior décor.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 28

Book Signing with May Brawley Hill

April 29, 5:30–7pm

May Brawley Hill, art historian and author of several books on American gardens, will sign copies of her just-published book *On Foreign Soil: American Gardeners Abroad*, available for purchase at the Shop in the Garden and at its booth at the show.

Takes place at booth #3; book available at Shop in the Garden and at booth #3.

Flora and Fauna: Animal Statuary for the Garden

April 30, 1 p.m.

Join garden antiques expert Barbara Israel in her rustic woodlands-themed booth to discuss traditional and contemporary uses of animal ornament in the garden.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 33

How to Date an Urn

April 30, 3 p.m.

Join cast iron expert Marty Shapiro of The Finnegan Gallery for a primer in what to look for to determine an urn's date, condition, and composition.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 25

Living with Ancient Stone

April 30, 4 p.m.

Join stone expert Ani Antreasyan of Canyon Antiques to discuss living with “a piece of history” and the use of ancient stone antiques and objects in the garden.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 22

Nature into Art: An Introduction to Antique Botanical Prints

May 1, 1 p.m.

Join Danielle Ann Millican, botanical art and illustration expert and Antique Garden Furniture Show and Sale exhibitor, for a lecture illustrated with fine botanical prints.

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 8

Fakes, Forgeries, and Reproductions: Undressing Garden Antiques

May 1, 3 p.m.

Can you spot a fake? Join Tracey Young of The Elemental Garden to test your detective skills and learn how the experts determine what is “antique.”

Takes place in the Conservatory Tent, Booth 32

QUESTIONS-AND-ANSWERS

Q&A Sessions

May 8 and 21, 1–4 p.m.

The New York Botanical Garden experts are on hand to answer your questions about spring gardening.

Meets at the Shop in the Garden

PERFORMANCES

InterSchool Orchestras Mother’s Day Concert

May 8, 3 p.m.

In the Conservatory Tent

Goldman Memorial Band Annual Concert

May 29, 3 p.m.

Meets in the Conservatory Tent

Bronx Arts Ensemble presents “Peter and the Wolf”

June 19, 3 p.m.

Bronx Arts Ensemble presents “Peter and the Wolf” with narrator/mime Michael McGuigan. Prokofiev’s ever-popular tale is back to delight children of all ages. The audience meets the characters through the instruments and joins the hunters in capturing the Wolf! A delightful Father’s Day Family Concert!

In the Arthur and Janet Ross Lecture Hall

ROSE MONTH

June 4–26

In the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden

Expert and Curator-led Tours: 2:30 p.m., Saturdays

Home Gardening Demonstrations: 1:30 p.m., Sundays

Q&A Sessions: 1–4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays

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

The Spring Flower Show is made possible by the Honoré Wamsler Memorial Fund.

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

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MetLife Foundation

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The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road in the Bronx. In spring, the Botanical Garden is open Tuesday–Sunday and on Monday holidays, from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *Combination Ticket*, which includes admission to the grounds, Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Everett Children’s Adventure Garden, and Tram Tour, and costs \$13 for adults, \$11 for seniors and students, and \$5 for children 2-12 (free for children under 2). For more details, call 718.817.8700 or visit our Web site at www.nybg.org.

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Photos available