

Garden News



QUEENS BOTANICAL GARDEN NEWSLETTER



Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*) Photo: Dan Tenaglia-missouriplants.com

IN PROGRESS: THE CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS, A NEW SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE AT QBG

In spring 2007, visitors will be greeted by several new landscapes, developed as part of the Sustainable Landscapes and Buildings project under way. One of the most exciting landscapes is the Constructed Wetlands, which will sit near the new Visitor/Administration Building at the beginning of the Pin Oak Allée. Though it covers a relatively small area, this landscape features a variety of native wetland plants, such as Bottlebrush Sedge (*Carex comosa*), Great Bulrush (*Scirpus validus*), Marsh Fern (*Thelypteris palustris*) and, adding a dash of color, Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*). This landscape evokes the wetland plant communities that once existed throughout the region.

But what you can see above ground is only half the story. The Constructed Wetlands also fills an important role in the Visitor/Administration Building's water system. Graywater from the building's sinks and dishwasher is piped underground to settling tanks and then to the Constructed Wetlands, where it will seep through the root zones of the wetland plants. Organic nutrients, metals, and other contaminants are naturally treated and absorbed in the thriving microbial environment that is created by the unique biology of wetland plants. The system is designed to filter and cleanse up to 4,000 gallons of water a week that is then piped back into the Visitor/Administration Building for use in toilet flushing. The Constructed Wetlands will be a functioning plant exhibit that not only provides firsthand enjoyment for wildlife and human visitors, but also reduces the use of potable city water and the amount of wastewater that enters the City's overburdened combined sewer system.

OCTOBER

- 2 SUNDAY
Autumn Talk: Putting Your Garden to Sleep, 1 pm
- 9 SUNDAY
Autumn Workshop: An Afternoon Tea Party, 1 to 3 pm
- 13 THURSDAY
Seeds for Seniors: Autumnal Tour and Honey Tasting, 2 to 3:30 pm
- 16 SUNDAY
Autumn Talk: Spring Flowering Bulbs, 1 pm
- 27 THURSDAY
Seeds for Seniors: Beauty from Bulbs – Indoors and Outdoors, 2 to 3:30 pm
- 30 SUNDAY
Autumn Talk: Magical Plants, 1 to 3 pm
Just for Kids! Pumpkin Patch, 1 to 4 pm

NOVEMBER

- 5 SATURDAY
Compost Workshop: "Share the Harvest" – Indoor Composting with Worms, 11 am to 1 pm
- 10 THURSDAY
Seeds for Seniors: Make Scents of Plants, 2 to 3:30 pm
- 13 SUNDAY
Autumn Talk: Botany Basics for Gardeners, 1 to 3 pm
- 17 THURSDAY
Seeds for Seniors: Autumnal Wreath Making, 2 to 3:30 pm
- 20 SUNDAY
Just for Kids! A Native Harvest of Stories, 2 pm
- 27 SUNDAY
Autumn Workshop: Herbs for Winter Health, 1 to 3 pm

DECEMBER

- 1 THURSDAY
Seeds for Seniors: Making Teas and Vinegars, 2 to 3:30 pm
- 11 SUNDAY
Autumn Talk: Herbal Jams and Preserves, 12 noon to 3 pm
- 15 THURSDAY
Seeds for Seniors: Terrariums, 2 to 3:30 pm

Development

10TH ANNUAL ROSE BALL MOST SUCCESSFUL GALA TO DATE

Long known as the place where people, plants, and cultures meet, Queens Botanical Garden added “green” to the languages spoken fluently by its guests, when 250 sustainable design professionals and enthusiasts turned out in support of the 10th Annual Rose Ball on Thursday, June 9. The event celebrated the Garden’s ongoing Sustainable Landscapes and Buildings Project and recognized the achievements of two leaders in the green building field: Jonathan (Jody) Durst, co-president of The Durst Organization, and Timothy S. Carey, president and CEO of Hugh L. Carey Battery Park City Authority.

Presenting Mr. Durst with the 2005 Queens Botanical Garden Society Award, gala committee chair Frank C. Macchio thanked The Durst Organization for “recognizing and acknowledging our mission at the Garden.” The Durst Organization is partnering with Bank of America to build a 2.1-million-square-foot, 52-story, state-of-the-art crystalline skyscraper in Manhattan that will stand as one of the world’s most environmentally responsible high-rise buildings. The project incorporates innovative, high-performance technologies to use dramatically less energy, consume 50% less potable water, and provide a healthy and productive indoor environment that prioritizes the use of natural light and fresh air.

The recipient of QBG’s 2005 Environmental Stewardship Award, Mr. Carey oversees the environmentally balanced development of a unique, 92-acre planned community located on Manhattan’s lower west side. QBG board chair Stefanie F. Handsman noted that Mr. Carey had the unprecedented responsibility of directing the process to develop the The Solaire, the first sustainable, “green” residential high-rise building in the United States, at 20 River Terrace.

The 10th Annual Rose Ball exceeded all expectations, bringing in \$167,000 for the Garden, which makes it the most successful gala to date. The Garden thanks board vice chair Frank C. Macchio for his stewardship, and the committee members who tirelessly worked to organize the event: Theresa Bonavolonta, Julia Felix, Howard Graf, Kathy Kenny, and Grace Meng; QBG board members Joan N. Bluestone, Michael Celenza, Paul W. Ho, James V. McTighe, and Verdia M. Noel; and QBG Advisory Committee members Martin Karon and Lola McLinden. The Garden also thanks board member James Riso for serving as journal chair and board chair Stefanie F. Handsman for her enthusiastic work in support of the committee’s efforts. Finally, thank you to all of the Garden’s supporters who contributed to the 10th Annual Rose Ball.

10TH ANNUAL ROSE BALL

The Garden gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our 2005 Rose Ball sponsors:

Golden Rose Sponsor
The Durst Organization,
Inc.

Red Rose Sponsor
Cord Meyer
Development LLC

Pink Rose Sponsors
The Albanese
Organization, Inc.
Consolidated Edison
Company of New York
HSBC Bank, USA
New York Community
Bank

White Rose Sponsors
Muss Development
Company
New York Hospital
Queens

A special thank you to Bank of America for providing major support for the Garden’s education programs in honor of the 10th Annual Rose Ball.



New York City Councilmember John Liu (bottom, l.) recognized the efforts of all those working toward New York City’s sustainable future at QBG’s 10th Annual Rose Ball in June. Shown here with executive director Susan Lacerte and gala chair Frank C. Macchio, are (top, from l.) honorees Jonathan (Jody) Durst, of The Durst Organization, and Timothy S. Carey, of Battery Park City Authority, board chair Stefanie F. Handsman, and former New York City Councilmember Archie Spigner. *Photo: Jason Green*

ANNUAL APPEAL 2005

QBG is grateful to all those who supported the 2005 Annual Appeal. A special thank you to the following individuals and businesses who gave gifts at or above the \$250 level.

\$500 and above
Joan Bluestone
Flushing Cemetery
Association
Sidney Kalugin
Michael LaPlaca
North Fork Bank
Ridgewood Savings
Bank

\$250 to \$499
Bluestone Organization
City Underwriting
Agency, Inc.
Cord Meyer
Development LLC
Elise Laney
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A.
Ward, Jr.
Andrea Woodner

NEW MEMBERS (as of February 1, 2005)

Corporate Membership (\$5000)

Altria Group, Inc.
Goldman Sachs & Co.

Life Member

William Malloy

Ruth Abramson
Nicholas Ancona
Diane Brows
Christine Budzynski
Polly Chea
Janet Chen
Cindy Cohen
Helen Dan
Theresa DeBonis
Dominick DePaola
Milagros Dichoso
Ken Ditchfield
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Marlene Feldman
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Kelly Lee
Sidney Lerner
Mae Jean Manghisi
Teresa Monge
Anna M. Montalbo
Elizabeth Moss
Fay Myers
Man Ng
Sarah O’Connell
Elizabeth O’Leary
Veronica Olownia
Walter Oradesky
The Plant Station
Alan Thomson
Rosemary Torres
Tom Trempy
Danise M. Weiss
Kirsten Westphal
Hsiu Yu Wong
Steve Wong

ENDOWMENT

Tomorrow, the Garden will be stronger and more beautiful than today, thanks to the following friends who have generously contributed to the endowment program. To date, \$53,036 has been raised.

\$10,000 and above
The Mushroom Trust

\$5000 to \$9999
Gloria Levin*

Port Authority of NY
& NJ*

\$1000 to \$4999
Briarwood Organization

Raymond J. Cook**

George S. Meyer

Renée E. Ring

Magda Salvesen

\$500 to \$999
Martin Karon*

Frank J. Mirovsky*

Up to \$499

Stefanie F. Handsman*

Patty Kleinberg*

Susan Lacerte*

Jacqueline M. Newman

Verdia M. Noel

Susan R. Norton*

Peter Sansone*

Martha Taylor

John Wingate

Wingson Wong*

* Neil D. Levin
Evergreen Fund

**deceased

MEMORIAL GIFTS

- Patrick Sun, in memory of fellow board member Raymond J. Cook
- Lawrence Stelter, in memory of Ida Behrmann
- The following have made donations in memory of C. S. Wan, father of former QBG board chair Henry Wan:

The Beechwood Organization

Blau Mechanical Corp.

Bluestone Organization

Camardella & Brown

DCH Management Services

Fakler Eliason & Porcelli

The Hong Kong Association of New York

Frank J. Mirovsky

Corine Mullen

Barbara Nelson

Queens Chamber of Commerce

R.C. Henderson Stair Builder, Inc.

Sterling Floor Designs

BOARD NEWS

The United States Congress has recognized the political service and civic contributions of QBG board member Archie Spigner, a former New York City Councilmember, by naming a branch of the United States Post Office in St. Albans, Queens, in his honor. The Archie Spigner Post Office Building, located at 195-04 Linden Boulevard, was dedicated on May 6. Mr. Spigner, who served as the Council's Majority Whip, represented Southeast Queens for 28 years. U.S. Senator Charles Schumer and Congressman Gregory Meeks sponsored the legislation.

IN MEMORIAM

Generous, intelligent, and always genuine, QBG board member **Raymond J. Cook** was a rare individual whose inspiring leadership served as an example to colleagues and friends alike. As president of Cook & Krupa, Inc., he was a prominent leader in the Queens business community for nearly four decades and took an active interest in local affairs. His philanthropy extended to numerous nonprofits and schools with which he was personally involved as a board or committee member. Ray's deep commitment to QBG and strong belief in its future galvanized support for such initiatives as the Rose Ball. The Garden's board and staff mourn his loss, and dedicated the 10th Annual Rose Ball to his memory.

A visionary and dynamic leader of Queens' cultural community for 25 years, **Jo-Ann Jones** served as co-founder and executive director of Flushing Council on Culture and the Arts, which is housed in historic Flushing Town Hall, a building she lobbied to save and restore. Jo-Ann was a member of QBG's board during the 1990s and continued to maintain strong ties to the Garden after her board service.

Distinguished newspaper columnist **Walter Kaner** loved children. Over the years his philanthropic gifts to organizations dedicated to their education and well-being provided opportunities for growth, development, and fun. At QBG, his support made possible internships for high school students, programs for children with special needs, and the Walter Kaner Children's Foundation Day, a morning of outdoor activities for elementary school students.

Elaine Castas, who served as special assistant for parks under Queens Borough President Claire Shulman, was a champion of QBG and the borough's many cultural institutions. Elaine oversaw the coordinating committee meetings of Flushing Meadows Corona Park, attended by Garden staff each month, and remained an enthusiastic supporter of this group after retiring from her post.

WISH LIST

Can you help?
We've added the following items to the Garden's wish list:

Snow thrower
(\$1,000)

Intranet
(\$2,000)

Spring seasonal gardener
(\$5,000 is needed to help underwrite this position)

Gardener electric golf-cart
(\$6,000)

Please call
Jacquie Gregor
718.886.3800,
ext. 329, if you'd
like to offer your
support.

ADOPTION PROGRAM

Monique La Rocque has adopted a Willow Oak (*Quercus phellos*) in memory of her mother, Monserrate Quirindongo. The tree can be found on the lawn inside the Main Street entrance, on the right. Jacin To Chua has adopted a Thundercloud Cherry Plum (*Prunus cerasifera*), located across from the All-America Garden, in memory of his mother Tan, Siok Kim.

THANKS!

We are grateful to the Sheraton LaGuardia East in Flushing for recently assisting with accommodations for BG Map training instructor Mark Glicksman.

PLANT YOUR LEGACY

WHERE IT WILL ...

PRODUCE

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

ENDURE

Your gift or bequest will help the Garden meet future needs.



To learn more about QBG's Charitable Gift Annuity program and other giving opportunities, contact Susan Lacerte, executive director, at 718.886.3800, ext. 205.

STAFF NEWS

After nearly 17 years at QBG, education and public programs coordinator **Betty Scott** retired in July. A master scheduler, skilled workshop leader, and gifted florist, Betty planned and organized numerous events each year, including concerts, continuing education programs, and the Arbor Day celebration attended by 4,000 schoolchildren and their teachers, which will surely stand as her legacy. As a liaison to schools and community groups, she cultivated friendship and support for the Garden, working closely with John Bowne High School, the Tai Chi Group, Senior Garden, and others, and developed strong relationships with New York Hospital Queens, and the Walter Kaner Children's Foundation, among other organizations. Betty also served as point person for the Garden's interns and volunteers.

We say goodbye, too, to **Marie Martone**, senior museum instructor and Children's Garden coordinator, who has left the staff to tend to new son James, born on Valentine's Day, and daughter Maggie Mae. Marie came to QBG as a Citibank intern nearly a decade ago, working part-time before assuming full-time responsibilities that included class instruction and tours, curriculum development, *Just for Kids!* programs, and the Children's Garden, which she re-envisioned and expanded. Marie also oversaw and trained dozens of high school and college interns, for whom she served as both mentor and role model.

Arlene Baksh, finance and marketing associate, leaves QBG to begin married life in England with new husband Anthony. Arlene, who came to QBG as a Patrino intern in 2002, quickly assumed major responsibilities in both the marketing and finance departments, proving equally adept at handling both press and payroll.

Cultural researcher **Jillian De Gezelle**, with whom many NYC residents generously shared their knowledge of plants over the past year, has left to begin a joint PhD program in botany between The New York Botanical Garden and the CUNY Graduate Center. In addition to conducting successful ethnobotanical research forums, Jillian researched and authored the publication, *Traditional Caribbean Healing in Queens*, made possible by The JM Kaplan Fund. The education department also thanks her for her good work as the spring 2005 HSBC Children's Garden coordinator.

The Garden is pleased to welcome **Anna Mardjanian** to the education department as a part-time instructor in the HSBC Children's Garden program.

Executive director **Susan Lacerte** was recently named to the board of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta (AABGA). At the organization's annual conference in June, she and QBG director of capital projects/assistant director **Jennifer Ward Souder** presented the session, "Celebrating Water: Strategies for Stewardship."

NEW GRANTS

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS): \$138,529 award for the Garden's wayfinding project, to be developed in conjunction with the Sustainable Landscapes and Buildings Project over the next two years

Carnegie Corporation of New York: \$100,000 award from an anonymous donor, for general operating support in FY05

The Louis Calder Foundation: \$60,000 award for curriculum development and education programs

Booth Ferris Foundation: \$50,000 award for community outreach initiatives

Altman Foundation: \$35,000 award for an internship coordinator

Flushing Savings Bank: \$30,000 award for education programs

The Jean & Louis Dreyfus Foundation: \$15,000 award for Seeds for Seniors

KeySpan Foundation: \$15,000 award for the Gro-Cart

The Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation Inc.: \$10,000 award for the Village Gardens

Astoria Federal Savings: \$5,000 award for the summer concert series

Richmond County Savings Foundation: \$5,000 award for the Gro-Cart

The City Gardens Club of New York: \$2,000 award toward QBG's horticulture program

Pfizer Foundation Volunteer Program: \$1,000 award in recognition of employee volunteerism by Senior Gardener Joe Kvietkus

Poets & Writers: \$250 award for a public poetry reading

GOVERNMENT FUNDING UPDATE

As a member of the Cultural Institutions Group (CIG), one of 34 museums, botanical gardens, zoos, and performing arts organizations operating in City-owned facilities, QBG enjoys a public-private partnership with the City of New York, and receives approximately half of its general operating support through the Department of Cultural Affairs. The Garden thanks Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and members of the New York City Council for this year's allocation of \$1 million, with an additional award from the Council of \$85,000 for program and operating support.

QBG is grateful for support received at the state level from Senator Frank Padavan (\$40,000), Senator Serphin R. Maltese (\$10,000), and the Queens delegation to the Assembly (\$9,694), for the Garden, its programs, and its progress toward the future – the Sustainable Landscapes and Buildings Project.



The Tai Chi Group raised \$7,731 in support of the Garden's operations this year! Raymond Chen (c.) and members of the fundraising committee presented Betty Scott, QBG's education and public programs coordinator, with their gift.



Flushing Savings Bank (FSB) recently awarded the Garden a \$30,000 grant for education programs. Seen here with QBG's director of education Patty Kleinberg (l.) and board chair Stefanie F. Handsman are New York City Councilmember John Liu (third from right) and FSB's (from left) Bruce Greenberg, marketing vice president, Henry A. Braun, senior vice president, John Buran, president, and Chris Hwang, vice president.

Capital Projects

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES AND BUILDINGS PROJECT UPDATE

Horticulture and maintenance staffs are soon to move into their new building along Crommelin Avenue. This facility offers vastly improved workspaces for staff and storage for vehicles and equipment. The building incorporates a number of sustainable features, including Forest Stewardship Council certified cedar siding, daylighting, rainwater recycling, energy-efficient fixtures and appliances, and low VOC furniture and finishes.

Concrete and structural steel construction continues at the Visitor/Administration Building. Soon the terrace will take shape, shaded by a sculptural roof that collects rainwater for reuse in the nearby water feature that will be completed in the final phase of construction. Visitors will see the sloping architectural concrete wall of the building's auditorium, which also supports an accessible green roof. As the building exterior begins to emerge, a distinctive wood brise soleil will be installed to provide shade to the second-floor offices.

Check the project website at www.queensbotanical.org/sustainable for continuing updates and photos of construction, as well as more information about the sustainable systems that are integrated into every aspect of the project.



Rainwater cistern section is lowered into place by crane.

The sun's rays generated ample power to operate garden elements, such as this bamboo deer chaser fountain, found in the Solar Bed on the Pin Oak Allée. This traditional Japanese fountain combines the peaceful sound of falling water with soft tapping rhythms.



QBG's staff tours NYC DEP's Staten Island Bluebelt Project.



Horticulture



BG Map training instructor Mark Glicksman demonstrates Total Station surveying equipment for assistant gardener Evonne O'Dwyer.

As always, QBG's horticulture staff created a striking series of seasonal displays. The 2005 displays included Solar, Color Wheel, and Tropical beds, a Floral Carpet, and a Green Roof Doghouse. The Solar Bed featured several solar-powered elements including a lily-pad fountain, deer-chaser fountain, and birdbath as well as a sundial. A total of 4,127 plants were planted in this season's Cherry Circle display including Canna 'Ambassador', Ornamental Millet 'Purple Majesty' (*Pennisetum glaucum*), Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta* 'Indian Summer'), *Ageratum* 'Timeless Mixture', Zinnia 'Starbright Mix', *Gomphrena* 'Strawberry Fields', *Salvia splendens* 'Flare', and *Amaranthus* 'Summer Poinsetta Mix'.

During the summer, the horticulture staff took part in several training initiatives. Staff participated in a guided tour of NYC's Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Bluebelt Project (DEP's alternative stormwater management project) on Staten Island to gain insight about the functioning and maintenance of rehabilitated landscapes. Special thanks to the following DEP staff for this very informative and enjoyable tour: Dean Cavallaro, Robert Brauman, Sara Pecker, and Lenore Telesca. In addition, the horticulture staff and other QBG staff received a full day of training on BG Map (a collections mapping software) and Total Station surveying equipment in July.

Cultural Research

QBG's bilingual brochure, *Traditional Caribbean Healing in Queens*, is available in both English and Spanish. For a copy of the brochure and more information about QBG's cultural research initiatives e-mail: CRResearch@queensbotanical.org. QBG's cultural research projects can also be found by visiting www.queensbotanical.org and clicking on Cultural Research.

Compost

THE RETURN OF THE FREE COMPOST GIVE BACK!

A highlight of the re-instated citywide Compost Project this year was the return of the popular Free Compost Give Backs. Queen residents were invited to the NYC Department of Sanitation composting facility at Spring Creek on Saturday, June 11, and Sunday, June 12, to dig as much luscious “black gold” for their home gardening needs as they could handle. Non-profit groups were welcome to send trucks, which were loaded with the help of front loader equipment at the site. Despite record heat, hundreds of NYC residents took advantage of the opportunity and greeted the QBG Master Composters and staff with the joyful enthusiasm of a family reunion. Master Composter candidates from the current class of 2005 and NYC certified Master Composters from previous years spread the compost message, answered compost questions, and invited potential home composters to QBG for compost workshops, programs, and events. The NYC Department of Sanitation, which provides funding for compost education at the city’s botanical gardens, expects to have Give Backs in October 2005. Please visit our web site at www.queens-botanical.org or www.nyccompost.org, or call the Compost Hotline at 718.539.5296 for date and times.

Thank you to the following Master Composters who helped make the event a success: Suzanne Boyle, Florencio Bravo, Polly Chea, Tommy Chung, Louise Donovan, Beth Forrest, Max Joel, Robin Kraut, Juan Pablo Marulanda, Tom Matamoros, Fred Schafer, and Perline Stevenson.

MEET MASTER COMPOSTER ROBIN KRAUT

The aim of the NYC Master Composter Certification program is to prepare volunteers to spread the compost message using their unique talents and skills to personalize outreach. The program attracts many wonderful individuals with a variety of careers, interests, and hobbies.

A home gardener, professional occupational therapist, and talented origami enthusiast, Robin Kraut was attracted to QBG’s Master Composter program because of her lifelong interest in environmental stewardship.

At the Origami USA Annual Convention this June, Robin sparked interest in vermicomposting with a worm bin of origami forms interpreting composting elements. (Visit www.origami-usa.org for more info.) Complete with a mini compost tee-shirt business card, Robin introduced this specialized composting method to a new audience and directed them to QBG for compost workshops and programs.

JOIN IN THE FUN

The 2006 Master Composter Certification class at Queens Botanical Garden will begin in March 2006. Space is limited. If you are interested in more information or would like an application, please call QBG’s Compost Project at 718.886.3800, ext. 222. Visit www.queensbotanical.org and www.nyccompost.org for more compost program information.



BACKYARD BINS FOR SALE

NYC residents may purchase backyard compost bins for \$20. Please call the Compost Project at 718.886.3800, ext. 222 for time and availability.

Dear Flora

Q: Ugh! Leaves are falling all over my yard. There are so many. I can’t fit them all in my backyard compost bin. What should I do?

A: First reduce the volume of leaves by breaking them into smaller pieces in a large container using a trimmer-type tool or put them in a big bag and have the neighborhood children jump up and down until they are broken up. The smaller the pieces, the faster composting takes place. There are a lot of leaves this time of year but as your compost “cooks” you will need these leaves to replenish the carbon material in the bin so you may want to save them in a well-ventilated pile as a reserve. You could also spread these dried leaves as mulch on garden beds that you plan to work in the spring. This will protect dormant plants from the stress of repeated freezing and thawing during the winter. If you still feel you have more than you can use, place the leaves in large paper bags and leave them at the curb on days that the Department of Sanitation will designate for leaf pick-up only. A mailer will be sent out announcing the schedule. The city will turn these leaves into compost and offer the finished product to NYC residents at Free Compost Give Backs.

More composting questions? E-mail compost@queensbotanical.org.

“I remember the first Saturday that I worked here. I noticed the Tai Chi groups and other people exercising, and I realized that QBG is truly a garden for plants and people.”

William Perez,
QBG Gardener

Education

2005 HSBC CHILDREN'S GARDEN

A discovery of the fascinating world of plants through an exploration of world cultures and the environment made for three seasons of outdoor educational fun in this year's HSBC Children's Garden. Despite rainy weather, QBG cultural researcher Jillian De Gezelle, who served as spring session coordinator, got the growing season successfully under way in April, as young horticulturists explored the Garden's greenhouse, started vegetable seedlings, and discovered how to grow and use plants. While kids were enjoying craft and planting activities, nature's lessons of natural recycling and the delicate balance of the garden ecosystem fostered their respect for the environment.

Thirty inquisitive youngsters embarked on a world tour with summer session coordinator Michele Krejci, exploring plant and animal communities from across seven continents. Each week they earned a stamp in their passport after learning about and "experiencing" life in that continent. The summer session culminated in a performance for parents and friends. Kids played percussion instruments indigenous to the continents, recounted their adventures, and reaped the rewards of a multicultural planting in the Children's Garden.

The fall session incorporated similar themes, with kids learning the natural way of putting the garden to sleep in preparation for winter and rebirth in spring.

QBG congratulates and thanks this year's interns and junior instructors for a job well done. They are: Jessica Francisco, Tarmee Hoque, Ricky Tony Shao, and Zhen Weng, of John Bowne High School; Sharon Basdeo, Chih-Hsiang Chang, Marcia Morrison, Chindo Nkenke, and Stacey Reid, of Gateway High School; Stephanie Santana, of Townsend Harris High School; Xu Gu, of Hillcrest High School; Amy Chiu and Tiffany Yee, of Brooklyn Tech; and Alyssa Ragogna, of St. Ann's and Elizabeth Oliva, of St. Michael's elementary schools.

The Garden also thanks HSBC in the Community (USA), for continuing its support of the Children's Garden program.

CRAFT SALES

Renowned for their exquisite artistry, members of QBG's Craft Group design floral creations for all occasions. Fragrant dried flower arrangements make thoughtful holiday, wedding, and house-warming gifts, while pressed flower art frames beautifully display birth announcements, wedding invitations, and photos. Visit their workshop in the Plant Shop trailer, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, by appointment. Call 718.886.3800, ext. 200, for more information.



At summer's end, youngsters eagerly harvested vegetables in the HSBC Children's Garden.

The Gro-Cart certainly made a splash at the annual Hong Kong Dragon Boat Races in Flushing Meadows Corona Park in August! QBG's peanut-planting activity attracted hundreds of kids and their families. QBG thanks KeySpan Foundation for lead support of the Gro-Cart, one of QBG's major community outreach initiatives.

Just For Kids!

PUMPKIN PATCH

Sunday, October 30, 1 to 4 pm

Fee: \$5 per child (includes pumpkin and workshop)

Join Count Dracula and other whimsical characters in the Garden's pumpkin patch and let your kids paint their own pumpkin and create a *Green-Haired Monster* while enjoying some Halloween treats.

A NATIVE HARVEST OF STORIES: THE ORIGIN OF CORN, THE FIRST TOBACCO, AND OTHER NATIVE AMERICAN FOOD AND PLANT STORIES

Sunday, November 20, 2 pm

Fee: \$5, members free

Taino folklorist Bobby Gonzalez will present myths drawn from Native American legends that promote respect toward all living things. These tales explore the roles of foods and plants in everyday life. The morals of the stories show us that we should honor all life, especially the plants on which we depend. These myths have been passed on for many generations and have special meaning for us today.

BLOOM CALENDAR

The Garden is ablaze with shades of the season, so leaf peepers should plan to stop by and enjoy the show, especially in our 21-acre arboretum. Fall flowering plants also provide color. Here's a short list of what you'll find:

OCTOBER

Roses
Franklinia
Chrysanthemum
Dahlias
Anemone
Aster
Sedum
Hydrangea
Golden Rod
Witch Hazel

NOVEMBER

Ornamental Grass
Flowering
Cabbage and Kale

DECEMBER

Berries on
Holly, Skimmia,
Cotoneaster,
and Dogwood
Pine Cones on
Conifers
Christmas Rose

Autumn Talks & Workshops

PUTTING YOUR GARDEN TO SLEEP

Sunday, October 2, 1 pm

Fee: \$5; members free

Autumn is the time to clean up and prepare your garden for winter sleep. Join horticulturist Zofia Pienkos and learn the basic tasks needed for a healthy spring wake-up. Techniques covered include digging up and storing tender bulbs, potting up favorite herbs for winter flavoring, cleaning out spent plants and preparing the soil, pH testing and adding amendments such as lime, mulching, and planting cover crops for fallow beds. Ms. Pienkos will also discuss how to transplant perennials, trees, and shrubs during fall, the ideal time to do so, as well as demonstrate the proper way to clean, oil, and store tools and equipment.

SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

Sunday, October 16, 1 pm

Fee: \$5; members free

Do you envy those gardens with bright spring color? Fall is the time to put spring-flowering bulbs into the ground for next year's riot of color. Horticulturist Zofia Pienkos will show you how to select quality bulbs, prepare soil, and plant, fertilize, and mulch bulbs. She will also demonstrate how to force bulbs for pleasing indoor color when the days are short and gray.

As change comes to Queens Botanical Garden, so is *Garden News* evolving to reflect and record this transformation. Over the winter we'll be refining our design, as we evaluate content, color, and readability. We also hope to streamline our production and mailing costs by expanding our Internet capabilities. If you would prefer to view *Garden News* online or wish to be removed from the mailing list, please let us know. Your comments are also appreciated! Forward them to: TAnthony@queensbotanical.org.

SUNDAYS WITH CYNTHIA

The following programs are presented by Cynthia Reed, a certified horticulturist and horticultural therapist who is a popular instructor at the City's botanical gardens. Workshops start promptly. Please note that some workshops have an additional materials fee. Registration is recommended for October 9 and November 27 workshops. Call 718.886.3800, ext. 230.

AN AFTERNOON TEA PARTY

Sunday, October 9, 1 to 3 pm

Fee: \$5, members free

Materials fee: \$5

Registration recommended

Herb teas, green teas, black teas, fruit teas, flower teas—there are teas for every occasion! Learn the history of this popular drink, and how to buy, store, and correctly make teas, infusions, and decoctions. Teas will be made in class for sampling with herbal cakes and cookies. Recipes will be included.

MAGICAL PLANTS

Sunday, October 30, 1 to 3 pm

Fee: \$5; members free

On the evening of October 31, the door between our world and that of the spirits opens. Learn which plants were and are used for shamanic purposes, divination, and religious ceremonies. We will discuss how to obtain and grow a few of them at home indoors or in the garden. Some may already be in your garden or on your windowsill! Find out which ones they are and the powers they have.

"SHARE THE HARVEST" – INDOOR COMPOSTING WITH WORMS

Saturday, November 5, 11 am to 1 pm

Free; optional supplies: \$10 for worm bin and voucher for one pound of Red Wiggler worms

Share the bounty of the season with Red Wiggler worms in their own indoor habitat. With a little help from these wriggly workers your Thanksgiving kitchen scraps and select organic household trash can become a rich soil amendment that is certain to improve your indoor and outdoor gardening.

Class begins promptly. Registration is recommended. Call 718.886.3800, ext. 222.

This program is offered free to participants thanks to the New York City Department of Sanitation, which funds QBG's Compost Project.

COMPOST WORKSHOP

BOTANY BASICS FOR GARDENERS

Sunday, November 13, 1 to 3 pm

Fee: \$5; members free

Why are you killing your plants? In this class we will briefly cover the basics of plant anatomy and how it pertains to caring for them indoors and in the garden. You will learn how and why your plants react to what you do and how you can improve their health by simply understanding how they live and grow.

HERBS FOR WINTER HEALTH

Sunday, November 27, 1 to 3 pm

Fee: \$5, members free

Materials fee: \$5

Registration recommended

There's nothing like a nice warm cup of herb tea to soothe a sore throat or fend off a winter cold. Learn which herbs are said to be good for boosting the immune system and which herbs can lessen the annoying effects of a cold once you catch one. We will cover how to make the herbal infusions, syrups, and tinctures that you can keep on hand throughout the winter. You will take home a cold-care herb tea.

HERBAL JAMS AND PRESERVES

Sunday, December 11, 12 noon to 3 pm

Fee: \$5; members free

With the holidays soon upon us, you'll want to make unique and colorful gifts that will impress your friends and family. See how to make herb jellies, vinegars, herbed honey, and herbal candies, along with how to package them for gift giving.

SEEDS FOR SENIORS

A Free Gardening Series for Older Adults

Open to seniors age 60+, these workshops are held in the Education Building at Queens Botanical Garden. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Marianne Giacalone at 718.886.3800, ext. 231. Class size is limited to 20 seniors. Special needs senior groups are limited to 15 when functioning on a similar level. Seniors are limited to one workshop per season. Free parking is available when enrolled in this program.

AUTUMNAL TOUR AND HONEY TASTING

Thursday, October 13, 2 to 3:30 pm

Learn why bees are important in the garden and how honey is made. Each participant will enjoy sampling the honey made by bees in our own Bee Garden.

BEAUTY FROM BULBS – INDOORS AND OUTDOORS

Thursday, October 27, 2 to 3:30 pm

Bring beautiful flowers into your home or garden. This program covers the basics of growing tender and hardy bulbs and how to force bulbs and seeds for indoor cheer. Includes a tour of the Garden.

MAKE SCENTS OF PLANTS

Thursday, November 10, 2 to 3:30 pm

Learn why flowers have an odor and explore diverse fragrant roots, stems, leaves, and spices. Education staff can customize this workshop for special populations such as the visually impaired. Includes a tour of the Garden.

AUTUMNAL WREATH MAKING

Thursday, November 17, 2 to 3:30 pm

Learn how to make an autumnal wreath from the fall garden. Each participant will bring home a wreath of their own creation. Includes a tour of the Garden.

MAKING TEAS AND VINEGARS

Thursday, December 1, 2 to 3:30 pm

Participants will choose from a selection of dried herbs to make their own custom herb tea blends and herbal vinegars.

TERRARIUMS

Thursday, December 15, 2 to 3:30 pm

Participants will learn about the history and care of terrariums and how to choose suitable small house-plants and closed containers to create their own.

This program is offered free to seniors age 60+ through a grant funded by The Jean & Louis Dreyfus Foundation and in collaboration with New York Hospital Queens' Health Outreach Program.

ADULT EDUCATION

Fall 2005 Adult Education Courses are offered through Queensborough Community College. Classes are held at QBG. To register and obtain a schedule of fees, contact Queensborough Community College at 718.631.6343.

FLOWER CREATIONS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Tuesdays, October 18 and 25, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Fee includes all materials.

WEDDING FLOWERS

Tuesday, November 1, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Fee includes all materials.

BASKET ARRANGEMENT OF FLOWERS

Thursday, November 17, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Fee includes all materials.

HOLIDAY WREATH-MAKING WORKSHOP

Thursday, December 8, 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Fee includes all materials.

WHY NOT BECOME A MEMBER TODAY?

- Individual Member \$35
- Individual Senior \$30
- Dual \$50
- Dual Senior \$45
- Family \$60
- Supporting Member \$100
- Friend \$250
- Patron \$500
- Life Member \$5,000
- Organization \$150

Please call me about the Tree Adoption Program

My check is enclosed, made payable to:
Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main Street,
Flushing, New York 11355, 718.886.3800

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

To learn about the benefits of membership, visit www.queensbotanical.org or call 718.886.3800, ext. 215.

**“The mighty oak
was once a little
nut that stood
its ground.”**

Evonne O'Dwyer,
QBG Assistant
Gardener

The Queens Botanical Garden, an independent not-for-profit institution located on City-owned land, is governed by a volunteer board of trustees. It is partially supported by public funds through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the Zoos, Botanical Gardens, and Aquariums Grant Program of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation; Queens Borough President Helen Marshall; the New York City Council; State Senator Frank Padavan; State Senator Serphin R. Maltese; and the New York State Assembly Queens Delegation. The New York City Department of Sanitation provides funding for QBG's Compost Project. Additional support through private sources includes contributions from corporations, foundations, and individuals.

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KEYSPAN
Foundation



Queens Botanical Garden

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

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Sunny smiles from this year's HSBC Children's Garden
Photo: Teri Bloom

JUST FOR KIDS! PUMPKIN PATCH
Sunday, October 30, 1 to 4 pm



Autumn/Winter Hours (October through March)

Tuesday through Sunday, 8 am to 4:30 pm

Closed Mondays year-round except legal holidays

Plant Shop (reopens April 2006)

Holiday plants will be available for sale in the Administration Building Lobby during December. Call ext. 200 for details.

Plant Information

Tuesday and Friday, 9 am to 4 pm

Compost Information

718.539.LAWN, ext. 222 or compost@queensbotanical.org

QBG Web Site

www.queensbotanical.org

Getting Here

QBG is easily accessible by car, train, or bus. 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.



Printed with soy-based inks on Mohawk 100% post-consumer waste fiber paper made with non-polluting, wind-generated energy. Forest Stewardship Council and Green Seal certified.