

NYBG

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NYBG Announces Call for Applicants for the Second Year of the Larry Lederman Photography Fellowship

Application Period for Annual Opportunity for an Outstanding Professional or Emerging Garden or Landscape Photographer Runs September 15 through December 15, 2023

Fellowship Award to Be Announced in February 2024



Bronx, NY—The Humanities Institute of The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) has announced the application guidelines for the second annual photography fellowship established by Larry Lederman, a noted landscape photographer and longtime friend of NYBG. The Larry Lederman Photography Fellowship is awarded annually to an outstanding established or emerging photographer whose work focuses on gardens or landscapes and demonstrates excellence and a creative approach to the art of landscape photography. This year's application period runs from September 15 through December 15, 2023. The selected Fellow will receive a \$20,000 grant disbursed in installments for a nine-month term, March 1 through November 30, 2024, during which time the Fellow will have complimentary access to NYBG's 250-acre landscape and historic collections. The Larry Lederman Photography Fellowship is available to any photographer 21 years of age or older who is a United States citizen or is an international photographer currently authorized to work in the U.S. The selected Fellow will be announced in mid-February 2024.

During the 9-month term, the Fellow will create a portfolio of photographs that captures the aesthetic character, seasonality, and ephemeral quality of The New York Botanical Garden and/or community gardens in its [Bronx Green-Up](#) program, parks, natural areas, and urban landscapes throughout the Bronx environs. At least 20 percent of the work should include photos taken onsite at NYBG, a 250-acre National Historic Landmark site, or its affiliated community gardens. A portfolio of at least 20

prints, from the submitted body of work, will be delivered to the NYBG's LuEsther T. Mertz Library at the end of the term.

Last year's Lederman Fellow was Ngoc Minh Ngo, a New York-based photographer whose work explores the intrinsic beauty of plants and nature. She is the author and photographer of *Bringing Nature Home*, *In Bloom*, and *Eden Revisited*. Her images have been published in international publications such as *The World of Interiors*, *Architectural Digest*, and *T Magazine*. She has also exhibited her work at the Musée Yves Saint Laurent in Marrakesh. Her new book is *New York Green: Discovering the City's Most Treasured Parks and Gardens* (Artisan, June 2023), beautifully photographed and heavily researched profiles of parks and gardens across New York City's five boroughs, from corner lots bursting with native plantings along the West Side Highway to a tiny community garden that serves as an essential stormwater management park in Gowanus, to nature preserves along Rockaway's waterfront and a sprawling old-growth forest here at NYBG. On Thursday, September 14, 2023, Ngo presented some of her work and spoke with Dr. Eric W. Sanderson, landscape ecologist, author of the bestselling *Mannahatta*, and NYBG's Vice President for Urban Conservation Strategy. A recording of their conversation can be found [here](#).

Larry Lederman has been photographing landscapes for the past 20 years. His work has been exhibited in the Arthur and Janet Ross Gallery at NYBG and numerous other venues. He is the author of *Garden Portraits: Experiences of Natural Beauty*, *Magnificent Trees of The New York Botanical Garden*, and *Rockefeller Family Gardens: An American Legacy*, all published by Monacelli Press, and the principal photographer of *The New York Botanical Garden* (Abrams), *Interior Landmarks: Treasures of New York* by Judith Gura and Kate Wood (Monacelli Press), and *Frederic Church's Olana on the Hudson: Art, Landscape, Architecture*, edited by Julia B. Rosenbaum and Karen Zubowski (Rizzoli New York).

Through Sunday, December 3, 2023, *DuPont Gardens of the Brandywine Valley: Photographs by Larry Lederman*, an exhibit in NYBG's Arthur and Janet Ross Gallery, features more than a dozen of Lederman's photographic prints of gardens across the Brandywine Valley, including Longwood Gardens; Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library; and Hagley Museum and Library. Over multiple generations, the du Pont family has created magnificent landscapes and gardens that complement the verdant lands of the Brandywine Valley, where five of their estates—Hagley Museum and Library; Nemours Estate; Mt. Cuba Center; Winterthur Museum, Garden, & Library; and Longwood Gardens—are each a showplace of formal plantings juxtaposed with carefully nurtured natural woodland. Through vivid photography and eloquent prose, the beauty and spirit of each estate is exquisitely captured in one beautiful new book, *Du Pont Gardens of the Brandywine Valley* (Monacelli, September 2023). On Thursday, October 19, 2023, 4–5:30 p.m., Lederman will join garden historian, writer, and NYBG instructor Marta McDowell and Executive Director of Mt. Cuba Center Jeff Downing for a lively discussion about this impressive publication and the landscape legacy of the du Pont family. This conversation will be moderated by Todd Forrest, NYBG's Vice President for Horticulture and Living Collections. A book signing follows. ([Registration is required](#); Members: \$35, Non-Members \$39)

Larry Lederman said, "We are pleased by the success of the inaugural Fellowship this past year and the work being done by our 2023 Fellow, Ngoc Minh Ngo. We are seeking applicants for the 2024 Fellowship."

Larry Lederman Photography Fellowship Application Requirements

In addition to a biography and resume, applicants are required to submit the following via the [application portal](#):

- **Artist Statement**—(up to 200 words), a concise overview of the applicant's photography practice. The statement should provide a brief introduction to the photographer's themes and methods.
- **Preliminary Proposal**—(up to 300 words), a concise statement of the applicant's proposed approach and anticipated coverage of the gardens and landscape.
- **Work Samples**—(10 digital images; 2000 pixels+ with descriptions), representing the applicant's artistic work created within the last five years.

A nomination and advisory committee appointed by NYBG will assess applications. The committee will consider the appreciation for natural beauty that the applicants' proposals will inspire. The committee will be comprised of Todd Forrest, NYBG's Arthur Ross Vice President for Horticulture and Living Collections; Rhonda Evans, Director of NYBG's LuEsther T. Mertz Library; Lucas Mertehikian, Director of NYBG's Humanities Institute; Jay A. Levenson, Director of the International Program at the Museum of Modern Art; Bryan Whitney, faculty member of the International Center of Photography; and photographer John Maggiotto.

For more information about the Larry Lederman Photography Fellowship, please email the NYBG Humanities Institute at humanities@nybg.org. To read more about the Fellowship and to access the application portal, please visit <https://www.nybg.org/learn/humanities-institute/research-opportunities/the-larry-lederman-photography-fellowship>.

About The New York Botanical Garden

Founded in 1891, The New York Botanical Garden is the most comprehensive botanical garden in the world and an integral part of the cultural fabric of New York City, anchored in the Bronx. Visitors come to the Garden to connect with nature for joy, beauty, and respite, and for renowned plant-based exhibitions, music and dance, and poetry and lectures. Innovative children's education programs promote environmental sustainability and nutrition awareness, graduate programs educate the next generation of botanists, while engaging classes inspire adults to remain lifelong learners. The 250-acre verdant landscape—which includes a 50-acre, old-growth forest—and the landmark Enid A. Haupt Conservatory support living collections of more than one million plants. Unparalleled resources are also held in the LuEsther T. Mertz Library, the world's most important botanical and horticultural library with 11 million archival items spanning ten centuries, and William and Lynda Steere Herbarium, the largest in the Western Hemisphere with 7.8 million plant and fungal specimens. Committed to protecting the planet's biodiversity and natural resources, Garden scientists work on-site in cutting-edge molecular labs and in areas worldwide where biodiversity is most at risk.

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The New York Botanical Garden is located at 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York 10458. For more information, visit nybg.org

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

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