

For Immediate Release
September 5, 2007

Join Chefs Daisy Martinez and Maricel Presilla For *A Taste of the Caribbean* at The New York Botanical Garden

Saturday–Sunday, September 8–9



On the weekend of September 8–9, The New York Botanical Garden offers visitors *A Taste of the Caribbean*—cooking demonstrations that explore the savory flavors of the tropics. Celebrity chef **Daisy Martinez** of the nationally broadcast PBS television show *Daisy Cooks!* reveals some of her tasty Caribbean-inspired dishes on Saturday, September 8, at 2:30 p.m. **Maricel Presilla**, culinary historian, chocolate expert, and nominee for Best Chef for the Mid-Atlantic Region by the James Beard Foundation, demonstrates the versatility of chocolate, which is processed from the fruit of the tropically grown cacao tree, in sweet concoctions on Sunday, September 9, at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.



All cooking demonstrations will take place rain or shine at the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory Lawn. The first 100 visitors to attend the cooking demonstrations will receive a coupon that can be redeemed at the Garden Cafe for a free sample of some of the dishes created from the demonstrated recipes.

Booksignings will be held after each cooking demonstration at the Conservatory Lawn. On September 8, Daisy Martinez will sign copies of *Daisy Cooks! Latin Flavors That Will Rock Your World*, and on September 9, Maricel Presilla will sign copies of *The New Taste of Chocolate: A Cultural and Natural History of Cacao with Recipes*. The books will be available for purchase at the Conservatory Lawn as well as Shop at the Garden.

Cooking demonstration attendees will not want to miss an opportunity to experience *Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise* in the Conservatory, where they can stroll among lush tropical flora and enjoy this spectacular flower show, inspired by the tradition and formality of Spanish courtyard gardens in the Caribbean region and the variety and vividness of tropical plants.

On September 9, in addition to the cooking demonstration, visitors can also enjoy *Ballet Among the Blooms* in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden from 2–4 p.m. In the Home Gardening Center at 1:30 p.m., they can get tips on creating beautiful gardens in sun-deprived spaces.

Coming up on September 15–16, celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a weekend festival, *Fiesta de Flores*, celebrating the people and plants of Latin America and the Caribbean. Enjoy the beauty of the Garden while being treated to live music, dancing, delicious food specialties, storytelling, and more. Discover what Garden scientists have been researching for the last century, originating from the first exploration in the Caribbean, and learn about current projects such as the Virtual Herbarium in the exhibition *Plants and Fungi: Ten Current Research Projects*. Take in the tropics on a tour through the final weekend of *Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise*.

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

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

Caribbean Gardens: Journey to Paradise has been made possible by Mr. & Mrs. Marvin H. Davidson.

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 Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April through October. PRICING: \$18, Seniors/Students \$16, Children \$5. Advance tickets are available online at www.nybg.org. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit our Web site at 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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