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## ***Kiku* at The New York Botanical Garden Spotlights the Time-Honored Art and Beauty of Japanese Chrysanthemums, Saturday, November 2 through Sunday, 17, 2024**



Various styles of *Kiku* on view at The New York Botanical Garden's Nolen Greenhouses for Living Collections, (NYBG Photos by Marlon Co)

**Bronx, NY**—*Kiku*, a Japanese word that means chrysanthemum, is a captivating display of artfully trained Japanese mums, on view at The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) from Saturday, November 2 through Sunday, November 17, 2024, part of NYBG's fall programming. The unique, sculptural forms of delicate chrysanthemum plants take nearly a year to grow. Visitors can marvel at this year's *kiku* collection in the Bourke-Sullivan Display House of the Nolen Greenhouses for Living Collections. This intimate snapshot of a generations-old artform highlights the dedication and expertise of the horticulturists at NYBG, as well as the rich cultural significance of *kiku* in Japanese history.

Botanical Garden experts work up to 11 months each year to grow, train, and shape the chrysanthemums. Cultivated from tiny cuttings, the plants are pinched back, tied to frames, and carefully nurtured. Flower buds develop as the autumn nights grow longer, and in November the plants burst into bloom, a true celebration of the changing of the seasons. A variety of *kiku* styles are featured, including small and large *kengai* ("Cascade"), *ogiku* ("Triple Stem"), *edo* varieties trained in the *shino-tsukuri* ("Driving Rain") style, and the impressive dome-shaped *ozukuri* ("Thousand Bloom"). Informal training styles on display will include a variety of shapes such as cones, walls, and a large *bonsai* tree—all made of chrysanthemums. A diversity of Japanese flower styles on view include *choji*

(anemone), *ise/saga* (brush and thistle), *hosokuda* (spiders), *ichimonji* (semi-double), and the classic *higo*.

Celebrate the opening of *Kiku* with traditional Taiko drumming on Saturday and Sunday, November 2 and 3, 2024. Half-hour performances by Taiko Masala Dojo take place at 2 p.m. each day that weekend outside the Nolen Greenhouses for Living Collections. Taiko Masala Dojo is a group performing *Suwa*-style Taiko drumming, which has over 1,000 years of history in Japan. Taiko Masala Dojo is one of the most traditional Taiko drumming groups in the United States, based in Brooklyn, New York. They are led by Master Taiko drummer Hiro Kurashima. Taiko Masala Dojo drummers come from different walks of life to be together, to play well, and share in the joy of both traditional and contemporary Taiko music with everyone.

For more information about *Kiku*, and to purchase tickets, please visit <https://www.nybg.org/event/fall-o-ween/kiku/>.

### **About The New York Botanical Garden**

The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) has been a connective hub among people, plants, and the shared planet since 1891. For more than 130 years, NYBG has been rooted in the cultural fabric of New York City, in the heart of the Bronx, its greenest borough. NYBG has invited millions of visitors to make the Garden a part of their lives, exploring the joy, beauty, and respite of nature. NYBG's 250 acres are home to renowned exhibitions, immersive botanical experiences, art and music, and events with some of the most influential figures in plant and fungal science, horticulture, and the humanities. NYBG is also a steward of globally significant research collections, from the LuEsther T. Mertz Library collection to the plant and fungal specimens in the William and Lynda Steere Herbarium, the largest such collection in the Western Hemisphere.

The plant people of NYBG—dedicated horticulturists, enthusiastic educators, and scientific adventurers—are committed to helping nature thrive so that humanity can thrive. They believe in their ability to make things better, teaching tens of thousands of kids and families each year about the importance of safeguarding the environment and healthy eating. Expert scientists work across the city, the nation, and the globe to document the plants and fungi of the world—and find actionable, nature-based solutions to the planet's dual climate and biodiversity crises. With eyes always looking forward, they train the next generation of botanists, gardeners, landscape designers, and environmental stewards, ensuring a green future for all. At NYBG, it's nature—or nowhere.

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Presenting Sponsor:  
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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](http://nybg.org).**

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

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