A Letter from Susan

Dear Friend,

Summer is a wonderful time of year!

For me, seeing the green leaves providing shade (knowing they provide oxygen to us all) and flowers showing their colors makes me smile. Of course, summer also means more people here to enjoy all that QBG has to offer: kids frolicking in the Children’s Garden—learning how to grow and care for plants; teens and young adults from the City’s Summer Youth Employment Program working—some holding their first job ever; and members (like you!) and first-time visitors stopping to smell the roses (or rosemary!). This is what it’s all about!

Speaking of roses, our Rose Gala was a grand success. We thank all of you who support our work by attending the party. All proceeds benefit educational programs and sustaining the Garden itself.

And, over the summer, look for our third annual Taiwan: A World of Orchids in August and our Members Picnic on Tuesday, July 26.

See you out there in the sun!

Susan Lacerte
Executive Director
Queens Botanical Garden Honors Capital Committee at Annual Rose Gala

At Queens Botanical Garden’s annual Rose Gala on Thursday, June 9, 2016, nearly 200 guests joined the Garden to honor members of the Capital Committee for their commitment to QBG and its continued growth: Brian Carey, Partner, AC/BC Associates, Architecture & Landscape Design; Do H. Chung, Senior Partner, Do H. Chung & Partners, Architects & Planners; Emily Lin, Principal, Lin & Associates, Architects; and Frank C. Macchio, Real Estate and Construction Professional were recognized as outstanding leaders for their generous and steadfast support of the Garden and of the greater Queens community. In her comments about the honorees, Executive Director Susan Lacerte noted that together they have served the Garden for 65 years!

The gala was attended by prominent Queens elected officials, including Queens Borough President Melinda Katz; City Councilmembers Peter Koo and Barry Grodenchik; and New York State Assemblymembers Nily Rozic and David Weprin, as well as NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl.

The Rose Gala was a joyful event that raised over $138,000 to benefit the Garden! The ACM Trio supplied soothing background music that enhanced the festivities. Thanks goes to our Rose Gala Committee led by Board Chair, Rovena Schirling; and Trustees Joanne Chao, Nadine Cino, Lucy Hassain, Edie Meyer, and Michelle Stoddart for all their efforts toward making the Rose Gala a success.

It’s not too late to contribute!

If you’d like to make a donation in honor of Rose Gala, please contact Stephanie Ehrlich, Director of Development, at 718.886.3800 ext. 330 or sehrlich@queensbotanical.org.

The Board of Trustees and Staff of Queens Botanical Garden express deep gratitude and appreciation to Rose Gala 2016 sponsors and in-kind supporters:

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THANK YOU
Celebrate all summer long with MUSIC at Queens Botanical Garden!
Sponsored by Astoria Bank and the Kupferberg Center for the Arts

June 26 – Rebolú, Afro-Colombian music
July 24 – High and Mighty Brass Band, New Orleans Jazz
August 28 – ¡Retumba!, Afro-Caribbean music and dance
ORCHIDS are BACK!

**ORCHID SALE!**
Tuesday, August 9 through Sunday, August 14 • Pricing varies • Gift Shop
As part of the upcoming exhibition, *Taiwan: A World of Orchids*, orchids will be available for sale, while supplies last.

**Taiwan: A World of Orchids**
Friday, August 12 through Sunday, August, 14 • 8am to 6pm
Free with Garden admission • Free hours are suspended on Sunday.

Enjoy a stunning display of orchids and a weekend filled with art and culture. In partnership with the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in New York (TECO-NY). With special thanks to Ambassador Lily L.W. Hsu, Director General, TECO-NY.

YOUR WEDDING & RECEPTION at QBG

**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.
On March 23, 2016, the NYC Compost Project hosted by Queens Botanical Garden and Councilman Peter Koo urged Flushing residents to reduce organic waste by saving their food scraps and dropping them off at Queens Library at Flushing every Wednesday from 11am to 1pm. During these hours, QBG staff will be present in front of the library, located at 41-17 Main Street, Flushing, to accept food scraps and offer more information about composting and recycling initiatives. Scraps will be turned into compost and incorporated into the soil at the QBG Farm & Compost site. Funded by the NYC Department of Sanitation Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability, this program is part of a larger citywide effort to help reduce organic waste sent to landfills.

The Flushing site is one of four Queens drop-off locations operated by the NYC Compost Project hosted by Queens Botanical Garden, joining sites in Kew Gardens, Ridgewood, and Briarwood, which celebrated their one-year anniversary of food scrap drop-off in May. Residents have contributed 42,000 pounds of food scraps since April 2015.

The NYC Compost Project hosted by Queens Botanical Garden oversees six convenient drop-off sites in Queens:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Briarwood</td>
<td>Tuesdays, 7:30 to 9:30am</td>
<td>8512 Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kew Gardens</td>
<td>Tuesdays, 7:30 to 9:30am</td>
<td>Kew Gardens Road and 81st Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgewood</td>
<td>Wednesdays, 7:30 to 10am</td>
<td>Fresh Pond Road between Putnam Avenue and Madison Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flushing</td>
<td>Wednesdays, 11am to 1pm</td>
<td>Queens Library at Flushing, 41-17 Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glen Oaks</td>
<td>Thursdays, 10am to 12pm</td>
<td>North Side of Union Turnpike and 257th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>Thursdays, 7am to 9am</td>
<td>SE Corner of Hillside Avenue and 179th Street</td>
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“The success of the drop-off program is made possible by the dedication of local residents and strong partnership between NYC Compost Project, the Garden, our local officials like Councilman Koo, and our host sites. It is really wonderful to see the activity at these drop-off locations, where people come together to make New York City cleaner, greener, and better!”

– Elsa Higby, Project Manager for the NYC Compost Project Hosted by QBG
As part of its adopted strategic plan for 2015 through 2018, one of Queens Botanical Garden’s major goals is to create gardens that are a feast for the eyes. This entails adding color to enhance our perimeters, entrances, and focal points, as well as improving horticultural quality by cultivating stewards through not only staff, board members, and interns, but volunteers as well. For over 25 years, volunteers from Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York (KCS) have aided our horticulture team in caring for our gardens by completing various duties, including planting and watering plants, weeding, and picking up trash in and around the Garden. This year, they were especially instrumental in making the Garden the most colorful it has been in years.

Visitors this April and May were greeted by the hundreds of pink and yellow tulips at our entrance, and even more that appeared along the Oak Allée and in the Floral Border. The installation of this trail of beautiful bursts of color was made possible by the hard work of KCS volunteers who have put in 1,950 hours of work this fiscal year alone—Just imagine how many hours have been invested through the past quarter of a century!

Flowers are more than just flowers at QBG; they are the fruits of our volunteers’ labor, a symbol of our strong, longstanding partnership with KCS, and the backdrop for so many photos taken by visitors, sweet keepsakes of their time here. Thank you for all that you do in the community, KCS!

“Without the help of KCS volunteers, I don’t know how we would be able to do the work necessary to keep the Garden beautiful all year long. Their daily, tireless devotion to us and the community is unparalleled... And to think we have had the pleasure of their service for over 25 years. Just look at the landscape, flowers, the color. You can see the difference. We are so grateful!”
—Karl McKoy, QBG Gardener
THANK YOU to our MEMBERS, SPONSORS, AND FRIENDS!

We are pleased to thank the following corporations and foundations for their support of QBG’s botanical displays, programs, and operations:

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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

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.

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