

# NYBG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 15, 2023

## **NYBG Celebrates Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month, September 15, through October 15, 2023, with Culinary Samplings, Tours, Interactive Performances, and Digital Offerings Honoring Cultural Traditions and Botanical Heritage**



The Tropical Pool of the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory's Courtyard at The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG Photo)

**Bronx, NY**—The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) celebrates Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month Friday, September 15, through Sunday, October 15, 2023, with an array of on-site and digital programs to spotlight the people and plants of this diverse community.

Highlights include savoring plant-based Mexican treats with XOLO Yonkers, exploring the Maize Garden in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden, Spanish-language guided tours of the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, a journey through the botanical richness of the Caribbean region with NYBG's Plants of the Caribbean Tour, and the interactive performance *iCorre, Abuelita, Run!* by New York City Children's Theater. Discover inspiring books and stories on the shelves of the LuEsther T. Mertz Library and available for perusal and purchase at NYBG Shop. Delve into digital programs like the Bronx Foodways Oral Histories Project, and magnify your knowledge of plants and Hispanic culture with behind-the-scenes stories of adventure and discovery through the work of NYBG scientists and collaborators in Latin America and the Caribbean.

## On-site programs include:

- **Harvest Corn with XOLO Yonkers**

*Saturday, September 16, 2023; 12–3 p.m.*

*Leon Levy Visitor Center*

The husband-and-wife team behind XOLO creates a variety of plant-based treats that celebrate their Mexican heritage and culinary backgrounds. Sample a seasonal vegan pozole (corn stew) in honor of Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month.

- **Maize Garden**

*Saturday, September 16, Friday, September 23, Saturday, September 24, and Wednesday, September 27, 2023; 10 a.m.–5 p.m.*

*Everett Children's Adventure Garden*

Visit the Everett Children's Adventure Garden to learn about the importance of maize to the cultures we celebrate during Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month. Pot up your own corn seed to grow your own maize garden at home.

- ***Guía Turística del Conservatorio (en Español)***

*Wednesday, September 20 and Tuesday, October 24, 2023; 12:30 p.m.*

*Enid A. Haupt Conservatory*

<https://www.nybg.org/event/guia-turistica-del-conervatorio-en-espanol/>

Explore the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, a stunning example of Victorian-style glasshouse artistry, and a New York City Landmark. Take an ecotour around the world through distinct habitats, including rainforest and deserts, and aquatic and carnivorous plant displays. This tour will be given in Spanish.

- **Plants of the Caribbean Tour**

*Thursdays, September 28 and October 5, 2023; 2:30 p.m.*

*Enid A. Haupt Conservatory*

<https://www.nybg.org/event/plants-of-the-caribbean-tour/>

In celebration of Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month at the Garden, explore the vibrant cultural traditions and botanical heritage within the plants of the Caribbean region, including plantains, guava, and more.

- ***iCorre, Abuelita, Run!* with New York City Children's Theater**

*Saturday, October 7, 2023; 12 and 2 p.m.*

*Edible Academy*

This interactive Spanish and English performance, a celebration of Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month, uses language, music, puppetry, and movement to explore the vibrant and diverse neighborhoods of New York City. *iCorre, Abuelita, Run!* celebrates and explores the power of community, the joy of intergenerational family relationships, New York City, and the importance of language and traditions.

- **From the Shelves of the LuEsther T. Mertz Library**  
Enjoy a rotating selection of books highlighting Hispanic/Latinx authors. There are also many inspiring titles in the Children's Collection, including *Just Ask! Be Different, Be Brave, Be You* by Sonia Sotomayor, Puerto Rican Bronx native and the first Latina appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- **NYBG Shop**  
Stop by NYBG Shop to enjoy a book display of titles that broadly reflect the history, the neighborhoods, the people, and the natural treasures found in the Bronx.

**Digital programs include:**

- **Bronx Foodways Oral Histories Project: Community Gardens**  
As part of Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month, learn from the compelling food stories of Bronx community gardeners, many of Latin American and Caribbean heritage, who have been instrumental in creating, caring for, and cultivating community in these critical spaces. These stories are part of the [Bronx Foodways Oral Histories Project](#), launched in 2021 to preserve the food histories and life experiences of longtime community gardeners and urban farmers across the borough. Gardeners from two pillars of their respective neighborhoods: [Morris Campus Farm](#) and [Friends of Brook Park Community Garden](#) speak about the importance of these gardens and urban farms to the Bronx and the city at large. Get to know some of the people who make these sources of food and community possible.

*The Bronx Foodways Oral Histories Project is made possible with support from the Mellon Foundation.*

- **Hispanic/Latinx Heritage and Philippine Medicinal Plants: The Personal Story of Kathleen Cruz Gutierrez, Ph.D.**

Plant Talk *blog post*

<https://www.nybg.org/planttalk/hispanic-heritage-and-philippine-medicinal-plants-the-personal-story-of-kathleen-cruz-gutierrez-ph-d/>

Kathleen Cruz Gutierrez, Ph.D., recent Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in NYBG's Humanities Institute, discusses her interest in the flora of her family's homeland, the Philippines.

- **Hector Castillo Carvajal Talks Bronx Coffee**

Plant Talk *blog post*

<https://www.nybg.org/planttalk/hector-castillo-carvajal-talks-bronx-coffee/>

Hear about the South Bronx specialty coffee roaster Don Carvajal Café, and the founder and operator behind the brand, Hector Castillo Carvajal.

- **Look Closely at Plant Discovery with *The Hand Lens***

<https://sweetgum.nybg.org/science/the-hand-lens/>

Magnify your knowledge of plants and culture through behind-the-scenes stories of adventure and discovery. Learn about the work of NYBG scientists and collaborators in Latin America and the Caribbean, where they are leading efforts to conserve ecosystems that are among the

most diverse in the world, with these highlights from NYBG's William and Lynda Steere Herbarium collections, featuring stories from the Caribbean and South America:

- [Achiote](#)
- [Vanilla](#)
- [Sweetsop vs. Soursop](#)
- [Mango](#)
- [Tobacco](#)
- [Sweet Sweet Potato](#)

For more information about The New York Botanical Garden's Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month celebration and to access the digital programs, visit: <https://www.nybg.org/event/hispanic-latinx-heritage-month/>.

*Sponsors:*

LuESTHER T. MERTZ CHARITABLE TRUST:  
Providing leadership support for year-round programming at NYBG

The Bronx Foodways Oral Histories Project is made possible with support from the Mellon Foundation.

###

**The New York Botanical Garden is located at 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York 10458. For more information, visit [nybg.org](http://nybg.org)**

**The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden's general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.**

**Media Contacts:** Patricia Sullivan at [psullivan@nybg.org](mailto:psullivan@nybg.org)  
Nick Leshi at [nleshi@nybg.org](mailto:nleshi@nybg.org);