A Letter from Susan

I love beginnings! 2017 promises to be a year full of opportunity at Queens Botanical Garden. There are so many chances to learn here at the Garden, whether you are a tiny tot, a young professional, or a senior citizen. Do look for more information within these pages to read about our brand new Forest Class for the smallest naturalists among us, as well as Master Composter classes. And, we welcome Pauline Huang in her new position as Board Chair. We know she will do great things!

At the end of 2016, we said goodbye to outgoing Board Chair Rovena Schirling (a true force of nature), as well as Trustees Gary Park and Joanne Chao. Stalwart supporters of the Garden all, we will miss seeing them at meetings and know that they will continue to be a part of this place….

Wishing you all a fabulous New Year, filled with long walks outside, sun-filled days, and many visits to QBG.

See you out in the Garden!

Susan Lacerte
Executive Director

Hamamelis mollis ‘Wisely Supreme’ Chinese witch hazel.

WINTER INTEREST IN THE GARDEN

Winter brings to the Garden a slowing of life’s pace, fewer hours of light, and a soft, muted landscape. This doesn’t mean we must endure the season dull and dreary! Rather, this is an opportunity to show off botanical focal points that may go unnoticed in lush summer.

Look for deciduous plants, whose leaves drop to reveal colorful bark: red twig dogwood varieties at QBG actually range from lime green to mustard yellow, as well as fire engine red; patterned bark, like the bronze and silver coated branches of oak leaf hydrangea, shine in the subdued light. A contrasting base note, such as black mondo grass or dark mulch, make them stand out.

Seed heads and berries add a pop of color to a winter garden, while attracting native wildlife. Globe thistle, teasel, fennel, silver dollars, and other annuals offer lovely texture that can be brought indoors for dry arrangements. Female holly, cotoneasters, and heavenly bamboo will show off bright red berries against evergreen foliage.

Conifers provide structure to a garden year round—from upright peaks of pale blue spruce to the dripping yellows of weeping arborvitae varieties.

Adding late winter blooms amidst these plants reminds us that winter isn’t eternal! Early snowdrops and crocus are a lovely surprise on a cold February morning. Witch hazel, edgeworthia, quince, and winterblooms are shrubs and small trees that bloom starting in late January.

Remember, these plants don’t just appear now—they are part of a garden all year round. Winter is simply their time to shine.
Bubbles • Pumpkins • Face Painting • Puppets • Games
Lights • Santa Claus • Music Music Music • and Fun Fun Fun!

Over 6,000 visitors attended Harvest Fest & Pumpkin Patch on October 16 and enjoyed games for the whole family, garden demonstrations, a kids’ exploration site, puppet shows, nature tours, a petting zoo, beer and wine garden, and our Pumpkin Patch with 2,000 pumpkins! Live Americana music was performed by FolkDJ-L Chart artist, Banjo Nickaru & Western Scooches and fan favorite, Lonesome Moonlight String Band.

Halloween in the Garden, held on October 30, was a great program for kids and families with spooky story time, a magic show, bouncy house, crafts, hoola hoops, games, candy art, and QBG’s Costume Parade. We welcomed over 3,500 visitors!

We lit up the holidays on December 4 with Santa and an old-fashioned Christmas Tree Lighting with nearly 1,100 visitors. Children made lanterns and ornaments, families enjoyed acapella performances by The Rough Dozen sponsored by Kupferberg Center for the Arts, and everyone had the chance to shop early for gifts in the QBG Shop. It was a beautiful sight to see visitors walking to the Cherry Circle, their handcrafted lanterns lighting the way, for a singalong with Santa and the grand finale lighting of our 40-foot tree and surrounding Cherry Circle bright with over 5,000 lights!

Thank you to The Kupferberg Center for the Arts
for sponsorship of The Rough Dozen performance at Christmas in the Garden.

Thank you to our Harvest Fest sponsors:
NewYork-Presbyterian/Queens
The New York City Council
Amerasia Bank
Looking Forward • Winter 2017

Winter Family Programs, Ages 4 to 10

Saturdays, January 14, 21, 28, and February 4, 11 to 12pm
Per class: $10; 4-class: $40 / $36 for members
Registration required: winterfamilyprograms.eventbrite.com

Winter is wonderful at QBG! Bring the whole family and experience winter’s splendor with indoor garden activities and an outdoor nature walk. Activities are geared for 4-10 year olds, but all are welcome to attend. Bundle up and dress for the weather! Sign up for single sessions or all four.

Electronic Waste Recycling Event

Sunday, January 29, 10am to 4pm • Parking Garden entrance on Crommelin Street • Free • Rain or shine

Join us for the 14th annual "after the holidays" e-waste event at QBG in partnership with the Lower East Side Ecology Center. Responsibly dispose of all your unwanted or broken gadgets. Help us meet the goal of collecting 100 tons this January by spreading the word to your friends and neighbors! queensbotanical.org/programs/events

NYC Compost Project hosted by Queens Botanical Garden
Master Composter Course Sessions

Class dates and time: 6 Wednesdays, 6 to 9pm, March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12, 20; and 2 Saturdays, 10am to 1pm, April 1 and 8. Sessions take place at the Garden.
Application deadline: February 5, 2017
For more information and application visit bit.ly/MasterComposter2017.

Want to make compost? Join us for an eight-part series to learn how to manage an active thermal compost compile, while studying the science and current urban composting practices. This is a hands-on course with two field trips.

Children’s Garden Open House
Sponsored by HSBC

Saturday, March 11, 1 to 4pm • Free
Registration required: openhousecg.eventbrite.com

Join us for our annual Open House, and get your hands dirty with planting activities and garden crafts. Learn about all our programs for kids ages 2 to 14:

Garden Buds (Ages 2 to 3): Tailored to our youngest gardeners, these classes let children explore the wonder of nature through hands-on work and play in the garden, taste garden produce, and create botanical crafts. Must be accompanied by one adult only. Please no siblings. Garden Buds is offered as a four-class series in the spring and fall.

Children’s Garden | Sponsored by HSBC (Ages 4 to 10): The program offers a fun and exciting experience where kids spend time planting, playing, observing, and learning in a nurturing environment. From seed to table, our young gardeners have the opportunity to grow, harvest, and cook vegetables as well as explore the environments around them.

Junior Naturalists (Ages 11 to 14): This new and exciting summer only opportunity is specifically designed for those who want to take a deeper look into natural workings of the Garden. Participants will tend to their own garden plots, complete scientific experiments and investigations, and take a more in-depth look at the surrounding ecosystems.
We are currently accepting registrations for the second season of the Forest Class, an outdoor drop-off preschool alternative at the Garden for children ages 2-6.

Rooted in the traditions of the Forest School model, this program nurtures self-confidence and determination while deepening children’s connection to the Earth. Through sensory based learning in our natural environment, children uncover nature’s treasures, create meaningful community, and form enduring relationships. Children will be guided through this three-hour outdoor program by experienced educators who put the social, emotional, and physical needs of the children first.

Each Day is 3 hours long and includes storytelling, creative arts, open-ended play, guided thematic exploration, and snack time.

The program runs Tuesday through Friday, March 7–June 23, 2017, from 9:30am–12:30pm. Families can choose 2, 3, or 4 days per week. It is open to children who are potty trained or in the process of potty training and are willing and excited to be outdoors.

Use discount code EarlyBird to get 5% off! Early Bird special lasts until Sunday, January 15, 2017.

Queens Botanical Garden is a stunning location for your ceremony and reception.

An intimate setting framed by flowering plants and charming bridges and gazebo, enclosed by a white picket fence, the Wedding Garden gracefully blends elements of Eastern and Western garden design, and bursts with the brilliant palette of the changing seasons.

Reception spaces are available in our magnificent Cherry Circle, Oak Allée, or Auditorium, just steps away.

Come see for yourself! Appointments are required.

Contact Ebony Wiggins, Special Events & Rental Manager, at ewiggins@queensbotanical.org or 718.886.3800 ext 201.
The Board of Trustees, at its December meeting, unanimously elected Pauline Huang as new Board Chair and reelected officers Suzanne Brienza, Vice Chair; Neil Fleischman, Treasurer; and Michael Bronstein, Secretary. Officers serve one year terms.

“We are absolutely thrilled to welcome Pauline Huang as our new Board Chair. Her enthusiasm for our garden is infectious and we know she will share her excitement with the community during her tenure,” extolls QBG Director of Development, Stephanie Ehrlich.

Leaving the Board after six years of dedicated service as trustee, three of those years as Board Chair, is Rovena Schirling. Ms. Schirling has been a very generous and passionate leader, and we thank her for her service. She will continue to work with us on special projects. We also say goodbye to trustees Joanne Chao and Gary Park, who have said they will continue to work for the growth of the Garden.

At the same meeting, three new members were elected to the Board: Debra Lodge is Managing Director, Head of RMB Sales and Business Development Americas for HSBC Bank NA Securities USA-New York. She has been with the HSBC Bank Global Market Division in London, Singapore, Hong Kong, and New York since 1990. Ms. Lodge also volunteers with the ASPCA as a dog socializer and trainer.

Bianca Ng is CEO & Managing Director of COTS Travel, an established travel agency in operation for over 20 years in downtown Flushing. With the goal of striving for the betterment of the community, Ms. Ng is a member of the Flushing Central Lions Club, on the Board of Directors and Program Committee Chairperson of the Downtown Flushing Transit Hub Business Improvement District (Flushing BID), and part of the Greater Flushing Chamber of Commerce.

Jeanmarie Schieler is Vice President and Corporate Secretary of Consolidated Edison, Inc., and its principal subsidiary, Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. Ms. Schieler is a corporate mentor and graduate of CORO Leadership New York Program, a member of the Society of Corporate Secretaries and Governance Professionals, the Stockholder Relations Society of New York, and the College Point Civic Association.
"It has been a wonderful season with the horticulture team—which included the interns!" said **Morgan Potter, Supervisor of Gardeners**.

Employed at QBG from April through mid-November, the horticulture interns—**Jennifer Ko, Xinzhan Yu, and Darius Marte**—worked alongside the staff in every garden. They planted spring annuals, designed and planted container gardens, weeded, watered, deadheaded, and mulched throughout the season. As their knowledge and skills grew, they led their own team of SYEP (Summer Youth Employment Program) participants during 6 weeks of the summer. When autumn arrived, they took fall cuttings for propagation, removed annuals, planted spring bulbs, and mulched for winter.

Nearing the end of their time here, they were offered the opportunity to learn more about garden machinery, too. They seized this chance to gain experience with the various lawn mowers, motorized weed-whackers, as well as motorized pruners and saws for basic tree pruning.

**Jennifer** beams about being at QBG, saying it is a dream come true. "Through volunteer work with the Children’s Garden program at the Queens Botanical Garden, I have found a love for plants. I am looking to gain experience and knowledge [during] my time here, while exploring the different avenues that the field of Horticulture has to offer."

**Xin** said “[This] is truly [the place] where people, plants and culture meet. It was through the CUNY Service Corp position here at QBG that I discovered my love of plants and lifelong friends. Thanks to the horticulture internship program, I was able to spend more time with the wonderful people of QBG and experience more that it has to offer. Thank you for a wonderful, memorable year."

“I have wanted to work with plants in general for a few years; I just didn’t know how I should approach it” said **Darius**. “I am extremely grateful for this opportunity... I relish the hands-on experience. My intention after this internship is to pursue a certificate in horticulture. I have a journey ahead of me and I am happy to say it began at QBG!”

We thank our members and friends who helped fund these young people through their generous gifts for Susan’s Quinceañera celebration, especially Jackie Fazio, Saul & Gail Kuperberg, Perry Davis Associates, Phyllis Volin, Linda Lacerte, Maureen Chen, Tai & Tony Wang, Young S. Woo, Digna Chua, and Broadway Stages, LTD.
QBG GARDEN NEWS WINTER 2017
A special newsletter for friends of Queens Botanical Garden VOL 22 ISSUE 4

THANK YOU to our MEMBERS, SPONSORS, and FRIENDS!

QUEENS 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 NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and the NYC Council, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Queens Borough President and Queens elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding. Corporations, foundations and individuals provide additional support.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Pauline Huang
Chair
Suzanne Brienza
Vice Chair
Neil Fleischman
Treasurer
Michael Bronstein
Secretary
Nazneen "Lucy" Hossain
Debra Lodge
Edith L. Meyer
Bianca Ng
MeeSeung "Judy" Ng
Larry Osnowsky
Frank Santora
Jeanmarie Schieler
Michelle Stoddart

ADVISORY COUNCIL
Dr. Joon J. Bang
Theresa Bonavalonta
Brian Carey
Do H. Chung
Jack Eichenbaum
Howard Freilich
Stefanie F. Handsman
Stephen D. Hans
Neil Hernandez
Soraya Hernandez
Bill Huisman
Saul Kupferberg
Emily Lin
Frank Macchio
George S. Meyer
Frank Mirovsky
Joyce & Ed Morrill
Jacqueline Newman
Georgiana Reese-Benatti
Walter Sanchez
Robert Schirling
Janet Schneider
Patricia Shanley
Spencer J. Shin
Ali Suarez
Martha & Robert Taylor
Henry Wan
Tae Wang
Young S. Woo

We extend our gratitude to the following elected officials and government bodies:
New York City Council
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
New York City Department of Sanitation
New York State Assembly
New York State Senate
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Queens Borough President Melinda Katz
Queens Delegation of the New York City Council
Queens Delegation of the New York State Assembly

We are pleased to thank the following corporations and foundations for their support of QBG's botanical displays, programs, and operations:
HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.
Resorts World Casino
The Frank Antun Foundation
Astoria Bank
The Kupferberg Foundation
New York Community Bank
New York Community Bank Foundation
New York-Queens Presbyterian
Pfizer, Inc.
Rose M. Badgeley Residuary Charitable Trust
Dr. Robert C. & Tina Sohn Foundation
TD Charitable Foundation
WAC Lighting

Queens Botanical Garden | 43-50 Main Street, Flushing, NY 11355 | queensbotanical.org | 718.886.3800