

# NYBG

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## The New York Botanical Garden's *Holiday Train Show*<sup>®</sup> Programming Brings Holiday Fun for All Ages with Evergreen Express, Holiday A Cappella, Films, and More; Bar Car Nights for Adults



**Bronx, NY**—The New York Botanical Garden's *Holiday Train Show*<sup>®</sup> will showcase Lower Manhattan—the birthplace of New York City—in the 27th year of this beloved tradition. Enchanting model trains will zip through a display of more than 175 New York landmarks, each re-created with bark, leaves, and other natural materials—all under the twinkling glow of the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Replicas debuting this year include the historic Battery Maritime Building, vintage ferry boats, the Battery Park Control House, the Woolworth Building, One World Trade Center, the Oculus, and the Terminal Warehouse. The new Lower Manhattan replicas will share the spotlight with old favorites, including the Statue of Liberty and the Ellis Island Immigration Station. The *Holiday Train Show* opens to the public on Saturday, November 17, 2018, and runs through Monday, January 21, 2019.

In addition to the exhibition, programming for all ages adds to the seasonal experience at the Botanical Garden:

- The festive and popular **Bar Car Nights** return to NYBG on select Fridays and Saturdays. Exclusively for adults 21 and over, the wintry landscape of NYBG sets the scene for lively outdoor adventures, with an after-dark viewing of the *Holiday Train Show* as the centerpiece. Purchase a drink from one of our seasonal bars and a bite to eat from the **Bronx Night Market Holiday Pop-up**, then set out to explore the night's offerings. Relax and warm up around the **fire pits** in the Leon Levy Visitor Center, watch art emerge from giant blocks of ice during **live ice-sculpting demonstrations**, sing along to your favorite tunes with **dueling pianos** in the Pine Tree Café, and **listen to roving a cappella groups** as they guide you through the Garden.

Bar Car Nights take place 7–10:30 p.m.; November 17, 23, 24 & 30; December 1, 7 & 8, 15, 21 & 22, 28 & 29; January 5 and 12. Performers vary each night and advance tickets—Non-Member \$38/Member \$28—are recommended. Check [nybg.org](http://nybg.org) for details and to purchase tickets.

- During **Evergreen Express** in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden, children step into Discovery Center Depot to investigate samples of evergreen tree branches and cones, mount a conifer sample, craft a cone critter, and design an evergreen swag (a miniature, simple evergreen wreath with a bow) to take home. Children can pretend to ride the rails aboard our child-sized play train and put on a puppet show in the Woodland Puppet Theater. Guided Activities: Weekdays, 1:30–5:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Sundays, and Holiday Week (December 26–31), 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
- Get in the holiday spirit with **Holiday A Cappella**, featuring seasonal music—both familiar and new—plus contemporary alternative music sung by top *a cappella* groups from all over the Tri-State area. November 16–18; Saturdays and Sundays, November 24–December 23, plus daily December 24–January 1; 1, 2, & 3 p.m.
- Attend the **Holiday Tree & Menorah Lighting Ceremony** with a stunning conifer display and join in an old-fashioned sing-along on Sunday, December 2, 4–5:15 p.m.
- Join NYBG's **Annual Bird Count** and explore the Garden's 250 acres. Collect data on resident bird populations and migratory species that help to assess the health of bird populations and to guide conservation action. December 15 at 11 a.m.
- Join beloved New York poet, NYBG Poet Laureate, and **former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins for a special reading of poems** inspired by trains, the holidays, and The New York Botanical Garden on Sunday, December 16, at 2 p.m. New this year, as part of the Kids' Poetry Contest and in partnership with the Poetry Society of America, Collins will select 12 winning poems to be displayed at NYBG during the *Holiday Train Show* and will be joined by the selected student authors to share their work during this special reading. Reserve your tickets in advance to guarantee seating by selecting the special *All-Garden Pass* "Poetry for Every Season Reading: *Holiday Train Show*" at <https://www.nybg.org/visit/admission/>. For more information about how to enter the Kids' Poetry Contest, visit <http://www.nybg.org/poets>.
- Watch holiday short films during the **Family Film Series**, December 22–24 and 26 & 27. Films include *Polar Express*, *Frozen*, *The Muppet Christmas Carol*, and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. For a full listing, visit [nybg.org](http://nybg.org).
- Embark on an invigorating 45-minute walking **Winter Wonderland Tree Tour**. View the Garden's stately conifer collection and old-growth forest in the beauty of winter. Even in cold weather there's plenty of visual interest in our gardens and collections. Saturdays, November 17–January 19 at 12:30 p.m.

- Get a fascinating overview of the Garden's history and its importance as a vital NYC cultural destination since 1891 on our **Holiday Landmarks Tour**. Walking with an expert guide, explore the Tulip Tree Allée, the Lillian Goldman Fountain of Life, and the LuEsther T. Mertz Library. The tour concludes at the Garden's iconic Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Sundays, November 18–January 20 at 2:30 p.m.
- Children join Thomas and Driver Sam on a fun-filled, sing-along, mini-performance adventure during **All Aboard with Thomas & Friends™**. In *Thomas' Budding Adventure*, kids will help Thomas discover the steps to growing a beautiful garden. Be sure to have a professional photo taken with the Really Useful Engine to capture the special day. December 29–31; January 1–6, 12–13, & 19–21. Visit [nybg.org](http://nybg.org) for the full performance schedule.  
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Visit the Garden's Web site, [nybg.org](http://nybg.org), to check dates and times for all of the holiday offerings and to purchase advance timed tickets.

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**The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. It is easy to reach by Metro-North Railroad, bus, or subway.**

**HOLIDAY TRAIN SHOW HOURS:**

During the *Holiday Train Show*, November 17, 2018–January 21, 2019, The New York Botanical Garden is open Tuesday–Sunday, and Monday, December 17, 24, and January 21, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Extended hours, 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Saturdays, November 24–January 19; Friday, November 23 (day after Thanksgiving); and December 26–January 1. The Garden is closed all day on November 22 (Thanksgiving) and December 25 (Christmas); it closes at 3 p.m. on December 14 and 24 (Christmas Eve). The Enid A. Haupt Conservatory closes at 2 p.m. on November 28 and December 6.

**PRICING:**

**All-Garden Pass** tickets start at \$23 for adults and \$10 for children (ages 2–12) and differ during certain peak times and weekends. Members and children under 2 are free.

Advance timed tickets are strongly recommended and are available at [nybg.org](http://nybg.org). Discounts available for groups of 15 or more; contact Group Sales at 718.817.8687. For more information, please visit our Web site at [nybg.org](http://nybg.org).

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Images and b-roll available.