

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 11, 2025

The New York Botanical Garden Celebrates Women’s History Month, Honoring Contributions and Advancements of Women Pioneers, Innovators, and Advocates in Science, Horticulture, and Education

Commemorative Programming Online and at the Garden through March 31, 2025



A view from the Perennial Garden at the New York Botanical Garden (Photo by Marlon Co/NYBG)

Bronx, NY—The New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) celebrates Women’s History Month by honoring the lives and accomplishments of women pioneers and trailblazers, researchers and innovators, and activists and advocates who have advanced the knowledge of plants and protected the planet’s biodiversity. Throughout March 2025, NYBG highlights the work that not only made the Botanical Garden the cultural institution it is today, but also contributed to advancements in science, horticulture, and education that continue to steer efforts to protect the planet and empower communities. The consequential contributions of women are highlighted through tours, a lecture, and an exhibit on-site at the Garden. Diverse online offerings include profiles of NYBG’s first women gardeners, present-day scientists, and others on the Plant Talk blog; Rooted in Plants videos in which NYBG Teen Explainers highlight the lives of two remarkable women in history; and much more. Explore them all at <https://www.nybg.org/event/womens-history-month-2025/>

Women's History Month 2025 programs taking place at NYBG are noted below.

- ***Art and Nature: The Works of Margaret Armstrong***
Through Friday, April 25, 2025
LuEsther T. Mertz Library
In honor of Women's History Month, the NYBG's LuEsther T. Mertz Library presents *Art and Nature: The Works of Margaret Armstrong*, an exhibit that highlights the artistic and botanical efforts of this extraordinary woman. Born in New York City in 1867, Armstrong grew up surrounded by artists when the art world was undergoing great flux as the 20th century approached. Armstrong gained prominence as a book cover designer during the period when cloth book bindings were treated not just as protection for the text held within, but as art objects themselves. Armstrong came to be regarded as one of the best such artists, and she designed hundreds of books in the early years of her career. In 1915, she published the first comprehensive illustrated guide to the wildflowers of the western United States, *Field Book of Western Wild Flowers*. Later in life, she became an author of popular biographies and mystery novels. This exhibit features botanical book designs, original drawings, and plant specimens collected by Armstrong, and places her life, works, and legacy in the context of the age in which she grew up and developed her career. It features items from the Mertz Library's collections, as well as specimens held by the William and Lynda Steere Herbarium.
- **Women in Garden Design Tour**
Sundays, March 16 and 30, 2025; 1 p.m.
Thursdays, March 20 and 27, 2025; 11:30 a.m.
At NYBG
<https://www.nybg.org/event/women-in-garden-design/>
Join NYBG volunteer experts on a one-hour guided tour of NYBG gardens that were designed by women, including the Ladies' Border, Perennial Garden, and Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden. The tour will not only highlight these collections, but the momentous contributions of the women who cultivated them.
- ***25th Annual Winter Lecture Series: Cassie Banning***
Thursday, March 27, 2025; 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Arthur and Janet Ross Lecture Hall; \$35/\$39 Member/Non-Member
<https://www.nybg.org/threegardens>
The Mount Desert Land & Garden Preserve located in Seal Harbor, Maine, is a place of serenity spanning across 1,400 acres of breathtaking natural lands and historic gardens adjacent to Acadia National Park. Cassie Banning, Director of Farm & Gardens at the Preserve, oversees the horticultural standards across the Preserve's three gardens, each of which is a unique work of art that reinforces a strong sense of place and contributes to the wonder of coastal Maine. Banning will share a brief history of these three gardens and take us on a behind-the-scenes tour into the craft of the gardens as well as horticulture maintenance practices used to preserve their

historic nature. Registrants can present their registration confirmation to receive a complimentary beverage with a food purchase at the Hudson Garden Grill.

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.

###

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

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

Media Contacts: Patricia Sullivan, psullivan@nybg.org
Nick Leshi, nleshi@nybg.org