



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

For Immediate Release
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***The Orchid Show* Extended to Six Weeks**

Thousands of Colorful Exotic Plants in Tropical Glasshouse Setting Brighten Winter Doldrums

February 24–April 8, 2007

The fifth annual rendition of *The Orchid Show: An Exhibition and Sale of Fine Orchids* returns to The New York Botanical Garden on Saturday, February 24. This year, the ever eagerly anticipated show will run for an unprecedented six weeks, providing a tropical winter escape, colorfully culminating on Easter Sunday.

The Orchid Show at The New York Botanical Garden is distinguished as the only curated and designed, museum-quality orchid exhibition. Visitors are exposed to these coveted plants in ingenious ways. The colors, shapes, sizes, and textures of the orchids as well as the rich information provided about them are a feast for the eyes and nourishment for the intellect.

As always, the centerpiece of the Botanical Garden-wide orchid experience will be in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Under the dome of this jewel-like Victorian-style glasshouse, water will cascade over dark volcanic rocks past glittering orchids into a tropical pool. The graceful fronds of stately palms will frame beds of colorful orchids reflected in the tranquil pool.

In the *Lowland Rain Forest Gallery*, exotic trees arch overhead to invite discovery of orchids as they would grow in nature: clinging to branches and twining around massive trunks. Visitors will encounter fragrant pansy and golden dancing ladies orchids, delicate *laelias*, and extravagantly ruffled corsage orchids.

During *The Orchid Show*, the terrarium in the Conservatory's *Upland Rain Forest Gallery* will showcase beautiful and often strange, miniature orchids allowing up close views of these plants that have flowers ranging from two to four millimeters wide and come in colors that span the spectrum. Upon passing a moss-covered waterfall one will leave the misty rain forest and enter the American and African desert galleries with spiny golden barrel cactus, blue-leaved agaves, flowering aloes, and tiny "living stones" en route to an elegant orchid garden just ahead in the Conservatory's *Seasonal Exhibition Galleries*.

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Stroll Through an Orchid Garden

For the second consecutive year, *The Orchid Show* will carry the theme, “A Garden of Orchids.” In the two *Seasonal Exhibition Galleries*, the main showcase galleries of the exhibition, a garden pavilion will be draped with orchids of every description, while formal planting beds will overflow with thousands of orchid plants and tens of thousands of blooms—each one more fascinating than the last. Blue and purple *vandas*, green and yellow *cymbidiums*, maroon slipper orchids, tall nun’s cap orchids, delicate pink and white moth orchids, and more will all compete for attention in this imaginary garden where all of the flowers are orchids, sheltered by tall palms and surrounded by colorful tropical leaves.

Philip Baloun of Philip Baloun Designs, New York City, is *The Orchid Show* designer. Marc Hachadourian, the Botanical Garden’s Curator of Glasshouse Collections, is the curator of *The Orchid Show*. He is preparing a dazzling assortment of thousands of orchids, everything from rare miniature species to the newest and most extravagant hybrids, to be on view during the six-week exhibition.

The Exhibition Continues in the Orchid Rotunda

As if the spellbinding arrays in the Conservatory wouldn’t be enough, the Orchid Rotunda in the Library Building will feature numerous specimens of the roughly 50 species and countless hybrids of *phalaenopsis* orchids, commonly known as moth orchids. Many people are familiar with the popular large white-flower variety that resembles a moth in flight. Orchid breeders have developed dozens of new and different color forms: flowers in shades of red, peach, green, and yellow, with stripes, spots, and other patterns.

Shop in the Garden Offers the Opportunity to Bring the Beauty Home

Located in the Garden’s Leon Levy Visitor Center, Shop in the Garden is a destination not to be missed during *The Orchid Show*. Thousands of top-quality orchids, from exotic, hard-to-find specimens to elegant, but easy-to-grow varieties for the beginner, will be available for purchase in the Shop, along with orchid products for the home grower and hundreds of orchid book titles.

Wealth of Complementary Programming Enriches the Exhibition

Exhibition tours, home gardening demonstrations, expert Q&A sessions and presentations, Continuing Education classes, and children's programming round out *The Orchid Show* experience and whet appetites to return to The New York Botanical Garden multiple times during the run of the show.

Founding Sponsor, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation
Sponsor, The Bank of New York
Exhibitions in the Conservatory are made possible by the Estate of Enid A. Haupt.

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The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. It is easy to reach by Metro-North Railroad or subway. The Botanical Garden is open Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. February 24–March 31 and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. April 1–April 8.

PRICING: \$18, Seniors/Students \$16, Children \$5.

Tickets on sale mid-February. Advance purchase of tickets advised. Visit Ticketmaster.com or call 1.212.220.0503.

For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit our Web site at www.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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