



A Guided Walk through the Queens Botanical Garden One Year into Construction

After almost one year of organizing, relocating, transplanting, excavating, building and seeding at the Queens Botanical Garden (QBG), we'd like to take you on a guided walk through QBG under construction. We hope you'll visit the Garden and see for yourself, but until you get here in person, we'll describe with words some highlights of the Garden's sustainable landscapes and buildings project. For this walk, we'll come in through the Crommelin Street gate. A few hundred feet behind the construction fence to your left is the new Horticulture / Maintenance Building. Within the next few months, the horticulture / grounds and facilities maintenance staffs will move in and at last have proper workspace and storage for vehicles, equipment, tools and supplies. The building houses offices, workshops, equipment & tool storage, lockers, bathrooms and a lunchroom. It is a prefabricated structure with an exterior of galvanized steel and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified cedar siding. Translucent panels and operable windows are carefully placed to allow daylight to reach inside. The rainwater that falls on the roof is collected through a system of gutters and leaders and stored in an underground cistern next to the building. This water is then recycled and used for equipment and tool washing!

As you make your way along the entry drive, notice new planters welcome you and a new security booth provides QBG security guards with 360 degree views. Moving down the new pathway, you'll pass a large depression in the landscape on your left. This depression is called a bioswale. After a rainfall, the surface water from the surrounding landscape makes its way to the bioswale, where some evaporates, some is absorbed in a special layer mix of topsoil, sand and compost, and some is taken up through the meadow mix planting. The meadow mix includes plants like Redtop *Agrostis alba*, Shasta Daisy *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*, Blue Flax *Linum lewisii* and Black-eyed Susan *Rubeckia hirta*, and Brown-eyed Susan *Rubeckia triloba*. The bioswale is designed to have all standing water disappear from the surface within 48 hours. The bioswale is part of QBG's onsite stormwater management strategy and reduces the amount of stormwater that goes into NYC's overburdened combined sewer system. You will notice some of the same meadow mix plants on the right side of the path too. During the spring, a Killdeer Plover *Aegialitis vocifera* decided to nest on some of the stockpiled soil just as we were about to have it spread by the contractor. The contractor put up a fence to protect the nest and proceeded very carefully. Thanks to the contractor's care and attention, we had four tiny healthy plover chicks hatch within the month. Also on your right, you might see a pattern of bright flowers, Flander's Poppy *Papaver rhoeas* and Tickseed coreopsis *Coreopsis tinctoria*. This is an art installation by artist Brian Tolle and landscape architect Diana Balmori, entitled *Skid Rows*, part of a collaborative exhibit with the Queens Museum of Art, NYC Parks and the Queens Botanical Garden called *Down the Garden Path: The Artist's Garden After Modernism*.

As you walk along the new path, you can't miss three bright blue trailers that house the relocated Plant Shop and temporary office space for staff. Take a moment and please visit the Plant Shop. You'll find many items of interest such as Venus Fly Traps *Dionaea muscipula* and native plant seedlings along with many other plants and garden gifts. There's also Garden information and Interesting Facts cards inside. Take note of the wood picket fence in front of the plant shop as well as a taller fence that separates the area behind the trailers. The wood for these fences is FSC certified Eastern Hemlock *Tgusa canadensis*, salvaged and milled by Citilog, and comes from the wood of street trees that were knocked down by storms or were removed because of age, damage, or disease. The decks, ramps and stairs for the trailers are built with Trex®, a product made of reclaimed wood and plastic. You might also notice a composting bin in front of the plant shop. The staff uses this to turn our apple and banana



Freshly Seeded Bioswale (landscape with amended soil and selected plants that manages stormwater onsite)



Installing Translucent Panels on New Horticulture/Maintenance Building to Invite Natural Light into Workspace

peels from lunch into compost. Sharing the Plant Shop trailer is the QBG Compost Project. Their worm bin provokes giggles from visiting youngsters and invites adults to consider Vermicomposting, an indoor composting method. The large boulders along the path and under a grove of trees were discovered during excavation for the basement of the new Visitor/ Administration Building. By positioning them into QBG's landscape, we prevent them from going off in a truck to a landfill and provide a nice place for visitors to sit and relax. There is a new planter garden, featuring plants such as Variegated Hibiscus *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis variegatus*, Crown of Thorns *Euphorbia splendens*, Scented Geranium *Pelargonium sp.*, and Sweet Potato Vine *Ipomoea batatas* in the gravel area in front of the trailer to greet visitors as they make their way from the parking lot.

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Calendar of Events

Concerts and Performances



Sounds of Ancient Civilizations Presented by Journeys With Sound Thursday, August 11, 7 pm

Journeys With Sound takes audiences on an exciting and mysterious trip through sound and spirit using instruments and objects from ancient civilizations around the world. Australian didjeridoo, Indian snake-charmer, Native American flutes, Scottish bagpipes, Japanese shakuhachi, and Persian ney merge with Aztec wind

whistles, Hawaiian conch shells, an ocean harp, deer-hoof rattles, Australian click-sticks, Chinese gongs, Tibetan chimes, and drums from Native America, India, the Middle East and Ireland all blending with the mysterious sounds of the crystal singing bowls and silver faerie bells. Through performance and audience interaction, we explore the beauty and power of ancient vibrational sounds. Listeners learn how sound relates to the magic, myths and traditions of ancient cultures, as well as to the natural world around them and to their own bodies, minds and spirits.

Carole Sudhalters Astoria Big Band Thursday, Sept. 1, 7 to 9 pm

An evening of swinging jazz with a dynamic ensemble of musicians.

Rhythms Around the World Sunday, August 21, 6 to 8 pm

An evening of drumming and unique distinctive sounds from Indian, Mediterranean, Afro-Caribbean, Latin, Russian, Jewish, and other world traditions.

Queens Festival Band Sunday, July 24, 4 pm & Thursday, August 18, 7 pm

Two nights of Dixieland and classical jazz with one of Queens' oldest and most beloved bands featuring music by Copeland, Bach, Gershwin, Fillmore, and Bock.



Special Performance Poetry Among the Flowers: *Queens Meets Asia*

Saturday, September 17, 4 pm
(Raindate: Sunday, September 18, 4 pm)

Come hear the dramatic poetry reading of acclaimed Queens poet, **Juanita Torrence-Thompson**. Laugh, cry, and enjoy her poems inspired by Asian immigrants. A poetry CD will be available. Juanita Torrence-Thompson writes a newspaper poetry column, *Celebrating a Tapestry of Life*, in New York and Massachusetts, has written four poetry collections, and has read extensively in the U.S., and in Singapore, Switzerland and South Africa.

Summer Workshops

“Vermicomposting At Sunset”- Indoor Composting With Worms
Tuesday, July 19, 7 to 9 pm No Charge*
Optional supplies: \$10 Fee for worm bin and voucher for one pound of Red Wiggler worms.

Start your own indoor habitat for worms this summer. Put Red Wiggler worms to work for you! With a little help from these wriggly workers, your kitchen scraps and select organic household trash can become a rich soil amendment that is certain to improve your indoor and outdoor gardening.

This two-hour class begins promptly at 7 pm
Registration is recommended. Call (718) 886-3800 ext. 222

Natural Lawn Care
Saturday, August 27, 11 am to 1 pm No Charge*

Autumn is a critical time for your lawn if you want to be free from the vicious cycle of chemical dependency. Natural lawns are green and attractive yet save time and money for today's homeowner. Join Director of Education Patty Kleinberg and learn the essential strategies for a healthy and attractive lawn.

This two-hour workshop begins promptly at 11 am
Registration is recommended. Call (718) 886-3800 ext. 222

Backyard Composting
Saturday, September 24, 10 am to 2 pm No Charge*

Every gardener knows the value of black gold! Join Gennadyi Gurman, Compost Project Coordinator/Instructor, at 10 am for an informative

session on recycling plant and kitchen waste into compost — the amendment we affectionately call chicken soup for the soil. Interested participants are welcome at the Compost Demonstration site for a hands-on demonstration of various composting techniques following the classroom session.

Registration is recommended. Call (718) 886-3800 ext. 222

The Art of Reuse
Thursday, July 21, 2 pm No Charge**

New York City schoolteachers and artists have known for years about Materials for the Arts (MFTA), NYC Department of Cultural Affairs. This organization provides free materials to not-for-profit organizations with ongoing arts activities and is currently the largest provider of arts materials to the NYC public schools. Join instructors from MFTA and have fun creating crafts from reclaimed materials. This workshop is suitable for anyone between the ages of 5 and 105 but is limited to the first 30 participants, so please come at the stated time.

**This program is offered at no charge thanks to the New York City Department of Sanitation who provides funding for the Compost Project.*

***This program is made possible by funding from corporate and private foundations.*

Bloom Calendar

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

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*, *ageratum*, *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**, *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*, *sedum*, *caryopteris*, *tricyrtis*.

A Guided Walk through the Queens Botanical Garden One Year into Construction *continued from page 1*

Continue along a cool shady stretch of path and when the path intersects with another take a look straight ahead to enjoy a beautiful large Magnolia *Magnolia stellata* that was successfully transplanted from the construction zone then take a left at our recently updated map near the Bee Garden. As you reach the Oak Allée, you'll see a long stretch of construction fence. Take a few minutes to enjoy the artwork of fifth graders from PS/IS 499. QBG Director of Education Patty Kleinberg spoke to the students about the environmental goals of our sustainable landscapes and buildings project and the beautiful art along the fence exhibits the students' innovative ideas about how to save and reuse water and energy. Behind the construction



Monotube Piles Being Installed for New Visitor/ Administration Building



Horticulture/Maintenance Building with Exterior Nearing Completion

fence, the new Visitor/Administration Building should be rising out of the ground by the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox. As I write this, over 180 steel and timber piles have been driven in that area to support the new building, terrace and cistern, and excavation for the basement is complete. We hope you've read about the sustainable goals of the new Visitor/Administration Building in past newsletters or on QBG's website www.queensbotanical.org. There will be more details to come in the next newsletter as the landscapes and buildings are constructed. As you enjoy your walk around the Garden, take note of this year's seasonal exhibits, some of which demonstrate ideas that you will see in the completed construction project, such as a Solar Bed that features several examples of solar energy at work and a Green Roof "Dog" house to exhibit QBG's first green roof installation! There is so much to see this summer at QBG from a major sustainable construction project in progress to a shaded bench with a view of the Perennial Garden in bloom. We hope we've enticed you to visit and discover or rediscover your own favorite places in the Garden!

- Jennifer Ward Souder, *Director of Capital Projects/Assistant Director*



HSBC Children's Garden

Summer sessions I & II Fee: \$140, \$100 members

The Children's Garden is a hands-on teaching garden cultivated by children, ages 5-14, who learn to plant, maintain, and harvest their own herbs, vegetables, and flowers.

Session I runs Mondays and Wednesdays, July 11 through August 24, 9:30 to noon.
Session II runs Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 12 through August 26, 9:30 to noon.

To register, contact Michele Krejci at 718-886-3800 ext.229

Staff News

The Garden is pleased to announce that Wai Hung Li has joined us as Director of Finance. Mr. Li has previously worked for the United States Fund for UNICEF, Nonprofit Finance Fund, Local Initiatives Support Corporation and other non-profit organizations. Gennadyi Gurman has joined the staff as Compost Project Coordinator. Michele Krejci is the new summer/fall Children's Garden Coordinator. The Garden is also pleased to welcome several new and returning part-time staff members this season. Shari Romar has joined us as a horticulture intern, a position funded by

the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust and Asfaw Henry has joined us as an Education intern, funded by the Walker Kaner Children's Foundation.

Returning to the staff from last season will be Chandani Sani – Children's Garden and Education Intern; Jonathan Mui – Plant Shop Assistant and Garden Greeter; Esther Cheng and Kate Hobson – Plant Shop Clerks; Clifford Cruz – Parking Attendant; Ada Haro – Custodial Assistant; and Eric Yun – Security Assistant.

General Information

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

Plant Shop Hours

Friday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm
Closes for the season on Sunday, September 25.

Shop Talk

The new location for the Plant Shop is just a lush stroll from the parking lot.

Members Only Sale

Friday, September 9, Saturday, September 10, Sunday, September 11

End of Season Sale! Everything Green Must Go!

Friday, September 23, Saturday, September 24, Sunday, September 25

Getting Here

QBG is easy to reach by car, bus and train. For travel directions, call 718-886-3800 or visit us at www.queensbotanical.org

Parking

Parking is \$5/\$3 members; days and hours vary by season.

Queens Compost Project Hotline

Note: The correct number is 718-539-5296

Plant Your Legacy – Touching Lives – Giving Back



You do not need to be wealthy to give an enduring gift to the Garden. Planned gifts and Bequests, both large and small, help ensure the Garden's future. Over time, your investment of any size can make a tremendous difference for the place you have enjoyed, shared with your family, taken educational courses and hands-on workshops or just visited to absorb the beauty and serenity of the Garden's ambiance. You may have learned invaluable lessons or gotten pleasure from the peaceful oasis that is QBG. You can give back to the Garden while keeping something for yourself for your lifetime.

Our Vision for the Future of the Garden

A Charitable Gift Annuity is an extraordinary way to make a gift, increase your income and reduce your tax bill all in one transaction. Our charitable gift annuity program was created as a service to our many friends and supporters – those who have enjoyed our programs and the beauty of the Garden over the years. Your contribution to QBG's charitable gift annuity program helps the Garden while it gives you income for life.

What a wonderful way to support an organization you love and earn a substantial tax break at the same time! For more information on giving, contact Susan Lacerte, Executive Director, 718-886-3800 ext.205.

Why Not Become a Member Today?

Individual: Member benefits include 4 free parking passes, QBG seasonal newsletter, invitation to events, free plant, discounts on programs, 10% shop discount, member only plant sale, seasonal e-mail greetings and 1 free admission to an adult program.

Individual Senior: Includes all the *Individual* benefits for adults age 62 and older.

Dual: Includes all the *Individual* benefits for 2 adults in a household with the addition of 2 free parking passes (total of 6) and 1 additional free admission to an adult program (total of 2.)

Dual Senior: Includes all the *Dual* benefits for 2 adults age 62 and older in a household.

Family: Includes all the *Dual* benefits for 2 adults and 4 children in a household with the addition of 4 free parking passes (total of 10), 2 free admissions to *Just for Kids!* workshops and seed and planting instructions.

Supporting: Member benefits include free parking, QBG seasonal newsletter, invitation to events, free plant, discounts on programs, 10% shop discount, member only plant sale, seasonal e-mail greetings, 2 free admission to an adult program, 2 free admissions to *Just for Kids!* workshops, garden tour and a special QBG gift.

Friend: Includes all the *Supporting* benefits with the addition of members' luncheon and discounts on space rentals at QBG.

Patron: Includes all the *Friend* benefits with the addition of priority seating at the gala and other events.

Life: Includes all the *Patron* benefits with the addition of lunch with the board chair.

Organization: Includes QBG seasonal newsletter, invitation to events, free plant, seasonal e-mail greetings and discounts on space rentals at QBG.

QBG MEMBERSHIP FORM

- | | | | |
|--|------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Senior | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dual | \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dual Senior | \$45 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | \$5,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 _____

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 New York City Council; 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. Additional support through private sources includes contributions from corporations, foundations, and individuals.



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718.886.3800 www.queensbotanical.org


The place where people, plants, and cultures meet.

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