

For Immediate Release  
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**The New York Botanical Garden's Annual Orchid Exhibition  
Set to Enthrall with Enchanting New Features for an Extra Week  
February 25–April 2, 2006**

The fourth annual rendition of *The Orchid Show: An Exhibition and Sale of Fine Orchids* returns to The New York Botanical Garden on Saturday, February 25. This year, the ever eagerly anticipated show will run an extra week, through Sunday, April 2.

*The Orchid Show* at The New York Botanical Garden is distinguished as the only curated and designed, museum-quality orchid exhibition. Visitors are exposed to these coveted plants in ingenious ways. The colors, shapes, sizes, and textures of the orchids as well as the rich information provided about them are a feast for the eyes and nourishment for the intellect.

The lush *Palms of the Americas Gallery* in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory is the site for the opening act of this exotic show. Its central reflecting pool is the stage for a fantastic scene in which fountains of orchids tumble from faux coral stone columns.

The show progresses to the *Lowland Rain Forest Gallery*, where New World orchids are displayed as they are found in their natural habitat. Epiphytic orchids are shown throughout in beds of lush tropical foliage as well as hanging from trees as they would in nature.

The terrarium in the Conservatory's *Upland Rain Forest Gallery* showcases beautiful and often strange, jewel-like miniature orchids. Get up close to these plants that have flowers ranging from two to four millimeters wide and come in every possible color, from purest white to darkest night.

Marc Hachadourian, the Botanical Garden's Curator of Glasshouse Collections, is the curator of *The Orchid Show*. He has prepared a dazzling array of more than 8,000 orchids, everything from rare miniature species to the newest and most extravagant hybrids, to be on view during the five-week exhibition.

**Stroll Through an Orchid Garden**

For 2006, *The Orchid Show* is themed, "A Garden of Orchids." After an intriguing intermission via two desert galleries in the Conservatory, visitors enter the *Seasonal Exhibition Galleries* for the show's climax: an orchid garden whose beds and bowers overflow with thousands of orchid plants in hundreds of varieties.

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Designer Philip Baloun of Philip Baloun Designs, New York City, presents a grand arbor abundantly adorned with orchids, *Vandas* in particular. The arbor proves a breathtaking centerpiece for raised formal beds created from old stone walls and filled not with typical bedding plants, but rather orchids of mind-boggling diversity: purple *Cattleyas*; maroon *Paphiopedilums*; white and yellow *Phalaenopsis*; green and gold *Cymbidiums*; and many more.

Todd Forrest, Botanical Garden Vice President for Horticulture, comments, “The theme and design elements of this year’s *Orchid Show* will make visitors believe they have been transported backward in time to the imaginary Florida estate of a railroad magnate in the 1920s.”

### **The Exhibition Continues in the Orchid Rotunda**

Take a short walk from America’s preeminent Victorian-style glasshouse to the Orchid Rotunda in the Library Building to experience a magnificent display of vandas. The 40 epiphytic species of *Vanda* grow widely from the Himalayas through tropical Asia and into northern Australia. Enjoy the rainbow colors of both the miniature specimens and gigantic hybrids that range from red, orange, yellow, blue, and purple, and almost limitless shades in between.

### **Shop in the Garden Offers the Opportunity to Bring the Beauty Home**

Located in the Garden’s Leon Levy Visitor Center, Shop in the Garden is a destination not to be missed during *The Orchid Show*. Thousands of top-quality orchids, from exotic, hard-to-find specimens to varieties for the beginner, are available for purchase in the Shop, along with orchid products for the home grower and hundreds of orchid book titles.

### **Wealth of Complementary Programming Enriches the Exhibition**

Exhibition tours, home gardening demonstrations, expert Q&A sessions and presentations, Continuing Education classes, and children’s programming round out *The Orchid Show* experience and whet appetites to return to The New York Botanical Garden multiple times during the run of the show.

*The Orchid Show is sponsored by The Tiffany & Co. Foundation.*

*Exhibitions in the Conservatory have been made possible by the late Enid A. Haupt, to whom The Orchid Show is dedicated.*

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**The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. The Botanical Garden is open Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays.**

**During *The Orchid Show*, the Botanical Garden is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m.**

**Off-Peak Pricing: Tuesday–Thursday: Adults \$15, Seniors/Students \$13, Children \$5.**

**Peak Pricing: Friday–Sunday & Monday holidays: Adults \$18, Seniors/Students \$16, Children \$5.**

**For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit [www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org) or call 718.817.8700.**

**The New York Botanical Garden is an advocate for the plant kingdom. The Garden pursues its mission through its role as a museum of living plant collections arranged in gardens and landscapes across its National Historic Landmark site; through its comprehensive education programs in horticulture and plant science; and through the wide-ranging programs of the International Plant Science Center.**

**The buildings and grounds of The New York Botanical Garden are owned by the City of New York. A portion of the Garden’s general operating funds is provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, 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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