



Celebrating the Future

This is QBG's fortieth year on Main Street, in Flushing. What's to come in the next forty years? With the completion of the perimeter fence in 2002 we made a statement—that QBG is here to stay and that we care about where we've come from, where we are today, and where we will be in the future.

Building the future takes patience and vision. We are the country's first botanical garden committed to sustainable architecture, environmental stewardship, and cultural expression. Scheduled for groundbreaking this summer and designed to achieve the highest (platinum) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) rating, the new Visitor/Administration building will be energy and resource efficient and integrated with the site. The LEED™ rating system is a nationally recognized standard for sustainability that guides every aspect of planning, design, construction, and operations. Managed with the City of New York's Department of Design and Construction, this is a demonstration project for High Performance Building in New York City. Capturing and using the sun's energy with photovoltaic panels,

collecting and reusing rainwater, incorporating a "green" planted roof, managing all stormwater on-site, harnessing geothermal energy, and transitioning to a more sustainable landscape that is representative of New York regional habitats are a few of the techniques the Queens Botanical Garden is using to demonstrate and promote more sustainable development.

As we build a more sustainable QBG, we need to advocate for sustainability and stewardship—respecting natural resources, pushing beyond conventional development ideas, conserving energy, working toward cleaner air and water, and nurturing healthy ecological communities of which we are all a part. We have little choice but to forge a different and more respectful relationship with nature or we will continue to face resource depletion, poor air and water quality, energy crises, and health issues. QBG is leading by example.

There are signs all over New York City and the nation that sustainable development has arrived. It is not just a trend. A green design and construction bill has been proposed by the City Council.

continued to *Just For Kids!* page

A. Biotope and Water Feature

The cleansing biotope is fed with rainwater captured by the terrace roof.

B. Terrace Roof

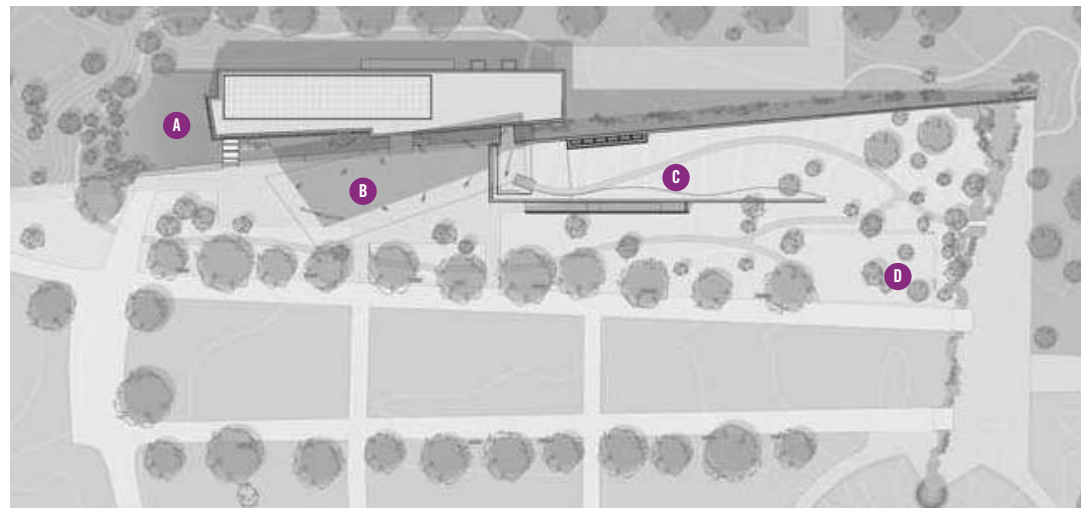
The terrace roof captures rainfall and channels it into the cleansing biotope and water feature.

C. Green Roof

The green roof insulates the auditorium below and absorbs rainfall, reducing run-off and contributing to the project's goal of 100% on-site, stormwater management.

D. Constructed Wetlands

The Visitor/Administration Building uses a grey water recycling system to cleanse and reuse its sink, shower, and dishwasher water.



QBG Visitor/Administration Building Site Plan BSKS Architects

Bloom Calendar

A kaleidoscope of color and herbs awaits you at Queens Botanical Garden this summer. Fragrant plants are in pink. Herbs are italicized.

July: *Roses*, marigold, rose of Sharon, hydrangea, *daylilies*, *vervain*, *hosta*, *impatiens*, *petunias*, *hyssop*, zinnias, *lavender*, *salvia*, *rue*, geraniums, trumpet vine, *feverfew*, *tithonia*, *begonias*, *comfrey*, *astrantia*, *campanula*, *veronica*, *St. John's Wort*, *liatris*, *helenium*, *verbena*, *plume poppy*, *pentas*, *cosmos*, *agratum*, *Russian Sage*, *eryngium*, *hollyhocks*, *red valerian*, *macleaya*, *perovskia*, *phlox*, *soapwort*, *stokesia*, *coreopsis*, *knautia*, *anise*, *heliopsis*, *clethra*, *canna*

August: *Agastache*, *buddleia*, *self heal angelica*, *boltonia*, *clethra*, *tibouchina*, *pot marigold*, *nicotiana*, *pentas*, *sunflowers*, *yarrow*, *rudbeckia*, *echinacea*, *calamintha*, *dahlia*, *lythrum*, *toadflax*, *cleome*, *vitex*, *goldenrod*, *stewartia*, *crape myrtle*, *allium*, *canna*, *hibiscus*, *Joe-pye weed*, *thalictrum*, *pineapple sage*, *platycodon*, *hops*, *ceratostigma*, *Mexican tarragon*

September: *Japanese anemone*, *autumn clematis*, *asters*, *chrysanthemums*, *lobelia*, *chelone*, *sedum*, *caryopteris*, *tricytris*

Development

Welcome New Board Member

The board of trustees is pleased to welcome Richard Aurelio who will assist the Garden during the period of physical and programmatic growth over the next three years. Mr. Aurelio joined the staff of *Newsday* in 1952, where he worked first as a reporter and then as news editor from 1955-1961. He served as chief of staff to U.S. Senator Jacob Javits from 1961-68 and First Deputy Mayor in the Lindsay Administration through 1971. During his nineteen-year career in cable television with Warner Communications he took charge of the company's New York City operations and founded *NY1 News*, the award-winning all news local cable channel that has become a model for similar news channels throughout the country.

New Grants

Anonymous: \$5,000 for the Tulip Beds

City Garden's Club of New York City: \$5,000 for Backyard Garden renovation

Richard Aurelio: \$2,500 for general operating support

The Laura B. Vogler Foundation, Inc.: \$2,500 toward scholarships for school workshops

Pfizer Foundation Volunteer Program: \$1,000 for the Senior Garden program

We are grateful to the following corporations for their matching gifts:

Exxon Mobile Matching Gift Program \$35

The Ford Foundation \$120

JPMorgan Chase Foundation Matching Gift Volunteer Program \$25

Pfizer Foundation Matching Gift Program \$25

Campaign for the Future of the Garden

Endowment Fund

The J. Paul Getty Trust

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Susan Lacerte

Robert & Rovena Schirling

Neil D. Levin Evergreen Fund

Isabel Astle

Joan N. Bluestone

Byron Butaney

Frank J. Mirovsky

Renee E. Ring, Esq.

Wingson Wong

2004 Annual Appeal

A special Thank You to all the donors who helped make QBG's Annual Appeal for 2004 a success. Contributions from individuals and locally based businesses are very important to us. We appreciate your support!

\$500-\$1000

Blondie's Treehouse

Cross County Federal Savings Bank

Dominick & Rose Ciampa Foundation, Inc.

Larino Masonry, Inc. New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens

L. Riso & Sons Co., Inc.

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George Young

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Tamara Shapiro

Laura Silverberg

Lillian Stutman

Louise Sullivan

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Abraham Weingats

Frances Zappe

Memorial Donations

Barbara Sacks in memory of her mother Estelle Deutch

Lawrence & Judith Levey in memory of Verna Hobson

Shirley Kushner in memory of Mildred Miksch

QBG Craft Group in memory of Gilbert Sherman

Adoption Program

Mrs. Joan M. Davis has adopted a Hally Jolivette cherry tree in loving memory of her husband Wilbur M. Davis.

Terry, Carmela, and Daniela Prickman and Isaura and Paul Leone have adopted a southern magnolia tree in memory of Anthony Calia.

Staff News

It is with great sorrow that we announce the death of **Mildred Miksch**, executive secretary. Mrs. Miksch was a dedicated and loyal employee for over twenty years and greatly loved by all the staff, present and past. She is greatly missed.

We are pleased to announce that **Barbara Prete** joined Queens Botanical Garden in March 2004, as campaign and marketing director. Ms. Prete will be responsible for promoting partnerships and collaborations that further the Garden's goals and deepen relationships with the diverse communities of Queens. She will also develop and build the recently established endowment fund and oversee fundraising activities for the Campaign for the Future of the Garden.

The Garden is also pleased to welcome several new and returning part-time staff members this season. Among new recruits are **Jillian De Gezelle** and **Trinh Nguyen** – cultural researchers; **Chandani Sani** – Children's Garden and education intern; **Maryanne Kollmann** – administration assistant; **George Mueller**, **Jonathan Mui**, and **Milton Trujillo** – parking attendants and Plant Shop assistants; and **Michael Rosenberg** and **Kate Hobson** – Plant Shop clerks. Returning to the staff from last season will be **Clifford Cruz** – parking attendant and Plant Shop assistant; **Guy Dezan** – security; and **Ada Haro** – custodial assistant.



Tree Planting Assemblymember **Barry Grodenchik** and City Councilmembers **James F. Gennaro** and **John C. Liu**, with son **Joey**, joined executive director **Susan Lacerte**, board chair **Frank J. Mirovsky**, **Carl A. Lee**, manager, Queens public affairs, **Con Edison**, and more than 3,000 schoolchildren for QBG's 30th anniversary Arbor Day festivities. Photo: Pasquale J. Cuomo

Contributions

Special thanks to the following friends for their support:

\$500-\$1,000

Charmer Industries
Dr. Sreedhar Kavil

\$25-\$100

Nicholas Biondo
Raymond Chen
Anne Ciccolella
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Rev. Diane Kraus
Dennis & Julie
Lacerte
Rose Lanzarone

Shu-Hsing-Hsing
Lin
Sophie Minkoff
Mildred Reader
Barbara R. Ricker
Jane Safer
Beatrice Schecter

Up to \$25

Nancy Appleby
Big Apple Guppy
Group
Mong-Wah Chang
Selma Cohen

Marie DeNavarro
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Doris Finn
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Carol Samuels
Khin Maung San
Barbara Seelig
Hazel C. Smith
Joseph & Olive
Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Martin
Tytun
Gabriel Velez
Sandford Yu

Margaret Anne Tockarszewsky, QBG's director of marketing and communications for more than seven years, left the staff last fall to pursue graduate studies in historic preservation at Columbia University. She continues to provide her great insight and expertise to the Garden as a consultant.

Rafael Cepeda who served the Garden as an attendant guard for 20 years,—usually working the midnight to morning shift, retired this past winter and is enjoying a warmer climate now year-round.

New Members

(January 1 to April 30, 2004)

Dr. Herbert Abramowitz, Sharon Anderson, Mary Au-Yeung, Diana Black, Michael Celenza, Alfred Chiang, Ming and Marie

Chin, Charlotte Crawford, Noreen Diehl, Robert Dunenfeld, Martin Fingeret, Katie Connorton Fogarty, Connie Fokianos, Ron Greco, Robert Greubel, Georgina Gyimesi, Donald Hudson, Roy Kato, Claire Kramer, Arcadia Lagrada, Cindy Lai, David Lee, Joanne Lee, Debra & Murray Levy, Amado Li, Yan Li, Angela Malanga, Luz Martinez, Kailash C. Marwah, Choi Ying Mau, Linda Mayo, Ann Marie Napolitano, Mary Ng, Wally Ng, James Riso, Giellana & Ibrahim Sahin, Jean Sbarra, David Schlam, S. Stephens, Frederick B. Wishner, Isak Yakubov, Hon Ting Yu, Gary Yuen

PLANT YOUR LEGACY



Photo: Patty Kleinberg

WHERE IT WILL . . .

Produce

Your bequest will provide funding for the Garden's annual programs

Endure

Your bequest will help the Garden meet the future needs

To learn more about the Queens Botanical Garden's planned gift program, call Philip Langer at 718.886.3800 ext. 213.

Research

Getting Back to Our Roots

Despite the dramatic drop in temperature and sudden appearance of rain, people of all ages and diverse cultural backgrounds managed to quickly browse through our display of medicinal and edible roots or stayed awhile to share their stories and knowledge of root usage at Gardening Day 2004. We displayed samples of carrot (*Daucus carota*, Sativus Group), daikon (*Raphanus sativus*, Longipinnatus Group), turnip (*Brassica rapa*, Rapifera Group), yuca (*Manihot esculenta*), ginseng (*Panax ginseng*), comfrey root (*Symphytum officinale*), dandelion root (*Taraxacum officinale*), burdock (*Arctium lappa* 'Esculenta'), and ginger rhizome (*Zingiber officinale*). Children came through the area intrigued by the display, wanting to know the identity of many of the unfamiliar roots. Many of our younger visitors could only identify the carrot. Others said they had seen their mothers prepare yuca or daikon, but did not recall eating it. The majority of the people who stopped by our table identified with countries rooted in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, and Europe. They were all interested in

Cheong Looi Thai's Yuca Cake Recipe

ONE-KILOGRAM YUCA	1/2 TEASPOON SALT
3/4 CUP CARNATION EVAPORATED MILK	310 GRAM GRANULATED SUGAR
1/4 CUP WATER	2 TEASPOONS VANILLA EXTRACT
100 GRAM MELTED BUTTER	6 TEASPOONS TAPIOCA FLOUR

1. Preheat oven to 400°.
2. Use a fine whole grater, and grate the yuca.
3. Use cheesecloth to squeeze one cup of juice from the finely grated yuca, and throw the juice away.
4. In a big bowl, mix the grated yuca, evaporated milk, melted butter, sugar, salt, vanilla extract, and tapioca flour.
5. Pour the yuca mixture into a loaf pan. Bake about one hour, then test the cake with a toothpick. If it comes out dry, then the cake is done. Use a brush to spread some melted butter on to the surface of the yuca cake. Bake for another 7 minutes.

hearing from us and from each other regarding the origin, and particularly the usage, of the roots we had on display. Cooking, food, recipes, and healing were the main topics of discussion.

Surprisingly, one of the root samples that received the most attention was the dandelion root. Many people were surprised to hear of its medicinal properties and nutritive qualities, and even wanted to know where they could buy it! One woman took a leaf from our plant to take home so that she could correctly identify it in her yard. Others were not the least bit surprised by the information on our dandelion label, and in fact used the root and other parts of the dandelion plant many times themselves. An Italian man told us that his mother used to make him a salad of raw dandelion leaves, topped with olive oil, vinegar, and onions, fed to him for the iron content. A Romanian woman also shared that on occasion

she would roast the roots of the dandelion and use it as a coffee substitute. She said the roasted root was similar to that of coffee, and satisfied her craving for the drink. She went on to say that this was not a traditional Romanian use, but rather something she had learned from her time in the US, and ended by noting that the root is good for the liver and the skin. Our dandelion root sample also helped to trigger other memories and stories of plant roots. C.K. Chen, an older man from Taiwan, added that when he was young he used to also eat raw clover roots, which he would simply dig from the yard, rinse off, and eat.

The yuca root was also another popular sample at our table. People from many varied cultures, Latin American, Asian, and others knew of the yuca or cassava root and had used it in their cooking. Some people fried pieces after softening the root through boiling. A woman from Guyana said in her culture they made a mash out of it, similar to mashed potatoes. Another woman told us that she made a hair wash out of the root by boiling the root, mashing it, then mixing the mash with essential oils and applying it directly to her hair. A Chinese woman named Cheong Looi Thai said that she makes cake from yuca and added that she had tasted other people's yuca cakes, but none had tasted nearly as good as hers. She agreed to give us her recipe. Later that day, she returned to the Garden with the recipe in hand, after going home, sitting and translating it from Mandarin into English just for us.

The story sharing and information exchange ended with an offering of a thirst-quenching drink and a take-home recipe of a homemade ginger "root" ale. We'd like to thank all those who shared their stories and recipes on Gardening Day 2004. We hope to see you all again next year!

Jillian De Gezelle and Trinh Nguyen, Cultural Researchers



Cheong Looi Thai at Gardening Day 2004 Photo: Jillian De Gezelle

Just For Kids!

Herb Series for Kids!

Fee: \$10, \$5 members per workshop

Families are invited to join Professor Reed, QBG's Head Herb Mistress, for a series of workshops designed for Harry Potter lovers.

Introduction to Herbology

Saturday, July 10, 1 pm

Discover the magical world of plants. Did you know that plants feel, move, and communicate? That they have tiny guardian angels known as "devas" and work in cahoots with insects and birds? Find out how witches and wizards work with plants and how you can too!

Herbology I

Saturday, August 7, 1 pm

Discover the magical properties of herbs and how to use them for cooking, healing, and cosmetics. Discover how to make herbal preparations for teas, skin and hair washes as well as how to use the moon and sun for brewing the concoctions.

Herbology II

Saturday, August 14, 1 pm

Learn how to grow, transplant, and harvest the magical herbs that you can use in your future spells and potions. Includes a lunar and astrological planting calendar.

HSBC CHILDREN'S GARDEN 2004

Open to budding horticulturists ages 5 to 14, these gardening and nature experiences allow kids to maintain and harvest flowers and vegetables and create fun crafts, while gaining a greater awareness of a garden's ecosystem. Call the education department at 718.886.3800, ext. 229 for more information.

Fall Session

Saturdays, September 11 through October 2

9:30 am to 12 noon

Fee: \$50; \$30 members

The Children's Garden is enjoying lead support from HSBC in the Community (USA) Inc. in 2004.



Root Views, a free program offered on Gardening Day, provided kids the opportunity to plant a seedling, watch it grow, and learn about the structure of plants.

Photo: Jason Green

Herbology III

Saturday, September 25, 1 pm

Learn how to harvest, dry, and store herbs. Discover which part of the plant is used and the different methods used to make special potions and personal blends.



In May, Flushing's Buddha's Light International Association held an outdoor celebration at QBG, with performances, food, and activities for kids. Photo: Jillian De Gezelle

continued from cover story

NYC building codes are being revised. Green buildings in Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh, and other places appear in the newspapers. Our project, requiring special experience related to sustainable development and LEED™ standards for all contracts, went out to bid and the bids came back within budget. Groundbreaking is upon us. And all eyes are on QBG.

QBG's capital project must send a strong message that a fundamental change in design and construction is possible, the implementation of sustainable projects is feasible, and the results are beautiful. Green buildings and landscapes are only one part of QBG's future. The vision and mission of QBG are about nurturing cultural understanding and building a more sustainable institution to better serve our community—economically, socially, and educationally. Through our institutionwide efforts, we are revealing the connections between global conservation, local sustainability, and the importance of traditional cultural practices as they relate to natural resources.

Jennifer Ward Souder, Director of Planning, Collections, Research

Spring Talks

Summer Herb Series

All workshops in the Summer Herb and Herb Focus Series are \$10, \$5 members per workshop.

Cooking with Herbs I & II

Sundays, July 11 and 18, 1 pm

Use herbs creatively to add interest and nutrition to your daily meals. Learn to identify the flavor, scent, and colors of common and not-so common culinary herbs, to make your own special blend of teas, and to complement a variety of dishes, beverages, and baked goods. Cynthia Reed teaches you how to be an artist in your kitchen with herbs as the colors of your palette.

Planning a Fragrance Garden

Sunday, August 1, 1 pm

A fragrance garden can be a large, walk-through planting, or a cluster of containers on a porch. Learn which plants will give you delicious scents throughout the seasons, where to get them, how to grow them, and how to plant for continued fragrance.

Blue Roots: Herbs of New Orleans and the Carolina Coast

Sunday, September 26, 1 pm

Did you ever hear about Bloodroot, Devil's Shoestring, Lucky Hand root, mojo, gris-gris, and Dixie John? Explore the traditional herbal healing and nature magic of New Orleans and the Sea Islands.

Herb Focus

Join Cynthia Reed as she explores popular herbs in depth, covering topics such as the plant's physiology, the latest research results, cultural requirements, and history of use.

Herb Focus: Lavender

Sunday, July 25, 1 pm

From soaps and perfumes to anti-fungal ointments—lavender is a multi-faceted herb that is a major cash crop for several Mediterranean countries. Learn why it is so important and how you can grow and use lavender in your own home.

Herb Focus: The Dandelion

Sunday, August 15, 1 pm

When you learn of the many benefits of this much-maligned plant ally, you may never pull a dandelion again! We discuss how dandelions can help the soil, medicinal uses, and much more.

Herb Focus: Basil

Sunday, September 12, 1 pm

Did you know that a drop of basil oil on shirtsleeves helps counteract mental fatigue or that in Europe and India basil is placed in the hands of the dead to ensure a safe journey? Basil has over 50 medicinal activities and is used to treat over 100 conditions. And it's great on pasta! Join us to find out more about this popular herb.

Natural Gardening Series

Fee: \$10, \$5 members per workshop. Take any three workshops during the calendar year and get the fourth free.

Summer is the time to sit back, relax, and enjoy your garden. If you have taken advantage of this series, you should have little to do but water the garden and harvest fresh fruits and vegetables. Late summer is a good time to assess your successes and failures and plan for early fall planting and lawn care. Watch for our fall newsletter for more natural gardening workshops.

Natural Lawn Care—Fall Focus

Saturday, September 11, 12 noon

Now is the ideal time to seed and feed your lawn for fall. Join Patty Kleinberg and get the secrets to a beautiful weed-free green lawn without the use of harsh chemicals.

Composting Returns to New York City!

Everyone remembers the Compost Project at Queens Botanical Garden, and the good news is that project funding has been restored. So stay tuned for a program update and happy composting!



Exhibit

Salvage/Salvation Part 3: Nest

July 9 through July 29

Be sure to participate in this ongoing installation and performance project that explores the philosophical, emotional, and material implications of re-use, discard, decay, and abundance. Five artists will create an environment using the nest-building practices of birds as its template, creating a human nest using materials left behind on the premises, as well as the organic debris of the Garden. Several performers will occupy the nest as it is built, activating the exhibit, and musicians of all ages from the Brooklyn/Queens Conservatory of Music will provide musical ambience. Visitors will be encouraged to contribute ideas; one part of the exhibit will be a nest created exclusively by children. Continuous conversation will be another part of the performance, where all questions are answered and dialogue is actively encouraged. Please call the Garden for specific times and activities.



Shop Talk

Stop and smell the roses! A new rose for 2004, 'Memorial Day', is appropriately named to usher in the summer season. Quantities are limited.

July: 10% off pots and soil

August: 10% off honey

September: 10% off toys

The Crafts Room is open for sales of pressed flower pictures and notecards, unusual dried flower wreaths and arrangements, and other fragrant gifts, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings by appointment. Please phone ext. 200 in advance of your visit.



Queens Botanical Garden

43-50 Main Street, Flushing, NY 11355
718.886.3800 www.queensbotanical.org

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Flushing NY



Photo: Alexander Boriqua

Calendar of Events

SATURDAY, JULY 10

Just for Kids! Introduction to Herbology, 1 pm

SUNDAY, JULY 11

Herb Series: Cooking with Herbs I, 1 pm

SUNDAY, JULY 18

Herb Series: Cooking with Herbs II, 1 pm
Concert: Queens Festival Band, 4 pm

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Concert: Teatro Pregones, 7 pm, (Raindate: July 24)

SUNDAY, JULY 25

Herb Focus: Lavender, 1 pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

Herb Series: Planning a Fragrance Garden, 1 pm
Concert: Rhythms Around the World, 6 pm

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

Concert: The David Cedeño Orchestra, 7 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Just for Kids! Herbology I, 1 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

Just for Kids! Herbology II, 1 pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

Herb Focus: The Dandelion, 1 pm

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

Concert: Queens Festival Band, 7 pm

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

Concert: Carol Sudhalter's Astoria Big Band, 7 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Natural Gardening Series: Natural Lawn Care, 12 noon

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Herb Focus: Basil, 1 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Just for Kids! Herbology III, 1 pm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Herb Series: Blue Roots, 1 pm

General Information

SUMMER HOURS

(April through September)
Tuesday through Friday, 8 am to 6 pm
Saturday and Sunday, 8 am to 7 pm
Closed Mondays except for legal holidays

PLANT SHOP HOURS

Tuesday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm

PLANT INFORMATION

Tuesday and Friday, 9 am to 4 pm

COMPOST INFORMATION

compost@queensbotanical.org

QBG WEB SITE

www.queensbotanical.org

GETTING HERE

QBG is easily accessible by car, bus, train, and the Queens Culture Loop trolley (Sundays only). Admission is free. Parking is \$5, \$3 members; days and hours vary by season. For complete travel directions and further information, call 718.886.3800.

Support for Queens Botanical Garden News, public programs, and other Garden initiatives has been provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the New York City Council; the Zoos, Botanical Gardens, and Aquariums Grant Program of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation; State Senator Frank Padavan; State Senator Serphin R. Maltese; and the New York State Assembly Queens Delegation. QBG also thanks JPMorgan Chase, Con Edison, the Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Inc., Frank J. Antun Foundation, KeySpan Foundation, Pfizer Foundation, S.H. and Helen R. Scheuer Foundation, TIAA-CREF, Macy's East, Harriet Ford Dickenson Foundation, Booth Ferris Foundation, Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, and individual contributors for additional support.

