

# NYBG

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL HORTICULTURE

VOLUME XIII 2019–20

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I am often asked what is horticulture, as many people confuse horticulture with botany or agriculture. Horticulture is a varied and diverse field, defined as the art and science of growing plants such as fruit, vegetables, flowers. It includes plant conservation, landscape restoration, soil management, landscape design, construction and maintenance, and arboriculture.

Since its founding in 1932, the School of Professional Horticulture at The New York Botanical Garden has been one of the world's leaders in hands-on horticulture training. The School's two-year program combines the academic with the practical, offering its graduates a solid pathway to exciting and rewarding careers in the growing and diverse green industry. The School of Professional Horticulture's mission is to educate and train motivated individuals to become horticulturists of the highest caliber equipped to succeed in green industry leadership positions in both the public and private sectors.

During the program, students become familiar with the cultural needs of more than 1,000 plants and some of the common pests and diseases that affect them, while working in state-of-the-art facilities across our 250-acre campus. Students learn about native plants, ecological restoration, urban agriculture, composting, and sustainable practices in their coursework, during their horticulture rotations, and by attending special lectures and symposia sponsored by the School and the Garden. Class sizes are limited to 15 students.

Upon graduation, students are highly sought after for both internships and permanent employment. Private businesses and public gardens actively recruit our students, knowing they possess superb professional skills. In fact, the School boasts a 100% placement rate over the past eight years! Among the prominent positions held by alumni are Head Gardener at the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden, Head Curator at the Bermuda Botanical Gardens, estate gardeners at celebrity estates, Director of Horticulture at the Horticultural Society of New York, and Executive Director at Mountain Top Arboretum.

If you are ready to develop the vital skills and knowledge needed to protect and care for landscapes and plants, the School of Professional Horticulture is the right place for you. We look forward to seeing you at the Garden!

Charles M. Yurgalevitch, Ph.D.

---

## The Board of The New York Botanical Garden

### Chairman

Maureen K. Chilton

### Chairman of the Executive Committee

J. Barclay Collins II

### Chief Executive Officer The William C. Steere Sr. President

Gregory Long

### Senior Vice Chairman

Lionel Goldfrank III

### Vice Chairman for Strategic Planning

Mrs. Nicholas J. Sakellariadis

### Secretary/Treasurer

Craig Vosburg

### Vice Chairmen

Edward P. Bass  
Larry E. Condon  
Amy Goldman Fowler, Ph.D.  
Marjorie G. Rosen  
William C. Steere, Jr.  
Shelby White

### Chairman Emeritus

Wilson Nolen

### Executive Committee

J. Barclay Collins II  
*Chairman*  
Edward P. Bass  
John W. Bernstein  
Maureen K. Chilton  
Larry E. Condon  
Amy Goldman Fowler, Ph.D.  
Lionel Goldfrank III  
Diane Katzin  
Gregory Long  
Marjorie G. Rosen  
Deborah Goodrich Royce  
Mrs. Nicholas J.  
Sakellariadis  
William C. Steere, Jr.  
Carmen M. Thain  
Craig Vosburg, *Ex Officio*  
Caroline A. Wamsler, Ph.D.  
Shelby White

### Trustees

Leonard Abess  
Gary A. Beller  
Mrs. Jeremy H. Biggs  
Mrs. Coleman P. Burke  
Mrs. Harry Burn III  
Mrs. Jonathan C. Clay  
José Luis Cruz, Ph.D.  
Mrs. Marvin H. Davidson  
Florence A. Davis  
Jacqueline H. Dryfoos  
Mrs. Edith B. Everett  
Robert F. Gossett, Jr.  
Mrs. Thomas J. Hubbard  
Weslie R. Janeway  
Henry P. Johnson  
Jill Joyce  
Karen Katen  
Edith W. Kean  
Thomas E. Lovejoy, Ph.D.  
Susan E. Lynch  
Serafin U. Mariel  
Susan E. Kay Matelich  
Gilbert C. Maurer  
Lynden B. Miller  
George M. Milne, Jr., Ph.D.  
Hidemoto Mizuhara  
Janet M. Montag  
Malcolm C. Nolen

Jessye Norman  
Susan R. Palm  
Marc B. Porter  
Hon. Dianne T. Renwick  
Mrs. John R. Robinson  
Mrs. Arthur Ross  
Gillian Steel  
Michael H. Steinhardt  
Eleanor F. Sullivan  
Sally Susman  
John A. Thain  
Douglas Dockery Thomas  
Joseph A. Thompson  
Mish Tworkowski  
Gordon A. Uehling III  
Karen Washington  
Sigourney Weaver  
Michael A. Zarcone

### Life Trustees

Lewis B. Cullman  
Mrs. Andrew Heiskell  
Kenneth Roman

### Trustee Emerita

Mrs. Thomas H. Choate

### Distinguished Counsellors to the Board

Gloria M. Coruzzi, Ph.D.  
Sir Peter R. Crane, FRS  
Helen Dillon  
Rafaela Campostrini  
Forzza, Ph.D.  
Vartan Gregorian, Ph.D.  
Penelope Hobhouse,  
Hon.D.Litt. VMH  
Joseph M. McShane, S.J.  
Laurie D. Olin, FASLA  
Professor Sir Ghillean  
Prance, FRS, VMH  
Quentin D. Wheeler, Ph.D.  
Edward O. Wilson, Ph.D.

The School of Professional Horticulture is a division of and is controlled by The New York Botanical Garden, which is a 501(c)(3) New York Not-For-Profit Corporation.

# CONTENTS

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>Introduction</b> .....                           | <b>3</b>   |
| <b>Program Overview</b> .....                       | <b>4</b>   |
| <b>Schedule</b> .....                               | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>Courses</b> .....                                | <b>7</b>   |
| <b>Rotations</b> .....                              | <b>.11</b> |
| <b>Specialized Training</b> .....                   | <b>.12</b> |
| <b>Student Life</b> .....                           | <b>.12</b> |
| <b>Faculty and Staff</b> .....                      | <b>.13</b> |
| <b>Calendar</b> .....                               | <b>.15</b> |
| <b>FAQs</b> .....                                   | <b>.16</b> |
| <b>Admissions</b> .....                             | <b>.17</b> |
| <b>Tuition</b> .....                                | <b>.18</b> |
| <b>Financial Aid</b> .....                          | <b>.19</b> |
| <b>Licensing and Accreditation</b> .....            | <b>.19</b> |
| <b>Tuition Refund and Cancellation Policy</b> ..... | <b>.20</b> |
| <b>School Policies</b> .....                        | <b>.21</b> |
| <b>Medical Examination Report</b> .....             | <b>.24</b> |
| <b>Application Form</b> .....                       | <b>.25</b> |
| <b>Directions</b> .....                             | <b>.26</b> |

## INTRODUCTION

### Garden History

In 1891 an eminent Columbia University botanist, Nathaniel Lord Britton, and his wife, Elizabeth, also a botanist, inspired by their visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, determined that New York should possess a great botanical garden. A site was selected in the Bronx, part of which had belonged to the estate of Pierre Lorillard, a leading tobacco merchant. The land was set aside by the State Legislature for the creation of “a public botanic garden of the highest class” for the City of New York. Prominent civic leaders and financiers, including Andrew Carnegie, Cornelius Vanderbilt, and J. Pierpont Morgan, agreed to match the City’s commitment to finance the buildings and improvements—initiating a public/private partnership that continues today.

### Garden Landscape

The 250-acre grounds of The New York Botanical Garden include dramatic rock outcroppings, wetlands, ponds, a cascading waterfall, and a 50-acre, uncut tract of the native forest that once covered much of New York City. Among the many horticultural attractions are 50 gardens and plant collections, including the new Edible Academy, Native Plant Garden, Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Thain Family Forest, Ross Conifer Arboretum, Benenson Ornamental Conifers, Perennial Garden, Home Gardening Center, Rock Garden, and Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, as well as outstanding collections of orchids, New World tropical and desert plants, ferns, daffodils, and flowering trees and shrubs.

### Recent Projects

Recent projects include the Green Materials Recycling Center (2017)—where all plant materials from the Garden are recycled to produce mulches, compost, and soil for use throughout NYBG’s landscape, and the Edible Academy (2018)—a state-of-the-art campus, with a classroom, lab, greenhouse, and outdoor gardens, which will serve as the hub for garden-based education at NYBG. In the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, world-class exhibitions delight and educate visitors about plants and gardens. Included in this ambitious program are the annual *Orchid Show* and *Holiday Train Show*®.

### School of Professional Horticulture

Begun in 1919 at The New York Botanical Garden as a horticulture vocational training program for returning war veterans, the School was expanded into a professional gardener-training program in 1932 by distinguished horticulturist Thomas H. Everett. An alumnus of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Everett modeled the School after the programs at British botanical gardens such as Kew and Edinburgh, which combined practical and academic work in horticulture.

The School’s mission is to educate and train motivated individuals to become horticulturists of the highest caliber equipped to succeed in green industry leadership positions in both the public and private sectors. The School combines academic studies with hands-on practical training in a two-year, full-time program. Students learn the science of horticulture in the classroom and practice what they learn on the Garden grounds. After successfully completing the program, students receive The New York Botanical Garden’s Diploma in Horticulture.

The School of Professional Horticulture is a key component of the Continuing and Public Education Division at the New York Botanical Garden. Since the Garden’s founding more than 125 years ago, it has maintained a strong commitment to public education, offering a full spectrum of programs focused on the science, function, and beauty of plants, and the relationship between plants and people.

### Our Graduates

The School has trained hundreds of skilled horticulturists from around the world. A majority of graduates go on to work in key positions in the horticulture field in the capacity of estate managers, nursery and landscape business owners and managers, greenhouse growers, garden authors and photographers, designers, and gardeners. Recent graduates are now employed as:

- Plant Records Manager at Mt. Auburn Cemetery
- Director of Horticulture at Green-Wood Cemetery
- Executive Director at Mountain Top Arboretum
- Greenhouse Horticulturist at Chicago Botanic Garden
- Director of Landscaping and Horticulture at Citi Field, home of the New York Mets
- Horticulturist at Blondies Treehouse, Inc.
- Estate gardeners at several celebrity estates in the Tri-State area
- Gardener positions at Cornell Plantations, The High Line, and Dumbarton Oaks
- Several have started their own businesses, including Vitawall.com; Blue in Green Gardens; Foras Studio LLC; CFgardens.com; HarlemHorticulture.com; and DWB Botanical Designs, LLC.

To see what other alumni are doing, check out [nybg.org/soph/alumni.php](http://nybg.org/soph/alumni.php)

### Alumni Network

Alumni remain an integral part of the School, and students have numerous opportunities to network with them. The School holds an Alumni Reunion every two years in the fall, featuring a guest speaker and reception for alumni to get reacquainted with classmates and meet and network with current students.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Classes, horticulture rotations, plant walks, field trips, group projects, student garden plots, and lectures expose the student to a myriad of concepts, practices, and philosophies designed to best develop the student's mastery in horticultural science.

The program begins in February. Students tackle core courses in botany as well as horticultural and soil sciences. As the growing season approaches, the program shifts from the classroom to horticulture rotations. Students participate in installing exhibitions in the Conservatory, growing display crops in the Nolen Greenhouses, scouting pests in the different plant collections, and planting displays in various outdoor gardens. At the same time, students begin planting their individual garden plots and participate in weekly plant ID walks and regularly scheduled field trips. In the fall, students return to the classroom to continue studies in botany, landscape design, and plant propagation. In addition to the coursework, the students complete their herbarium collection project and explore their second-year specialized training opportunities which are designed to allow students to expand their horticultural skills and focus on career goals. The second-year internship affords students a unique opportunity to gain real-world experience while focusing on a select area of study. Students often choose internships in the greater New York City area, but have also ventured further within the United States and abroad.

After completing their six-month specialized training, students return in October to finish their coursework, take the two-day plant final exam, and deliver an oral presentation and written paper on their internships before graduating in early March.

### Licenses & Certificates

The School of Professional Horticulture has been recognized for its high standards and holds the following certifications:

- Licensed by N.Y. State Education Department
- Nationally accredited by ACCET
- Certified by U.S. Department of Education as a Title IV school
- Certified by U.S. Department of Homeland Security for International M-1 visa applicants
- Certified by N.Y. State Division of Veterans' Affairs

“NYBG’s SoPH program prepares its students for a career in horticulture by providing an exceptional foundation in knowledge and skills, while also connecting them to a vast professional network.”

—*Carly Amarant, Class of 2018*

# SCHEDULE

## YEAR 1

|  |                |                            |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Winter</b>                                      |                | <b>Course hours: 112</b>   |
| <b>February and March (9 weeks)</b>                |                | <b>Rotation hours: 100</b> |
| Plant Structure                                    | <b>BOT 315</b> | 24                         |
| Introduction to Public Speaking                    | <b>COM 101</b> | 12                         |
| Soil Science I: Physical Properties                | <b>HRT 301</b> | 18                         |
| Pruning Principles & Practices                     | <b>HRT 321</b> | 14                         |
| Landscape Plants: Spring Trees & Shrubs            | <b>HRT 334</b> | 12                         |
| Vegetable Gardening                                | <b>HRT 431</b> | 8                          |
| Landscape Design History                           | <b>LAN 301</b> | 24                         |
| <hr/>  |                |                            |
| <b>Spring</b>                                      |                | <b>Course hours: 108</b>   |
| April to June (12 weeks)                           |                | Rotation hours: 225        |
| Plant Diversity                                    | <b>BOT 317</b> | 24                         |
| Pressing Plants for Art and Science I              | <b>BOT 338</b> | 6                          |
| Landscape Techniques                               | <b>HRT 311</b> | 15                         |
| Landscape Plants: Spring Perennials                | <b>HRT 336</b> | 9                          |
| Landscape Plants: Bulbs                            | <b>HRT 342</b> | 12                         |
| Insect Pests of Landscape Plants                   | <b>HRT 381</b> | 18                         |
| Graphics I   | <b>LAN 311</b> | 24                         |
| <hr/>  |                |                            |
| <b>Summer</b>                                      |                | <b>Course hours: 60</b>    |
| July and August (8 weeks)                          |                | Rotation hours: 225        |
| Morphology of Flowering Plants                     | <b>BOT 431</b> | 16                         |
| Career Preparation                                 | <b>COM 102</b> | 10                         |
| Horticultural Techniques: Turf Equipment           | <b>HRT 315</b> | 12                         |
| Landscape Plants: Annuals                          | <b>HRT 341</b> | 8                          |
| Tropical Plants                                    | <b>HRT 361</b> | 14                         |
| <hr/>  |                |                            |
| <b>Fall</b>  |                | <b>Course hours: 95</b>    |
| September to December (15 weeks)                   |                | Rotation hours: 200        |
| Pressing Plants for Art and Science II             | <b>BOT 338</b> | 6                          |
| Systematic Botany                                  | <b>BOT 432</b> | 21                         |
| Landscape Plants: Fall Trees and Shrubs            | <b>HRT 331</b> | 12                         |
| Landscape Plants: Broad-leaved Evergreens          | <b>HRT 332</b> | 8                          |
| Landscape Plants: Late Season Perennials & Grasses | <b>HRT 338</b> | 12                         |
| Plant Propagation I                                | <b>HRT 411</b> | 18                         |
| Disease Identification & Management                | <b>HRT 481</b> | 18                         |

“Besides learning in two years what one whole life of experience might have taught me, the connections and friendships I have made will doubtless prove invaluable in my career.”

—*Martin McCormack, Class of 2018*

## YEAR 2

### Winter

#### January to March (13 weeks)

|  |                |    |
|--|----------------|----|
| Plant Physiology                                     | <b>BOT 316</b> | 21 |
| Soil Science II: Chemistry & Nutrition               | <b>HRT 302</b> | 18 |
| Landscape Plants: Conifers                           | <b>HRT 333</b> | 12 |
| Plant Propagation II                                 | <b>HRT 412</b> | 16 |
| Winter Tree Identification                           | <b>HRT 440</b> | 10 |
| Landscape Design I: Site Analysis & Schematic Design | <b>LAN 401</b> | 24 |

Course hours: 101

Rotation hours: 200

### Spring/Summer Internship

Internship Hours: 1,040

#### April to September

### Fall

Course hours: 98

#### October to December (10 weeks)

#### (make-up days for work rotation if necessary)

|  |                |    |
|--|----------------|----|
| Advanced Presentation Skills                               | <b>COM 103</b> | 10 |
| Horticultural Techniques: Basic Horticultural Construction | <b>HRT 314</b> | 12 |
| Introduction to Plant Communities                          | <b>HRT 353</b> | 6  |
| Landscape Management                                       | <b>HRT 443</b> | 24 |
| Weed ID & Management                                       | <b>HRT 482</b> | 12 |
| Nursery & Greenhouse Management                            | <b>HRT 491</b> | 24 |
| Principles of Ecological Landscape Design                  | <b>LAN 350</b> | 10 |

## YEAR 3

### Winter

Course hours: 56

#### January to February (9 weeks)

|   |                |    |
|---|----------------|----|
| Introduction to Business Management                     | <b>COM 104</b> | 12 |
| Preparation for Pesticide Applicator Certification Exam | <b>HRT 357</b> | 30 |
| Tree Management   | <b>HRT 422</b> | 14 |

### Graduation: First Friday of March

#### Courses

630 hours

#### Horticulture Rotations, Plant Walks, etc.

950 hours

#### Internship

1,040 hours

#### Total Hours:

2,620 hours

“It allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of ornamental horticulture, botany and plant science, all knowledge I did not have before joining SoPH. My goal was to gain this knowledge and I am glad that I was successful.”

—*Wambui Ippolito, Class of 2018*

## COURSES

Designed by horticulturists, botanists and landscape designers, the academic courses introduce and explore the multifaceted green industry field. Students are pre-registered for all required courses. Students complete 630 clock hours of academic courses and have the option to take up to 60 hours of elective courses for personal enrichment.

**BOTANY** courses encompass a broad range of topics, i.e., anatomy, morphology, physiology, systematics, ecology, evolution, and field studies.

### **Plant Structure**

Get a solid grounding in the basic plant body, including the cell, roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and fruits. Use dissecting and compound light microscopes to observe plant anatomy. Learn the base-level chemistry required for understanding the world of plants.

**Hours: 24**

**BOT 315**

### **Plant Physiology**

The role of plant hormones in growth and development is discussed, as well as plant movement, water transport through the plant body, and plant metabolism, including photosynthesis and anaerobic and aerobic respiration.

**Hours: 21**

**BOT 316**

### **Plant Diversity**

Survey the plant kingdom through the study of morphological, anatomical, and life-cycle diversity of the major divisions. An introduction to the principles and mechanics of evolution and classification provides the framework for understanding how these divisions are defined. The fundamental nutrient cycles and ecological concepts are presented.

**Hours: 24**

**BOT 317**

### **Pressing Plants for Art and Science**

Students will gain the knowledge and skill to develop their own herbarium, for use as a permanent floristic record, study-aid or graphic art project. Preserved plant specimens have been used for centuries as the foundation for plant-based scientific, cultural and industrial development. This course brings together the preservation techniques developed by the ancient Egyptians with those of the 21st century.

**Hours: 12**

**BOT 338**

**Morphology of Flowering Plants** Angiosperms are the dominant plants in most of the habitats of the world today. Through laboratory demonstrations and dissections, examine the morphology of flowers, fruits, and vegetative plant parts, and learn about the development of these structures.

**Hours: 16**

**BOT 431**

### **Systematic Botany**

Survey major angiosperm families. Learn the characters and principles used to classify them, newly recognized higher order groupings of species, evolutionary trends in floral and vegetative structure, and recently reconstructed evolutionary phylogenies of flowering plants.

**Hours: 21**

**BOT 432**

**HORTICULTURE** courses are designed to increase and enhance understanding of plant identification, culture, selection, and sustainable landscape management practices.

### **Soil Science I: Physical Properties**

Soil is a dynamic, living organism and the foundation of sustainable horticulture and agriculture. This course focuses on the texture, structure, density, and color of different soils and the dynamic relationship that exists among soil, water, and plants. Learn irrigation and drainage techniques and the importance of soil organic matter and microbiology in relationship to plant health and soil conservation.

**Hours: 18**

**HRT 301**

### **Soil Science II: Chemistry and Nutrition**

Gain an understanding of the cornerstones of soil chemistry, pH and its effects on nutrient availability to plants, and the ionic exchange capacities of soil. Study the macronutrient cycles in the soil with emphasis on the complex nitrogen cycle and its importance to environmental sustainability. Explore the use of organic and inorganic fertilizers and composted soil amendments. Perform an analysis of your own soil sample in class.

**Hours: 18**

**HRT 302**

### **Horticultural Techniques: Landscape Techniques**

Learn the basic techniques and practical skills of landscape gardening. Topics include soil preparation, efficient water and fertilization practices, planting and transplanting, cultivation techniques, and maintaining healthy plants.

**Hours: 15**

**HRT 311**

### **Horticultural Techniques: Landscape Construction**

Learn basic techniques such as installing posts and rails, mixing and using concrete, installing paving stones and path edging, building stone walls, carpentry, plumbing repairs, and painting.

**Hours: 12**

**HRT 314**

### **Horticultural Techniques: Turf Equipment**

This introductory course covers the equipment used in the maintenance of grounds, arboretum, and turfgrass. Proper use, care, and safety will be discussed. Students will operate various pieces of equipment, and maintenance techniques will be demonstrated.

**Hours: 12**

**HRT 315**

### **Pruning Principles and Practices**

This course combines class study and hands-on pruning, matching knowledge to practice. Topics include woody plant structure and physiology as they relate to pruning; correct techniques and tools; timing; and pruning as an integral part of plant health care. Creation and maintenance of hedges and pollarding techniques are considered.

**Hours: 14**

**HRT 321**



## COURSES

### **Landscape Plants: Fall Trees and Shrubs**

Explore the identification and landscape use of major groups of shade trees and shrubs grown for ornamental foliage and fruit. Major groups studied include *Acer*, *Quercus*, *Viburnum*, and other genera that are particularly ornamental in autumn.

**Hours: 12**                      **HRT 331**

### **Landscape Plants: Broadleaved Evergreens**

Learn about native and exotic broadleaved evergreens; become familiar with their cultural requirements, identification features, and ornamental value. Learn how to incorporate this plant ground into naturalistic and formal landscape settings. Major groups studied include *Ilex*, *Rhododendron*, *Buxus*, and groundcovers.

**Hours: 8**                         **HRT 332**

### **Landscape Plants: Conifers**

Learn the identification, classification, and landscape use of ornamental conifers. Major plant groups studied include *Chamaecyparis*, *Picea*, *Pinus*, and other genera that may be grown in the northeastern United States. Gain a working knowledge of the best species and cultivars of conifers for naturalistic and formal landscape designs.

**Hours: 12**                      **HRT 333**

### **Landscape Plants: Spring Trees and Shrubs**

Learn the identification, classification, and landscape use of spring-flowering trees and shrubs. Major plant groups include *Magnolia*, *Malus*, *Prunus*, *Viburnum*, and other genera that are particularly ornamental in spring.

**Hours: 12**                      **HRT 334**

### **Landscapes Plants: Spring Perennials**

Learn the identifying characteristics, classification, scientific and common names, and landscape uses of approximately 60 spring-blooming perennials.

**Hours: 9**                         **HRT336**

### **Landscape Plants: Late Season Perennials and Grasses**

Learn identifying characteristics, classification, scientific and common names, and landscape uses of approximately 60 summer- and fall-blooming perennials.

**Hours: 12**                      **HRT 338**

### **Landscape Plants: Annuals**

Become familiar with the identification, culture, and landscape use of plants commonly used as annuals. Review major and unusual groups of common annuals. Learn how to select low-maintenance plants. Topics include a review of scientific names, common names, and identification of approximately 60 annuals.

**Hours: 8**                         **HRT 341**

### **Landscape Plants: Bulbs**

Learn about the biology identification and classification of commonly used bulbs. Learn about common and unusual spring, summer, and autumn-flowering bulbs.

**Hours: 12**                      **HRT 342**

### **Introduction to Plant Communities**

Plants surround us in a profusion of forms. But in naturally occurring landscapes, these combinations are far from random, and are often dictated by complex factors, which limit or encourage the growth of particular plants. In this workshop you will gain insight into how, where and why these "plant communities" form. The concepts will fundamentally change the way you view natural landscapes, and give you a new toolbox for designing plantings inspired by plant communities.

**Hours: 6**                         **HRT 353**

### **30-Hour Pesticide Technician Training Course**

Prepare now for the Core (Basic) and Category 3A (Ornamentals and Turf) exams that New York State Department of Environmental Conservation require of all pesticide applicators. We'll cover the handling, use, storage, and application of pesticides; safety and environmental considerations; and insect and disease problems. At least three years of work experience or 30 hours of class instruction are required to be eligible to take these exams.

**Hours: 30**                      **HRT 357**

### **Tropical Plants**

Learn the identification, classification, and culture of houseplants, greenhouse, and conservatory plants. Major plant groups to be studied include aroids, bromeliads, Marantaceae, and other ornamental tropical plants grown indoors.

**Hours: 14**                      **HRT 361**

### **Insect Pests of Landscape Plants**

Learn to identify the insects common to the northeastern United States that feed on woody and herbaceous plants and the damage that they cause. Learn to judge the severity of an infestation and to select and implement control measures based on the insect's biology.

**Hours: 18**                      **HRT 381**

### **Plant Propagation I: Basic Principles**

Learn the principles and techniques of plant propagation by seed and cuttings. Explore the basics of sexual and asexual propagation, with attention to fruit development, seedling production, root initiation, stem and leaf cuttings, and layering.

**Hours: 18**                      **HRT 411**

## COURSES

### **Plant Propagation II: Applications**

Through lectures, laboratories, and field trips, learn how to work with plants that are difficult to propagate by seed or cuttings. Subjects include advanced seed propagation and techniques of grafting, budding, and micro-propagation. Learn about tissue culture at the Garden's Pfizer Laboratory, and tour a retail nursery for a hands-on grafting project that you can take home.

**Hours: 16**                      **HRT 412**

### **Tree Management**

Explore a holistic approach to keeping trees healthy and vigorous. Topics include planting and transplanting, pruning, fertilization, root system management, common problems, tree defenses, and lightning protection. Samples of tree problems, supplies, and tools are exhibited.

**Hours: 14**                      **HRT 422**

### **Vegetable Gardening**

Examine pre-planting procedures, from soil preparation to crop rotation planning. Study the timing and techniques of planting, pest management, and harvest and post-harvest handling. Survey heirloom varieties, new cultivars, and classic selections.

**Hours: 8**                      **HRT 431**

### **Winter Tree Identification**

Learn the basic techniques of winter tree identification using dormant-season characteristics. Buds, bark, fruit, and growth habits on deciduous plants as well as unique aspects of conifers are taught. Specialized techniques and tools of the trade are discussed.

**Hours: 10**                      **HRT 440**

### **Landscape Management**

Examine the most important factors in the management and maintenance of commercial and residential landscapes using sustainable techniques. Learn to develop programs that reduce adverse effects on the environment, including alternative approaches to conventional lawn management. Focus on how to keep plants healthy, solve problems, and maximize resource allocation.

**Hours: 24**                      **HRT 443**

### **Disease Identification and Management**

Learn about common diseases of woody and herbaceous ornamentals and turfgrass caused by bacteria, fungi, nematodes, viruses, and abiotic factors and the cultural, biological, and least toxic strategies for their control. Discuss diagnoses of plant problems, including identification of disease- and nutrient-related symptoms.

**Hours: 18**                      **HRT 481**

### **Weed Identification and Management**

Learn how to identify and manage common turf and landscape weeds found in residential and commercial sites. Examine a variety of weed control methods, including herbicides and non-chemical approaches. Study weed biology, biochemical pathways, and equipment calibration and care, as well as seasonal weed control programs.

**Hours: 12**                      **HRT 482**

### **Nursery and Greenhouse Management**

Learn the basic principles and best practices of greenhouse and nursery construction and design, and commercial greenhouse and field plant production. Understand how to manage a commercial growing operation, including site selection, planning and layout, and production methods of greenhouse and nursery crops, both in the field and in containers. The course includes a field trip to area nurseries.

**Hours: 24**                      **HRT 491**

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN** *courses include graphics, ecological design, development, and construction of sustainable outdoor landscapes.*

### **Landscape Design History**

Study theories and principles that have shaped the design of landscapes from antiquity to the present. Explore Eastern and Western garden traditions. Survey all types of gardens and landscapes, including corporate and public spaces, through visual presentations, assigned readings, projects, and classroom discussion. Landscape designs will be considered in the context of the times and societies in which they were created.

**Hours: 24**                      **LAN 301**

### **Graphics I**

Graphics are essential in developing and communicating your design ideas. Practice various graphic techniques and learn how to organize and render landscape plans on paper for optimal presentation to clients. Work with a range of drawing materials and drafting equipment.

**Hours: 24**                      **LAN 311**

### **Principles of Ecological Landscape Design**

Yes, a landscape can be stunning and low maintenance, and a haven for urban wildlife, and a self-sustaining ecosystem, all at the same time. Landscape health starts with smart design. Using successful projects at NYBG as examples, students explore the intricate relationships within ecosystems and how to work with them to create beautiful and healthy landscapes based on a suite of ecological principles.

**Hours: 10**                      **LAN 350**

### **Landscape Design I: Site Analysis and Schematic Design**

Turning a vision into a plan is the designer's first challenge. Learn how to analyze existing landscapes and formulate the programmatic and functional requirements of a design project. Translate these into schematic design solutions. Take part in class discussions and critiques, and present projects. Extensive out-of-class design homework is required.

**Hours: 24**                      **LAN 401**

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**

*courses help students prepare for the horticulture profession by providing them with skills for public speaking, job acquisition, and business management. All COM courses are compulsory and are taught in workshop style.*

#### **Introduction to Public Speaking**

Possessing effective public speaking skills is as crucial as knowing how to edge a display border. Learn the skills to become a good public speaker: how to research, write, and deliver. Students will deliver several presentations during the course.

**Hours: 12**                      **COM 101**

#### **Career Preparation**

How do I start? Where do I look? These are some common questions that people have, whether they are seasoned horticulturists or looking for a career change. Learn how to prepare resumes with key industry terms, target public gardens, and dress for the interview. This course prepares students to embark on their externship search.

**Hours: 10**                      **COM 102**

#### **Advanced Presentation Skills**

This advanced level course focuses on how to create presentations for different purposes, how to utilize audio-visual equipment and computer programs, and how to deliver speeches. Students prepare and deliver speeches of varying lengths.

**Hours: 10**                      **COM 103**

#### **Introduction to Business Management**

Learn different components of business management: staffing, marketing, operations, financial management, and customer/client development. Students will prepare a marketing plan in this class taught in a workshop style.

**Hours: 12**                      **COM 104**

### **ELECTIVE COURSES**

Students have the option to take up to 60 hours of electives for personal enrichment in any of the courses listed in the Garden's Adult Education course catalogs. Students are responsible for the payment of any materials fees and for any courses above 60 hours. Students have one (1) year beyond graduation to use the 60 hours of course electives.

If a student registers for an elective course and then wishes to drop it, he/she must submit a written request to the Director at least five (5) working days before the start date for that course. Failure to do so will result in the student incurring a \$25 drop fee for that course. If dropped after the course begins, then the student will forfeit the elective hours for that course. Sufficient and reasonable excuse must be given.

### **HOW DO I REGISTER FOR COURSES?**

New course listings are published in February and August. Students are preregistered for all required courses, but may choose to change sections, subject to the Director's approval.

“It opened me up to a whole new world that I was minimally aware of in horticulture. I learned many new things and expanded on knowledge I had already. I made new friends and connections that will last for years.”

—*John Jacono, Class of 2018*

## ROTATIONS

During their first year, students receive hands-on training in four areas of major concentration, along with plant health care and plant records practices. Each rotation is approximately 200 hours. Day to day duties may involve menial tasks like raking, weeding, sweeping—all important in maintaining the high standards practiced here at NYBG. There are also opportunities to take part in special projects around the Garden as they occur throughout the year.

### Rotation Evaluations and Student Exit Survey

All students are evaluated on their horticulture rotation. In order to be evaluated, a student must have worked a minimum of 85% of the hours for that evaluation. If a student has worked less than the 85% of the scheduled hours, the student must make up the hours before evaluation. All students must work the total number of assigned hours in their first year in order to graduate.

Students evaluate their rotation through the Student Exit Survey (evaluation forms are found in the Student Manual). The Student Exit Survey must be handed in to the School upon completion of the rotation. Students are evaluated by the rotation supervisor on: *Professional Development*, *Quality of Work*, and *Attitude*. All students are to maintain an average GPA of 2.0 “Good” on each rotation. (Refer to the Student Manual for a detailed breakdown of rotation grades.) Failure to do so will place the student on probation for the next rotation. Upon graduation, the student possessing the highest rotation GPA will receive the *Developing Horticulture Skills Achievement Award*.

### Skills Tests

At the end of each rotation, students are tested on their mastery of horticultural skills covered in the rotation, such as planting, propagation, watering, pruning, perennial care and fertilization techniques.

| ROTATION                               | SKILLS LEARNED AND UTILIZED  | LOCATION                        |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>AREAS:</b>                          |  |                                 |
| Enid A. Haupt Conservatory             | How to plant for indoor displays and exhibitions, caring for conservatory plants and tropical collections, grooming, watering, syringing, misting, soil preparation and amending. Specific culture for succulents and cacti, aquatics, tropicals, and/or others.   | Conservatory                    |
| Nolen Greenhouses                      | Climate control systems: heating, cooling, humidity, shade, and ventilation. Basic techniques: fertilizing, soil mixture preparations, repotting, pricking, transplanting, crop production, seeding and cutting propagation, forcing bulbs, growing annuals, and container growing.  | Nolen Greenhouses               |
| Outdoor Gardens                        | Planting and maintaining perennials, annuals, and bulbs for outdoor seasonal displays: grooming, weeding, watering, transplanting, deadheading, edging, spacing, scouting, and staking. Work with Plant Records and learn about living collections records management, making plant labels, and updating BG-Base & Garden Navigator. | Outdoor gardens and collections |
| Turf and Grounds                       | Caring for turf areas: irrigation, edging techniques, fertilizing (equipment and type of fertilizer), weed control, leaf raking and blowing. Trimming hedges, pruning techniques, tree and shrub planting.   | Various gardens and collections |
| <b>SPECIAL PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:</b>   |  |                                 |
| Aquatic Planting                       | Greenhouse Management  | Ornamental Pruning              |
| Bulb Planting                          | Introduction to Tree Climbing  | Plant Health Care               |
| Composting                             | Invasive Species Management  | Plant Sale                      |
| Ecological Research                    | Irrigation   | Rose Pruning                    |
| Glasshouse Exhibitions and Collections | Mapping  | Topiary Planting                |
| Turf Renovation                        | Nursery Management   | Tree Transplanting              |
|  | Vegetable Gardening  | Workplace Safety                |

## SPECIALIZED TRAINING

### **Plant Walks and the Plant ID Final**

Plant walks are designed to help students learn to identify more than 1,000 plants based on morphological similarities and differences in preparation for the second-year Plant Final two-day exam to test students on the Master Plant List. The exam is scheduled at the end of October, and students are required to identify plants from specimens, by plant family, genus, and specific epithet.

### **Field Trips**

During their first year, students participate in 10 to 12 field trips to public and private gardens, nurseries, celebrity estates, and ecological areas. These trips encourage students to explore opportunities, meet practitioners in the field, and see how a variety of sites function.

### **Student Garden Plots**

The Student Garden allows first-year students to creatively apply newly acquired skills. Each student is assigned a plot and provided instruction on how to design, install, care for, and dismantle a vegetable and flower garden that measures about 100 square feet. Students are responsible for day-to-day care of the site and will receive a grade after the final evaluation.

### **Second-Year Training**

Second-year hands-on training is designed to further expand students' horticultural skills and to work on their professional development. Second-year students commence their six-month internships in April and end them in September (total of 1,040 hours). Students are responsible for identifying areas and businesses or institutions they would like to explore for their externships and for securing approval from the Director prior to starting. Upon completion, students deliver a 10-minute presentation and write a 10-page paper on their experiences.

### **Conferences, Lecture Series & Symposia**

Students in the School are able to attend the many lecture series and symposia sponsored by the Garden throughout the year. Among them are the Landscape Design Portfolios Lecture Series, the Humanities Institute Symposia, the Winter Lecture Series, and other special events. Because of the world-class reputation of the Garden, these lectures and symposia showcase leading experts in the field on topics such as native plants, ecological design, and urban farming, thereby enriching students' knowledge of their chosen fields.

## STUDENT LIFE

### **Orientation**

Orientation starts the last week in January. New students meet staff and become familiar with the Garden's philosophies, policies, procedures and facilities. Orientation and special group projects with Horticulture continue through February and March to prepare students for their horticulture rotations that start in April.

### **School Facilities**

Classrooms and academic facilities are in the Watson and Library buildings. The Student Room is available for meal breaks, studying, drafting, and computer use. Horticulture training is carried out at locations throughout the Garden. The Garden's Staff Lunch Room is located in the Pratt wing, room P-102, and has the following: snack machines, microwave, sink, coffee machine, lounge area and a computer terminal. This room is for use by employees, instructors and other students.

### **Library**

The LuEsther T. Mertz Library is available for use by the students. Students may apply for a library card and for stack access. An electronic key issued by the Security Office is needed to gain access to the stacks.

### **Student E-Mail and Computer Access**

Computers are available 24 hours a day in the Student Room, M-280. Students will be assigned a NYBG e-mail address. In addition, there is Wi-Fi service in the Watson Building and other buildings on the campus.

### **Holidays and Vacation Days**

The School regularly observes the following 12 holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Election Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The week of Memorial Day and the last two weeks of August and December are class breaks.

### **Food**

The Garden's Pine Tree Café and Hudson Garden Grill are open Tuesdays through Sundays, and students enjoy a 20% discount at both. The Café serves pizza, panini, salads, snacks, and beverages. The Hudson Garden Grill is a more formal dining option on Garden grounds. There also are several moderately priced diners, cafes, and pizzerias within walking distance of the Garden.

### **NYBG Shop**

Students enjoy a 20% discount at NYBG Shop, which stocks a wide range of horticultural and botanical books, plants, gardening equipment, and gifts.

## Campus Security

The Garden is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for students, staff, and visitors. The grounds are protected by licensed security personnel of 55 full-time employees. The School submits an annual Security Report to the U.S. Department of Education as is required from Title IV schools.

## Housing

Housing is available in the Bronx and lower Westchester County within a convenient distance from the Garden. Housing is not provided by the School, and out-of-town and international students are advised to secure housing prior to arriving in New York.

## Post-Graduation Job Placement

Jobs are posted on the "Job Listings" board in the Watson building. In addition, the School provides placement assistance on an informal basis. However, the School cannot promise or guarantee employment.

## Notable Alumni

Check out [nybg.org/learn/school-of-professional-horticulture/alumni-speak/some-success-stories/](http://nybg.org/learn/school-of-professional-horticulture/alumni-speak/some-success-stories/) to see what our Alumni are currently doing. If you would like to ask a question of a specific graduate, e-mail the Director, [cm@nybg.org](mailto:cm@nybg.org), who will put you in touch with the respective person.

## Recent Completion and Placement Rates:

| Graduation Year | Completion Rate (%) | Placement Rate (%) |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 2011            | 100                 | 100                |
| 2012            | 90                  | 100                |
| 2013            | 100                 | 100                |
| 2014            | 100                 | 100                |
| 2015            | 60                  | 100                |
| 2016            | 60                  | 100                |
| 2017            | 90                  | 100                |
| 2018            | 90                  | 100                |

## OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION DATA July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>Admissions and Applications</b>                 |    |
| Total Applications                                 | 16 |
| Applications Accepted                              | 10 |
| <b>Current Year Enrollment</b>                     |    |
| New Enrollment                                     | 10 |
| Graduates  | 12 |
| <b>Graduate Follow-up</b>                          |    |
| Employed in the horticulture field                 | 12 |
| Total Graduates July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 | 12 |

## FACULTY AND STAFF

The School's operations are managed by the Director, who also guides students in all aspects of the program from coursework to job placement. An advisory board composed of instructors, supervisory staff, and professionals from the horticultural community meets periodically to review the School's curriculum.

The School, the Director, and all faculty are licensed by New York State Department of Education's Bureau of Proprietary School Supervision.

Learn more at [aces.nysed.gov/bpss](http://aces.nysed.gov/bpss)

## ADVISORY BOARD

|               |                    |                   |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Ani Adishian  | Jeanne Lapsker, MD | Kristin Schleiter |
| Cathy Deutsch | Bill Logan         | Dennis Schrader   |
| Todd Forrest  | Jeff Lynch         | Brian Sullivan    |
| Ed Hollander  | Kurt Morrell       | Douglas Thomas    |

### Barbara Corcoran

*Vice President for Continuing and Public Education*

### Charles M. Yurgalevitch, Ph.D.

*Director, School of Professional Horticulture*

### Eric Lieberman

*Manager, School of Professional Horticulture*

## FACULTY

**Daniel Atha** is Director of Conservation Outreach at NYBG. He has conducted botanical fieldwork in all 50 states and in such far-flung places as Vietnam, Bolivia, Mexico, Belize, and several states of the former Soviet Union. His work is focused on floristics, taxonomy, conservation, and applied botany. He holds a BA from the City University of New York.

**Regina Alvarez, Ph.D.**, is a graduate of the City University of New York with a degree in Urban Forest Ecology. She worked for the Central Park Conservancy for 19 years, beginning as a seasonal gardener and working her way to Director of Horticulture and Woodland Management. Recently she left the Conservancy and now teaches for the Dominican College in Rockland County.

**Jamie Boyer, Ph.D.**, is Stavros Niarchos Foundation Vice President for Children's Education at NYBG. He holds a doctorate in plant biology from the State University of New York at Binghamton.

**Katie Bronson** is a Gardener on the Marjorie G. Rosen Seasonal Walk and in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden at NYBG. Katie has a BA in Fine Art from Pratt Institute, a Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Landscape Design from the George Washington University, and a horticulture certificate in Plant Identification from NYBG. Katie is an avid hiker and enjoys volunteering with local trail organizations.

**Wayne Cahilly** is Manager of the Lionel Goldfrank III Institutional Mapping Department at NYBG. He is the owner of Cahilly's Horticultural Services, LLC, an ISA-Certified Arborist, Qualified Tree Risk Assessor, and part-time tree and garden consultant to public and private clients, and a graduate of the School of Professional Horticulture.

**Deanna Curtis**, Curator of Woody Plants and Landscape Project Manager at NYBG, is an ISA-certified arborist. She holds a BS in horticulture from Michigan State University and graduate degrees in both horticulture and landscape architecture from Cornell University, where she specialized in urban horticulture.

**William Einhorn, RLA**, principal of Landscape Design Associates of Westchester, Inc., and AquaScape Pool Company, holds a BLA from the College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse.

**\*Marc Hachadourian**, Director of the Nolen Greenhouses for Living Collections at NYBG, holds a BS in plant science from Cornell University. He supervises the care of the botanical collections, including an extensive orchid collection and exhibition plants in the Nolen Greenhouses.

**Michael Hagen** is Curator of the Native Plant Garden and the Rock Garden at NYBG. He previously served as staff horticulturist for Stonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring, N.Y., and garden manager at Rocky Hills, a preservation project of the Garden Conservancy in Mt. Kisco, N.Y.

**Trevor Hall** He began his career with Bartlett in the summer of 1992. Trevor graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in Ornamental Horticulture/Urban Forestry. Coming up through the ranks as ground man, climber, and foreman, he took on the duties of Arborist Representative in 2005. He is involved as a judge in the NYS Tree Climbing Competition held annually and was the 2004 winner of the event.

**Amelia Huckel-Bauer** is a Bronx-based actor and teaching artist. She holds a BFA in Acting from Tisch School of the Arts, NYU and a Master's in Educational Theater from Steinhardt School of Education, NYU. She is the founder of an educational theater company, Elora Theater Arts, and as an actor, she works primarily with Red Monkey Theater Group of Riverdale, Bronx.

**Wayne Kaiser** is Associate Vice President for Operations at the Garden. He has a BA in Business Management from Marymount Manhattan College and an MS in Construction Administration from Columbia University. He began his career in the building maintenance industry and has performed over 150 renovations in NYC which includes building the City's first privately owned LEED-certified Art Gallery.

**Jeanne Lapsker, MD**, is retired cardiologist and a frequent volunteer in Native Plant Garden and Azalea Garden. She also works with Garden staff propagating plants for the Rock Garden and working on the annual *Kiku* exhibition. She serves on the School's Board of Advisors.

**\*David Laswell** is the Gardener for the Burn Family Lilac Collection and the Steinhardt Maple Collection at NYBG. He received an AAS from SUNY Cobleskill in Recreational Area and Sports Field Management and also holds a BS from the University of Rhode Island in Urban Horticulture and Turfgrass Management.

**Eric Lieberman** has many years of experience working in both interior and exterior landscaping. He graduated from the School of Professional Horticulture in 2012 and is currently the Manger for the School. He also helped to oversee the Plant Information Office.

**Bill Logan** is an ISA-certified arborist, a member of the American Society of Consulting Arborists, founder and president of Urban Arborists, Inc., and author of several books, including *Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin of the Earth*.

**George Lozefski** is a Soil Scientist and the Laboratory Manager at the NYC Urban Soils Institute and Environmental Sciences Analytical Center of Brooklyn College. George received his B.S. Geology from Queens College, CUNY and a M.A. Environmental Science at Brooklyn College, CUNY. George has conducted environmental research at Columbia University's Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory for over 10 years and has been teaching geoscience courses for over 10 years at Brooklyn College.

**Marta McDowell** holds a Certificate in Landscape Design from NYBG and is a writer, lecturer, and gardener. One of her books, *Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life*, published by Timber Press, won a 2014 Gold Award from the Garden Writers Association. She is active in the Chatham Community Garden and is on the board of the New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation.

**\*Kurt Morrell** is AP Farm Associate Vice President for Landscape Operations at NYBG. After graduating from the School of Professional Horticulture in 1987, he was hired as a Botanical Garden Aide and has received many promotions over the years prior to his current role.

**Michael Ruggiero** is the former Senior Curator of Horticulture and a longtime instructor at NYBG. He lectures and writes on gardening topics and has authored several books, including *Annuals with Style* and *Perennial Gardening*.

**Jessica A. Schuler**, Director of the Thain Family Forest is responsible for the management of the 50 acre, old growth urban Forest including ecological restoration and the development of education and research programs. Jessica earned a BS in plant science with distinction in research from Cornell University, is an ISA-certified arborist, and a Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner with the Society for Ecological Restoration.

**Shawn Spencer** directs the Land Restoration Project Division with the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. He holds BS degrees in forestry and wildlife biology and has been an outdoor educator and restoration specialist for more than 25 years.

**Nick Storrs**, Urban Farm Manager at the Randall's Island Urban Farm, grew up on a small subsistence farm in New Hampshire. After receiving a BA from McGill University he farmed in Brazil, Bolivia, and Vermont. Since moving to New York City he has worked as a gardener for the Central Park Conservancy and obtained a NYBG Horticulture Certificate. Currently, he leads Randall's Island's edible education initiative, and is owner-operator of Homegrown Nurseries and Farm.

**\*Brian Sullivan** is Vice President for Landscape and Glasshouses at NYBG. Previously he was director of horticulture and garden operations at Descanso Gardens in California.

**\*Mobee Weinstein**, Foreman of Gardeners at NYBG, holds a BS in plant studies from Lehman College and is a graduate of the School of Professional Horticulture.

## HORTICULTURE ROTATION SUPERVISORY STAFF

**Toby Adams**, Gregory Long Director of the Edible Academy

**Adam Choper**, Manager of Outdoor Gardens

**Matt Cook**, Manager for Arboretum & Grounds

**Don Gabel**, Director of Plant Health

**Annie Novak**, Manager of the Edible Academy

**Kristine Paulus**, Plant Records Manager

**Eric Pioselli**, Foreman for Gardeners

**Christian Primeau**, Conservatory Manager

\*Also Rotation Supervisory Staff

“The program exposed me to new situations where I was able to grow my skill set. It connected me with passionate and exciting people in the field. With its high emphasis on the classroom and learning, my plant ID skills and general knowledge increased greatly and the program helped guide me to different areas of focus.”

—*Matt Fastuca, Class of 2017*

# CALENDAR

|           | HOLIDAYS   | YEAR ONE:<br>DATES TO NOTE                               | YEAR TWO:<br>DATES TO NOTE   | YEAR THREE:<br>DATES TO NOTE                          |
|-----------|--|--|--|---|
| JANUARY   | New Year's Day<br>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day            | Orientation<br>(last week)                               | Winter classes begin   | Winter classes begin<br>Internship paper              |
| FEBRUARY  | Lincoln's Birthday<br>Presidents' Day                    | Classes begin<br>(first full week)                       | Hort. Rotation begins  | Complete course work<br>and<br>make up rotation hours |
| MARCH     |  | Hort. Rotation begins<br>(last week)                     | Rotations end  | Graduation first Friday                               |
| APRIL     |  |  | Internship begins<br>(first full week)                             |   |
| MAY       | Memorial Day   | Spring Break (one week)                                  |  |   |
| JUNE      |  |  |  |   |
| JULY      | Independence Day   |  |  |   |
| AUGUST    |  | Summer Rotation ends<br>Summer Break<br>(last two weeks) |  |   |
| SEPTEMBER | Labor Day  | Fall classes begin                                       | Internship ends<br>(end of month)                                  |   |
| OCTOBER   | Columbus Day   |  | Fall classes begin<br>(first week)<br>Plant ID exam<br>(last week) |   |
| NOVEMBER  | Election Day<br>Thanksgiving and<br>the following Friday | Alumni Reunion (biannual)<br>Fall Rotation begins        |  |   |
| DECEMBER  | Christmas Week   | Fall Rotation ends<br>Winter Break<br>(last two weeks)   | Internship presentation  |   |

## INTERN FIELD DAY

Each July the School hosts its Annual N.Y.C.-Area Green Industry Intern Field Day. This free event for horticultural interns from around the Tri-State region offers them the chance to learn about the diverse opportunities in the green industry and to meet and network with peers and professionals. The industry-sponsored event features talks from top horticulturists and garden designers, tours of the Garden's amazing collections, and a BBQ finale complete with games and prizes.



## FAQs

### **What's the advantage of attending the School of Professional Horticulture versus earning an associate's or bachelor's degree in horticulture?**

The advantage can be summarized with one word—skills! The School's strength is that it teaches students valuable horticulture skills, which give our graduates a competitive advantage over other programs based solely on academic coursework. The School's program combines the theoretical and the practical, teaching not just how to grow plants, but why plants grow the way they do. It is due to this kind of education that our students are highly sought after, not just for internships, but also for full-time employment upon graduation.

### **As someone who is switching careers, what is it like to work in the horticulture industry?**

It is a close-knit community of dedicated and passionate professionals who are willing to share their knowledge, experience, information, and employment opportunities. As a student, you meet many key people in this profession from around the world in diverse areas of horticulture, and as a graduate, you become part of that community. One of the biggest benefits of attending the School is making these lifelong contacts here at NYBG and beyond.

### **What is the typical demographic of students in the School?**

Students come from all over the country and the world. Most students have some college background, and many have degrees in fields other than horticulture. The majority of students are career changers and range in age from their early 20s to mid-50s.

### **Will I be able to find a job when I graduate?**

The School has had a job placement rate of 100% for the past eight years. Our alumni are highly sought after by botanical gardens, public parks, celebrity estates, and even major league sports stadiums. Exceptional students also are often hired at NYBG upon graduation when a position is available. However, the School does not promise or guarantee employment.

### **What kind of starting salary can I expect to receive?**

Generally, private industry pays more than public parks and gardens. The starting salary range in private industry is typically \$45,000–\$65,000; for non-profits it is \$35,000–\$60,000.

### **How is the two-year program divided?**

The program is divided into nine terms. Academic classes are concentrated between rotations and include evening sessions.

### **What if I have fewer hours of experience by the application deadline? Should I still apply?**

Yes; contact the Director to assess your situation.

### **How many hours of studying can I anticipate?**

On class days, students may start at 10 a.m. and finish at 6 or 9 p.m. On horticulture rotation days, students start at 8 a.m. and finish at 4 p.m., and can expect to have classes some evenings throughout the year. Most courses require homework and studying outside class hours.

### **Why are some courses taught in the evenings?**

About half of the courses are taught by our expert staff. Due to their daytime schedules, they are only free to teach after 4 p.m.

### **Is it possible to work part-time while I am a student in the School?**

Due to the intense schedule of academic courses and work rotations, in addition to various lectures, field trips, and plant ID walks, it's nearly impossible to hold a part-time job, find time to study, and stay in good academic standing for the two-year program.

### **What does one receive after graduating from the school?**

After successfully completing the program, students receive The New York Botanical Garden's Diploma in Horticulture.

---

### **Contact Information**

Charles M. Yurgalevitch, Ph.D., Director  
718.817.8797  
cm@nybg.org

School of Professional Horticulture  
The New York Botanical Garden  
2900 Southern Boulevard  
Bronx, New York 10458-5126  
Web site:  
[nybg.org/soph](http://nybg.org/soph)

“Jump-started my career in horticulture through knowledge, networking and resources”

—Chris Freimuth, Class of 2017

## ADMISSIONS

Admission is selective and based on a combination of academic achievement, practical experience, and demonstrated commitment to the field of horticulture.

### Requirements

- Must possess 500 hours of hands-on experience in the field of horticulture prior to entering the School. This experience may be volunteer work experience. (Most public institutions have volunteer opportunities.) These hours must be fulfilled under the guidance of a horticulturist. If working full-time at 40 hours per week, applicants may expect to complete the 500-hour requirement in about three months.
- Hands-on experience in horticulture is defined as the action of planting, transplanting, maintaining, pruning, recording, and/or removing live plants. Cashiering or working in one's own garden does not qualify. Experience must be under the guidance of a horticulturist in the public or private sector. (A horticulturist is a person possessing a degree in horticulture or having more than five years of work experience.) Examples of acceptable work experience are horticulture internships, nursery work, growing, landscape installation, and gardening. Applicants should be prepared to discuss their work experience during their interview.
- Must possess at least a high school or a New York State equivalency diploma. Two years of post-secondary education are strongly encouraged and preferred. All transcripts must be submitted.
- Must be at least 18 years of age at the time of entrance in the School.
- Must be able to do rigorous work both indoors and outdoors.
- Must complete an application form, submit all required documents by the due date, and interview either in person or by phone (out-of-town applicants).

### Application Procedures

#### The following must be submitted:

1. Completed application form
2. Non-refundable application fee of \$75 in U.S. currency by check or money order, made payable to School of Professional Horticulture.
3. Photocopy of birth certificate or other official proof of age and nationality, such as a passport
4. Transcripts of all post-secondary education; if none, then high school transcripts are required
5. Proof of work experience such as letters from employers stating start and end dates and the hours completed
6. Three letters of reference. This can be combined with documentation of practical experience. At least one letter should be a horticultural reference

7. Medical examination report on the form supplied by the School
8. Résumé

### International Applicants

The School welcomes applications from foreign nationals and is authorized by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to accept non-immigrant foreign students. All international applicants must submit, in English, the eight items previously listed, as well as the results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 600 (paper based), and 100 (Internet based). The School also accepts the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a minimum band score of 7 in the academic module. Applications must include a photocopy of the applicant's passport ID page along with a letter of financial support in English or translated into English from the applicant's bank. If accepted, non-immigrant foreign students will be enrolled under the M-1 visa status.

**Note:** Applicant's proficiency in English should be sufficient to understand class instruction, to converse comfortably and to write effectively.

### Interview Process

Interviews are scheduled for the third week of September. The Admissions Committee is made up of approximately 10 members of horticulture staff, instructors, administrators, and alumni. Applicants should be prepared to discuss all aspects of their horticulture experience, their career aspirations, and how the School can help them achieve their goals. We encourage but do not require applicants to present their experience through a work portfolio. Applicants from outside the New York area will be interviewed by phone or Skype.

### Non-Discrimination Policy

The School of Professional Horticulture has a policy of non-discrimination. It prohibits discriminatory actions against and treatment of applicants for admissions based on actual or perceived race, color, national origin, alienage or citizenship status, religion or creed, gender, gender identity, disability, age (18 and over), military status, prior record of arrest or conviction, marital status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, sexual orientation, or status as a victim of domestic violence, a sex offense, or stalking, and unemployment status. The New York Botanical Garden is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. The School is accessible and accommodating to persons with disabilities. Please ask about special needs accommodations when you apply.

### Application Deadline: August 1

---

All application materials must be postmarked by August 1.

We suggest that applicants secure letters of reference at least one month prior to deadline. Late applications will be accepted only at the discretion of the Director. All applicants who have met the School's admission requirements will be interviewed by the end of September. Those who are accepted for enrollment will be notified by October 1.

#### SEND ALL INQUIRIES TO:

Charles M. Yurgalevitch, Ph.D., Director  
School of Professional Horticulture  
The New York Botanical Garden  
2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10458-5126  
718.817.8797 [cm@nybg.org](mailto:cm@nybg.org)

## TUITION

### Tuition and Fees

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Application fee. .... | \$75     |
| (non-refundable)      |          |
| Tuition .....         | \$16,000 |
| (two-year total)      |          |
| Total cost .....      | \$16,075 |

Tuition and fees are subject to Administrative Committee approval and may change.

### Includes:

- Registration for required courses
- Registration for Garden symposia
- Special workshops and seminars
- Winter Lecture Series
- Basic tools (Soil knife, hand lens, and hand pruners)

### Does not include:

- Field trip expenses—\$200
- Books—\$2,500
- Drafting equipment—\$300
- Safety shoes—\$200
- Personal living expenses, including housing, meals, transportation, and other living expenses

### Payment Schedule

#### 1st Year

|               |                                 |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| \$75 .....    | application fee due by August 1 |
| \$200 .....   | tuition deposit (refundable)    |
| \$3,800 ..... | due by first day of Orientation |
| \$4,000 ..... | due by June 15                  |

#### 2nd Year

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| \$4,000 ..... | due by January 15 |
| \$4,000 ..... | due by June 15    |

Tuition must be paid in full on or before the due date. If a payment is more than five days late, a \$25 late fee will be charged automatically each month until the balance is paid in full. The payment plan fee is \$50 until the next tuition payment is due. The installment payment will depend on the amount, \$1,000 being the minimum down payment. There is no interest charged on monthly payments.

### Payment Methods

We accept cash, personal check, bank check, and money orders. Payments are due according to the above schedule.

### If Termination Occurs

See page 20 for the Tuition Refund and Cancellation Policy.

### Delinquent Accounts

In order to graduate, a student must have made all tuition payments in full. Should a student be unable to make a payment on time, the School will arrange a payment schedule with the student to pay a certain amount each month until tuition payment is complete.

In the event that a student's check or credit card charge is not honored by the bank or other institution for any reason, the School will charge the student's account a \$50 service fee. In addition, the School will accept future payments only in the form of a certified check or money order.

### Refund Policy

A student who cancels within seven days of signing the enrollment agreement receives all monies. Thereafter, a student will be liable for the tuition, plus the cost of textbooks or supplies accepted.

### Tuition Liability

Pursuant to N.Y. State Education Law 5002(3) C(1), tuition liability is calculated as of the student's last date of physical attendance. Tuition liability is divided by the number of quarters in the program.

**Note:** The failure of a student to notify the Director of withdrawal in writing may delay refund of tuition due pursuant to Section 5002(3) of the N.Y. State Education Law.

“I feel more confident applying to institutions for my desired work. I know I can do the job and I have resources and foundation to learn what I do not already know.”

—Lindsay Gleason, Class of 2017

## FINANCIAL AID

Financial aid is available in several forms (i.e., tuition scholarships, grants, and loans).

Tuition scholarship awards are made by Vice President for Continuing and Public Education, and Director of the School of Professional Horticulture. Tuition scholarship applications are distributed biannually in mid-May and in mid-November to currently enrolled students. Notification will be by mid-June and mid-December, respectively.

Scholarship award amounts are variable and are based on:

- Financial need
- Good academic standing
- Overall performance and professionalism

### Title IV

The School of Professional Horticulture is certified by the U.S. Department of Education to administer Title IV funds (Federal Pell Grant Program and Federal Direct Student Loan Program) to qualified students. Students may apply online at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov)

### Veterans Administration Educational Benefits

Veterans who were in the United States armed forces may be eligible for benefits. An educational allowance may also be available to spouses and children of veterans, under Title 38, Chapter 35. Contact the Director for further information.

| <b>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Federal/State Financial Assistance Programs<br/>July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017</b> |                       |
|  | <b>Total Students</b> |
| Federal Direct Student Loan  | 5                     |
| Federal Pell Grant   | 4                     |

## LICENSING AND ACCREDITATION

### What you should know about N.Y. State Licensed Private Schools

The School is a department within the NYBG which is complex in its organization, consisting of many departments and individuals. It is realistic, therefore, that certain problems will be more difficult to resolve than others.

1. Students are encouraged to bring their complaints to the attention of the Director, either by telephone, e-mail, or in writing. Many potential problems can be resolved by early discussion with the School's staff.

2. Students not satisfied with this informal resolution should formally notify the Director in writing, with appropriate documentation, of any unresolved problem or complaint. The Director will research the problem and will respond to the student in writing.

3. The School is accredited by the nationally recognized and internationally certified Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) as meeting and maintaining certain standards of quality. It is the mutual goal of the School and ACCET to ensure that educational training programs of quality are provided. When problems arise, students should make every attempt through the formal complaint procedure within the School to find a fair and reasonable solution.

However, in the event that a student has exercised the channels available within the School to resolve the problem(s) by way of the School's formal student complaint procedure, and the problem(s) have not been resolved, the student has the right and is encouraged to take the following steps:

4. The student should contact the ACCET in writing by mail, fax, or e-mail. Complaints received by phone will be logged, along with a request for a written follow-up; an initial letter speeds up the process.

5. The letter of complaint must contain the following:

- a. The nature of the problem(s);
- b. The approximate date(s) that the problem(s) occurred;
- c. The name(s) of the individual(s) involved in the problem(s), including both institutional staff and/or other students who were involved;
- d. Copies of important information regarding the problem(s) (facts, not rumors, lead to solutions);
- e. Evidence demonstrating that the institution's complaint procedure was followed prior to contacting ACCET;
- f. Signature: All complaints should be signed. Complainants will receive an acknowledgement of receipt within 15 days.

6. Send to: ACCET  
Chair, Complaint Review Committee 1722 N Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
Tel: 202.955.1113  
Fax: 202.955.1118 or 202.955.5306  
Web site: [accet.org](http://accet.org)

7. The student may also file a written complaint to the state licensing agency, the N.Y. State Education Department's Bureau of Proprietary School Supervision at 116 West 32nd Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10001, or via telephone at 212.643.4760. The Bureau cannot investigate any complaint made more than two (2) years after the date of occurrence.

# TUITION REFUND AND CANCELLATION POLICY

**All tuition refunds are calculated based on that which is most favorable to students.**

**BPSS Refund Policy:** 4 tuition payments, each \$4,000

| 1st Payment Student Withdrew      | % Tuition Refund to the Student | Amount of Tuition Refund to Student |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Prior to or during week 1         | 100%                            | \$4,000.00                          |
| During week 2                     | 80%                             | \$3,200.00                          |
| During week 3                     | 65%                             | \$2,600.00                          |
| During week 4                     | 50%                             | \$2,000.00                          |
| During week 5                     | 30%                             | \$1,200.00                          |
| After week 5                      | 0%                              | \$0.00                              |
| <b>2nd, 3rd, and 4th Payments</b> |                                 |                                     |
| During week 1                     | 80%                             | \$3,200.00                          |
| During week 2                     | 65%                             | \$2,600.00                          |
| During week 3                     | 50%                             | \$2,000.00                          |
| During week 4                     | 30%                             | \$1,200.00                          |
| After week 4                      | 0%                              | \$0.00                              |

**ACCET Refund Policy:**

- A. The School retains a \$100 administrative fee associated with the withdrawal or termination.
- B. During the first week of classes, tuition charges withheld will not exceed ten percent (10%) of the tuition up to a maximum of \$500. When determining the number of weeks completed by the student, the School considers a partial week the same as if a whole week was completed, provided the student was present at least one (1) day during the scheduled week.
- C. After the first week and through fifty percent (50%) of the period of financial obligation of six months, tuition charges retained will not exceed a pro rata portion of tuition for the training period completed, plus ten percent (10%) of the unearned tuition for the period not completed. After fifty percent (50%) of the period of financial obligation is completed, the School may retain the full tuition paid.
- D. Thereafter, a student will be liable for the non-refundable application, plus the cost of any textbooks or supplies accepted.
- E. The refund due will be calculated using the last date of attendance and be paid within thirty (30) calendar days from the documented date of determination. The date of determination is the date the student gives written or verbal notice of withdrawal from the School or the date the School terminates the student by applying the School's Attendance, Conduct, or Satisfactory Academic Progress policies.
- F. If an applicant accepted by the School cancels prior to the start of scheduled classes, or never attends class, the School will refund all monies paid, less the non-refundable application fee (\$75) and a refundable tuition deposit (\$200).
- G. If the School cancels or discontinues its program, the School will make a full refund of all tuition paid for that period.

**Federal Return of Title IV Funds Policy:**

This policy governs the return of Title IV (Federal financial aid) funds disbursed for a student who completely withdraws from a term, payment period, or period of enrollment. The School of Professional Horticulture (the School) at the New York Botanical Garden adheres to Federal policy regarding Return of Title IV funds. Return of funds policies are fair and equitable and applied uniformly. The School will use the forms and software developed by the U.S. Department of Education in determining the refund due to the financial aid program and in determining any repayment due from the student.

**Withdrawal Process**

Withdrawal information is obtained from the Director's office in line with the School's withdrawal policies. The date of withdrawal used to calculate the last date of attendance will be the effective date of withdrawal noted in the School's records. Students who withdraw during the add/drop period will undergo a Return of Title IV funds calculation even though no institutional charges may have been assessed.

Their official date of withdrawal will be noted on the administrative computer system and will be used in the refund calculation process, as follows:

- 1.) An otherwise eligible student who began attendance at the School and was disbursed or could have been disbursed Title IV grant or loan funds prior to a withdrawal has earned a portion of those Title IV funds and must undergo a return of Title IV fund calculation, or
- 2.) If the student began attendance but was not and could not have been disbursed Title IV grant or loan funds, the student is not considered to have been a Title IV recipient and a return of Title IV funds calculation is not required.

The last date of attendance will be the date submitted or the date of the last documented academically related activity, whichever is earlier. Students who leave without completing an official withdrawal form or for whom an official withdrawal form is not completed will have their last date of attendance be the date of the last documented academically related activity.

**Policy Guidelines**

Students who withdraw before sixty percent (60%) of the term is completed will have their Federal financial aid eligibility calculated in direct proportion to the length of the enrollment. The percentage of time the student remained enrolled is the percentage of disburseable aid for that period that the student earned. A student who remains enrolled beyond the sixty percent (60%) point earns all aid for the period. The responsibility to repay unearned aid is shared by the School and the student in proportion to the aid each is assumed to possess. The School's share is the lesser of the total amount of unearned aid or institutional charges multiplied by the percentage of aid that was unearned. The student's share is the difference between the total unearned amount and the institution's share. The return of Title IV funds will be in the following order:

- Unsubsidized Direct Loan
- Subsidized Direct Loan
- Pell Grant

**Other Title IV Programs**

After the student's share is fully allocated among the Title IV programs, any amount owed to a grant program is reduced by half. Return of Federal (Title IV) funds calculation is performed independently of the School's costs incurred for the period of enrollment. The School will return its share of unearned Title IV funds no later than 45 days after determination of withdrawal. The student may be entitled to a post-withdrawal disbursement of Federal financial aid if the return of funds calculation indicates that the student earned more aid than was disbursed prior to withdrawal. Post-withdrawal disbursements will be credited first toward unpaid institutional charges. Any portion of a post-withdrawal disbursement that exceeds unpaid institutional charges will be offered as a disbursement to the student. Students must accept this disbursement within 14 days of the offer. If a response is not received or if the offer is declined, these excess funds will be returned to the appropriate Title IV program.

**Non-Title IV Funds**

The School will calculate return of non-Title IV funds in accordance with the appropriate institutional and state refund policy. Refunds (after Title IV aid has been included in the formula) will be made to programs in the following order: state, institutional, private. Institutional funds will be returned on a case-by-case basis upon appropriate administrator review of financial assistance awarded and balance due.

# SCHOOL POLICIES

The Administrative Committee formulates policy in matters pertaining to quality of work and standards of performance in the School. Student progress in academic and practical work is measured by grades and other evaluations; all students will receive periodic progress reports on their work.

## I. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Students must maintain a cumulative weighted average of 73% on a 100% scale, or 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, and must pass all courses with a minimum grade of 60%. All students are required to complete a minimum of 90% of their cumulative registered clock hours. Students who do not meet the 90% cumulative completion percentage will be placed on probation.

Courses for which a student receives a letter grade of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, and P (passing) are included in the calculation of cumulative clock hour completion percentage as courses successfully completed. Courses for which a student receives a letter grade of INC and F will be treated as courses attempted, but not successfully completed. Students are required to meet these minimum standards at each point of their program evaluation.

| Grading Grade | GPA | Percentile |
|---------------|-----|------------|
| A             | 4.0 | 94–100     |
| A-            | 3.7 | 90–93      |
| B+            | 3.3 | 87–89      |
| B             | 3.0 | 83–86      |
| B-            | 2.7 | 80–82      |
| C+            | 2.3 | 77–79      |
| C             | 2.0 | 73–76      |
| C-            | 1.7 | 70–72      |
| D+            | 1.3 | 67–69      |
| D             | 1.0 | 60–66      |
| F             | 0   | 0–59–FAIL  |

W=Withdraw

### Time Limit to Complete a Course

All coursework (final exams, papers, projects) must be completed on time. If a student is unable to complete all coursework on time due to extenuating circumstances, he/she may be granted an additional two (2) weeks beyond the final exam date or final project due date to complete coursework, only with approval from the instructor. Failure to complete required coursework by that time will result in the student receiving an 'F' grade. A student must then repeat the course and earn a passing grade in order to fulfill the graduation requirements.

### Time Limit on Program Completion

In specific cases (e.g., a prolonged absence due to sickness), students have up to one (1) year after the graduation date to complete all School requirements as long as the student is making satisfactory progress towards completion of the program. If the student does not fulfill all requirements as outlined on the School agreement one (1) year after graduation, the student will be administratively withdrawn.

### Program Evaluation and Transcripts

All students are required to meet with the Director to discuss their performance at the Garden. These meetings take place in June and November during their first year. In the second year, the meetings take place in March, October, and February before graduation.

### Graduation Requirements

#### To qualify for graduation, students must:

- Successfully complete all required academic courses (minimum GPA of 2.0), as measured at each evaluation period.
- Complete a minimum of 90% of cumulative clock hours, as measured at each evaluation period.
- Complete all horticulture rotation assignments (minimum GPA of 2.0 and 2,620 hours).
- Pass all skills tests and plant ID exams.
- Attend all scheduled horticultural activities and events such as lectures, field trips, and plant identification walks.

## Course Exemptions Policy

The Director will evaluate any student's formal post-secondary education and award an appropriate course exemption if, in his discretion, the coursework is comparable to that of the School and was earned at an institution accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

Requests should be made in writing within thirty (30) days of enrollment to permit adequate time to set the student's schedule. The School will not grant exemptions for more than three (3) courses, or for coursework earning less than a "B."

To ensure that the competencies attained in the prior coursework are comparable to those covered in the School curriculum, the student or applicant is asked to provide the following information:

- Official transcript, sent under seal from the institution that originally awarded the credit.
- Catalog and catalog description of the course to be considered for exemption.
- Copies of course syllabi or outlines.
- A completed Course Exemption Request form.

A decision will be rendered within seven (7) calendar days or receipt of the official transcript and catalog description and any other appropriate supporting documentation. If a student is exempted from the courses, he/she is required to take an equal number of hours of approved personal enrichment courses to complete the diploma.

## To Transfer Course Hours

To facilitate transfer of the School's course hours to another institution, the School provides the following to graduates:

- Official transcripts, sent under seal to the institution requested by the graduate.
- Course description (found in the catalog).
- Detailed course syllabus.

Disclaimer Statement: Licensed private career schools offer curricula measured in clock hours, not credit hours. Certificates of completion, i.e., school diplomas, are issued to students who meet clock hour requirements. The granting of any college credit to students who participated in and/or completed a program at a licensed private career school is solely at the discretion of the institution of higher education that the student may opt to subsequently attend. Please contact the Director for assistance.

## Failure to Achieve Satisfactory Academic Progress & Federal Financial Aid

### 1. Financial Aid Warning

Students who fail to meet the requirements above at the end of any term will be placed on Financial Aid Warning. However, a student may continue to receive federal Title IV funds while on Financial Aid Warning. The Director will notify the student of his or her Financial Aid Warning status.

### 2. Financial Aid Probation

A student placed on Financial Aid Warning status who does not meet the minimum GPA requirements noted above at the end of any subsequent evaluation point will be placed on Financial Aid Probation. During the Financial Aid Probation period students are not eligible for Financial Aid and assume the responsibility for paying the tuition associated with the cost of attendance during this period. Tuition for the period must be paid with funds from outside the Title IV program.

### 3. School Dismissal

After being placed on Financial Aid Probation, a student may, in certain circumstances, be dismissed from the school, as deemed appropriate by the School Director.

#### 4. Non-Title IV Eligible

A student may remain enrolled if they can demonstrate the ability to complete the program within the maximum time frame of the program although they will not be eligible for Title IV Federal Financial Aid. Students who are Non-Title IV Eligible will receive academic advisement and an academic advising plan to assist them in improving their academic progress. All clock hours attempted during Non-Title IV Eligibility count towards the maximum timeframe. A student who achieves the required SAP minimums at the end of a term or payment period in which he or she is Non-Title IV Eligible will be placed back into good standing and eligible to continue receiving Federal Financial Aid (Title IV funds).

#### 5. Making An Appeal

Students who wish to continue to receive Federal Title IV funds after being placed on Financial Aid Probation must file an appeal in writing. The appeal may be based on the following factors: the death or serious illness of a relative, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. The appeal must contain (1) information detailing why the student failed to make satisfactory academic progress, (2) documentation of the situation if applicable, and (3) what has changed in the student's situation that will allow the student to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation point. The appeal must be filed within five (5) business days of the receipt of notice that the student has been placed on Financial Aid Probation. If the student's appeal is accepted, the student may continue to receive Federal Financial Aid for that term or payment period. The School will inform the student of the determination of the appeal no later than five (5) business days from the date that the appeal is filed.

#### Probation

When a student fails a course or the student's weighted GPA falls below 73%, he/she will be placed on academic probation. A student on probation is considered to be making satisfactory academic progress as long as no more than two (2) classes are failed. A student will remain on probation until all failed courses are repeated and passed and the cumulative weighted average is raised to 73%. (The grade for repeating the course replaces the failing grade.) The student is responsible for the cost of retaking the course. A student failing more than two (2) classes, or continuing on probation for more than one (1) year will be dismissed from the School.

#### Attendance

Attendance is required at all classes, work assignments, field trips, and other School-sponsored activities. Unexcused absences, tardiness and early departures are not accepted; excused tardiness and absences will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Excused absences are the death or serious illness of a relative, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. Makeup quizzes and exams must be requested by the student and may be scheduled at the instructor's convenience.

Deficiency in any required work resulting from absence from class must be made up to the satisfaction of the instructor. A student who is absent from a class without adequate reason may be assigned a failing grade. A pattern of excessive absence or lateness will result in disciplinary action and may result in suspension. Any absence must be fully explained to the Director and will be excused only for sufficient cause. Absences due to serious illness or death within a student's family are recognized as excused absences. To validate such absences, the student should present evidence to the Director.

In accordance with the U.S. Department of Education's Title IV policy on attendance: Any student who is absent more than 10 percent of the total number of instructional hours offered during each marking period of the student's program, excluding approved leaves of absence, and who has not maintained satisfactory academic progress, shall be dismissed or placed on academic probation. Any student who fails to meet satisfactory academic progress at the end of any marking period, regardless of attendance, shall be dismissed or placed on academic probation. Satisfactory progress means a cumulative average of 2.0 (grade of C) for the curriculum or course, unless otherwise approved by the Director. A student who misses 14 or more calendar days from the School without any explanation is subject to immediate dismissal.

#### Tardiness and Early Departure Policy

Students are expected to arrive in class, on plant walks, field trips, horticulture rotations and all School events on time and be ready to perform the duties of

that position. Education relies on the dependability of students being at work on time and prepared to perform the duties of their position. Tardiness is

defined as a student failing to report for any event at the time scheduled. Unexcused early departure will be considered as an unexcused tardy under the procedures dealing with excessive tardiness. Tardiness will be tracked and kept on students Attendance Records. When a student has 5 unexcused tardies, the student will face corrective disciplinary actions, starting with an oral reprimand. After 5 more tardies, the student will then receive a written reprimand.

#### Leave of Absence

In the case of a prolonged illness or accident, death in the family, or other special circumstances that make attendance impossible or impractical, a leave of absence may be granted to the student if requested to the Director in writing by the student with the specific reason for the leave request. It should include the approximate length of the requested leave. No monetary charges or accumulated absences may be assessed to the student during a leave of absence. When a student returns from an approved leave of absence, the student shall be placed in the instructional program at the point commensurate with the skill level retained by the student at the time of his/ her return in accordance with the following:

1. for leaves of absence less than 30 calendar days, the School shall assess the student's retention level either through a counseling session with the student or by employing a written or oral evaluation instrument designed to measure a student's level of retention in the instructional program; or
2. for leaves of absence 30 calendar days or longer, the School shall assess a student's retention level either through a written or oral evaluation instrument designed to measure a student's level of retention in the curriculum, and document that such evaluation took place.
3. the leave of absence is limited to 180 calendar days in one calendar year, or one-half the program length, whichever is shorter. Multiple leaves of absences may be permitted provided the total of the leaves does not exceed this limit.

#### Make-Up Policy

Students who are unable to meet the attendance requirement for a particular course may be able to make up missed time in order to achieve the required attendance for that course. The policy regarding the establishment of make-up days in order to make up missed class time varies and students are advised accordingly during Orientation sessions. Make-up rotation days are scheduled the last week in March before the start of the six-month internship to allow students to make up missed time. All missed rotation hours must be made up in order to graduate.

The School encourages students who miss in-class assignments to seek make-up assignments from their instructors. Make-up work must be completed within 14 calendar days (2 weeks) at the end of the course. In general, all make-up work must be completed within 2 weeks, unless circumstances prevent the student from doing so. Students who still have uncompleted assignments or tests on the last day of a course are required to complete the required assignments/tests within the 2-week time frame in order to receive a passing grade for that course. All make-up work may be subject to a grade reduction as explained in each course syllabus.

## II. GENERAL

### Program Dismissal and Withdrawal

The School requires a notice of withdrawal be submitted in writing to the School. The School reserves the right to dismiss students who: a) fail more than two (2) classes; b) have falsified information required by the admissions process; c) are dishonest involving assignments or examinations; d) have repeated disruptive behavior; e) have delinquent accounts; and f) fail to sign and return a Notice of Academic Probation.

Upon dismissal or withdrawal, the student's tuition obligation to the School is calculated based on the refund policy as published in this catalog and in the student enrollment agreement. Refunds, when due, are made to the student within 30 days of dismissal or withdrawal.

### Withdrawal and Re-Admission Policy

Students who wish to withdraw should meet with the School Director to review their progress and options for completing their education at the School at a later date. Approval for return to the program will be determined based on course schedule and other factors at the discretion of the School. Students must also meet with the Director to review their account for refunds or remaining balance owed to the School. All students seeking to return to School must be in good standing with regards to all financial obligations, including prior balances that were due at the time of withdrawal or dismissal from the School. Returning students will be responsible for any differences in tuition between the original enrollment period and their return.

### Disciplinary Actions

Students are expected to establish good working relationships with their supervisory fellow students, and all other members of the Garden's staff.

It is the policy of the School to treat all students equitably and to administer all policies, procedures, and rules and regulations consistently. When a student's performance is unsatisfactory (refer to academic policy), or when students violate the policies and procedures of the School, appropriate corrective disciplinary action may be taken.

The Director may administer the forms of progressive discipline set forth below. Naturally the type of discipline selected will depend on the severity of the offense. Where warranted, the Director may elect to impose a suspension or termination whether or not there has been prior disciplinary action.

- Oral Reprimand and/or Student Counseling
- A Written Reprimand
- A Final Written Reprimand
- Probation (one term)
- Dismissal

A student who wishes to appeal may present his/her case to the Administrative Committee. The School will not tolerate the following misconduct and students will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal: cheating, consumption of alcohol, dangerous conduct, disturbing the peace, profanity, harassment, physical abuse, plagiarism, property damage, sexual harassment and/or assault, arson, theft, unauthorized use of Botanical Garden property, using or possessing fire arms, use and/or possession of drugs or drug-related paraphernalia. For more information on alcohol or other substance abuse problem, contact the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services to request a listing of local rehabilitation and treatment centers: New York City office, 501 7th Avenue, New York, NY, 10018-5903, 877.846.7369, or visit [oasas.ny.gov](http://oasas.ny.gov)

### Privacy

The School of Professional Horticulture complies with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. FERPA (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. The following categories of information concerning individual students and former students may be made available to the general public: name, attendance dates, telephone listing, date and place of birth, field of study, previous education institutions attended by the student. Any student may request that any of the above information not be released without his/her prior consent.

FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's education records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she reaches the age of 18 or attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are "eligible students."

### Copyright Infringement

Students must adhere to the following copyright and software license infringement standards. "Copyright infringement occurs when a person reproduces someone else's copyrighted items without permission. This would also include public display of a copy of copyrighted work. If it is determined that a person is guilty of copyright infringement, penalties could include a court order to stop producing that item, confiscation of the items, fines, and attorney's fees. In addition, penalties for students found in violation of copyright laws may be as severe as expulsion from the School. Use of copyrighted material for reference purposes must be cited as indicated by the author/publisher of the material and following generally accepted grammatical rules of reference."

### Cheating/Plagiarism

Concern exists in all educational institutions over student cheating and plagiarism. The School views all breaches of academic integrity as serious.

#### A. Definition of Cheating/Plagiarism

1. Any direct copying of another student's material.
2. Directly copying any other author's work and presenting it as one's own, without clearly citing the source and using quotations.
3. Any plagiarizing or copying of another student's work on assignments or homework. Word for word reproductions are clear violations. Plagiarism exists when a clear preponderance of a student's work is copied or changed only slightly from another author.
4. Any illegal acquisition, theft, reproduction or other method of securing testing materials before test material administration.

#### B. School Procedures

1. School faculty will advise the Director that cheating/plagiarism has taken place. Faculty will submit the test, posting or assignment in question to the School.
2. The School will advise the student(s) in writing of the instructor's finding.

#### C. Penalties

1. Upon first violation, an immediate failure for the course will be given. No averaging of tests or other criteria will even be considered. The student receives a zero for the course.
2. Upon any subsequent violation the student will be dismissed permanently from the School and a citation of that dismissal will be noted on the School's permanent record.

#### D. Appeal Rights

1. If a student disagrees with an instructor's finding of cheating or plagiarism, the student will formally notify the Director, in writing, of his/her desire to appeal the finding. The appeal must list the reasons why the finding is unjustified, and other pertinent data the student feels necessary in a review of the case. The student has 30 days from the date of notification of the finding to exercise this right.
2. The decision of the Director and Vice President is final, and cannot be further reviewed within the School.



# MEDICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

Dear Doctor:

---

has applied for admission as a student at The New York Botanical Garden's School of Professional Horticulture.

This is an intensive two-year program to train professionals in the field of horticulture, and combines classroom work with practical training on the grounds and in the greenhouses at the Garden. The practical training sometimes involves rather strenuous physical exertion. The following are examples of the type of work that a student may be called upon to do under proper supervision:

- Climb trees using rope and saddle
- Work in adverse weather conditions
- Lift 50 pounds
- Dig trees with hand tools
- Operate a chain saw

After examination, please inform us as to the applicant's general health and whether he/she would be able to complete a two-year training program of this kind. Please note your appraisal and recommendations in the space provided and return this form to:

Director, School of Professional Horticulture  
New York Botanical Garden  
2900 Southern Boulevard  
Bronx, NY 10458-5126

**Date**

---

**Comments**

---

**Doctor's Name (Print)**

---

**Doctor's Signature**

---

**Address**

---

**Phone**

---

“I learned a great range of topics in horticulture from landscape design to soil science.”

—*Tova Hadar, Class of 2017*

# APPLICATION FORM

## Application Deadline: Postmarked by August 1

Please send the items listed to:

Director, School of Professional Horticulture  
 The New York Botanical Garden  
 2900 Southern Boulevard  
 Bronx, NY 10458-5126

- \$75 U.S. (non-refundable) check or money order
- Résumé
- Proof of Age and Nationality
- Transcripts
- Documentation of 500 hours of work in horticulture
- Three (3) letters of reference
- Medical examination report on form provided on page 24
- International students: TOEFL or IELTS score and proof of financial support

### Please print in black ink or type:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address for all correspondence \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the School? (If from a Web site or publication, which one?)

Horticultural Work Experience: (If you require more space to write, please use an attached sheet.)

| Job Title/Description | Dates | Name of Business | Name of Supervisor and Contact Number | Number of Hours | Hours: Paid (P) or Voluntary (V) |
|-----------------------|-------|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
|                       |       |                  |                                       |                 |                                  |
|                       |       |                  |                                       |                 |                                  |
|                       |       |                  |                                       |                 |                                  |

### On a separate sheet please provide the following: (Your name and phone number must be on every attachment.)

1. In 300 words or less, describe your career goals and how the School of Professional Horticulture can help you achieve them.
2. Describe the areas in horticulture in which you have experience.
3. List schools attended, starting with high school. Provide school names, degrees or diplomas earned, and years attended.
4. List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of your three (3) references.

I certify that all the above and attached information was completed by myself and is correct.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## DIRECTIONS



The Garden is easily accessible by car, Metro-North commuter railroad, subway, and bus. Please call the Garden's general number, 718.817.8700, or visit the web site at [nybg.org](http://nybg.org) for detailed information. Learn more about public transportation options at [mta.info](http://mta.info)

### **Catalog Disclaimer:**

The student should be aware that some information in the catalog may change. It is recommended that students considering enrollment check with the school director to determine if there is any change from the information provided in the catalog. In addition, a catalog will contain information on the school's teaching personnel and courses/curricula offered. Please be advised that the State Education Department separately licenses all teaching personnel and independently approves all courses and curricula offered. Therefore, it is possible that courses/curricula listed in the school's catalog may not be approved at the time that a student enrolls in the school or the teaching personnel listed in the catalog may have changed. It is again recommended that the student check with the school director to determine if there are any changes in the courses/curricula offered or the teaching personnel listed in the catalog.

Director, School of Professional Horticulture  
The New York Botanical Garden  
2900 Southern Boulevard  
Bronx, New York 10458-5126  
[nybg.org/soph](http://nybg.org/soph)

