Jefferson Market Garden

Summer Newsletter 2018

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Gardens everywhere have a year-long dance with Mother Nature. Ours began with a cooler and wetter spring into summer that slowed the arrival of the displays from bulbs and corms. Spring flowers were late and the the showy leaves of our caladium, now brightening the area near the library on 6th Avenue, were thought lost for the season. But the rains of summer seemed to super-charge the other plantings. The sunflowers, milkweed, dahlias and castor bean plants reached new heights on one side of the Garden. On the other side, the lush density of plantings began to obscure our benches. Among the many delights, the Angel trumpets hanging over the Koi pond and the bee attracting giant hyssop often stopped our visitors in their trek around the garden path. And we can't forget every child's glee when spotting one of our two bullfrogs who often can be found on the rocks surrounding our Koi Pond.

More good news: our replanted Rose Garden, which had been plagued by the incurable Rose Rosette Disease for the past two years, seems to be taking hold and flourishing. If this continues we will be adding new cultivars in the spring. Look for even more colors in the space around our fountain in Spring 2019. Additionally, our beloved pink New Dawn roses that climbed our fences, were replaced and are now making their ascent, we hope, for a great display next year.

Nevertheless, we need to constantly monitor the health of our trees, shrubs and annuals. Our Japanese dogwood trees that usually welcome us with a profusion of white blossoms at the gate each Spring, had many dead branches a few flowers. We will be replacing them in time for a Spring display.

For all the beauty our Garden, we are grateful to the design skills and the patient, constant care of our Garden Designer/Horticulturist Susan Sipos, who uses only natural organic materials in the feeding and restoration of our Garden plants, shrubs and trees.

We are also grateful to our large cadre of community volunteers who greet visitors and protect our beautiful space during open hours and others who help with Garden maintenance on Mondays. Because of all their efforts, in addition to our flowers and trees, we are able to offer children's festivals in the Spring and Fall, community events and live music programs for families on our lawn on Sunday afternoons in July and August.



In the end, it is YOU who make our Garden for our community beautiful.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME IN THE GARDEN and YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT!

Best Regards,
George Paulos, Chair & Elizabeth Butson, Vice Chair



All the Lawn's a Stage

by Diane Darrow

We think of birds as creatures of the air, but they also spend time on the ground, and it's interesting to see the different ways they behave there. A bench in our Garden makes an entertaining theater for observing how birds move about.

House Sparrows usually get around by hopping. With their short legs, a single step can cover only a few inches, but a two-legged hop takes them much farther, and when they get up some momentum, they can bounce across the ground like wind-up mechanical toys.

Most of our other local birds walk, though Blue Jays flying in for a landing sometimes take a few hops when they first touch down, like a taxiing airplane.

Robins on the hunt are businesslike. They take brief runs across the grass, then stop short and cock their heads, listening for worms and other underground insects. Then off again to another spot. Mourning Doves, by contrast, wander aimlessly, seeming confused – as if they'd lost something somewhere but can't quite remember what.

Rock Pigeons strut around like self-important dignitaries, but the constant nodding of their heads back and forth with each step somewhat spoils the effect. Starlings march across the grass with determination, like an old-time cop on the beat. Crows stride casually but aggressively, conveying a clear don't-mess-with-me message.

Each in its own way, birds act out their roles on Nature's stage.



Mourning Dove by Morshedlou



Rock Pigeon by Sanjiv Nayak



Starling by AnshuA



We were saddened to learn of the passing of Miriam Cahn, artist and writer, and a great supporter of the Garden. We will miss her great spirit and eternal optimism.



Volunteer Gate Greeter News



After several years as a Coordinator of Gate Greeter Volunteers, Mary Alice Kellogg is now taking on the Chairmanship of our 45th Anniversary Celebration Committee. Please look for more information about this exciting event in the New Year.

Marguerite Martin will be taking over MAK's position and working with Betsy Randolph to assume all the responsibilities of volunteer coordination.

The Garden is blessed with over 80 community volunteers that give two hours or more to welcoming visitors to the Garden and watching over the Garden. Marguerite and Betsy prepare the schedule, hold meetings and communicate regularly with volunteers.

Our volunteers are a highly valued part of the operation of the Garden. In truth, we would not be able to operate the Garden without them. If you are interested in becoming a Gate Greeter Volunteer this year or next, send an email with your preferred hours and phone number to:

jeffersonmarketgarden.org@gmail.com



Senator Brad Hoylman and Elizabeth Butson at the June Party for Friends of the Garden

To see the Benefits & Join Friends of the Garden:

jeffersonmarketgarden.org/ support



Summer Interns

In order to support the great work of our volunteers, Jefferson Market Garden hired two interns with ties to Borough of Manhattan Community College. These women made it possible for the Garden to be open earlier and later during the summer, and they added a spark of enthusiasm during the long, often hot, days. Both women enjoy their time in the Garden and would like to continue as Gate Greeter Volunteers here at Jefferson Market Garden after their internships expire.

The first to join us was Poshy Panchoo, a



Brooklyn resident with roots in the Carribbean and in India. She is a freshman at BMCC where she is majoring in Video Art and Technology. After graduation her plan is to transfer to Brooklyn College for her BA and hopes to find an internship where she can further her artistic skills. She

enjoys taking pictures with both her cell phone and her mirrorless full-frame Sony camera.



Nisi Spera, our second intern, is a native Manhattanite and a recent graduate of BMCC. She has already begun her academic course work towards her BA at Hunter College this summer. She is planning on completing a Fine Arts degree in Photography. One of her immediate goals is to save

enough money to buy more lenses for her camera so that she can develop a full range skills for her future work.



Follow the Flowers on Social Media By Olympia Thomson

Change is so fundamental to the nature of New York City that it easily goes unnoticed. As soon as scaffolding rises up or a store-front turns over it becomes difficult to remember what once stood in its place. Even Greenwich Village, bastion of old New York, is touched by the current of change that runs throughout the city. Here though, we seek balance--a cultural and aesthetic harmony between the historic and the avant-garde.

The themes of change, evolution, and harmony are illustrated throughout the open season at Jefferson Market Garden. We have our stalwarts: the stately yellow wood tree, our resident koi fish, the famous (and twice re-planted) rose garden to which we've shown a great commitment in recent years. These fixtures provide a familiar backdrop for all of the exciting new growth that we hope to discover week by week. From passion flowers to pineapples, there's a lot of change to look out for, and we'd like to help you experience it!

We're dusting off our Instagram account (@jeffersonmarketgarden), so that you'll never miss another Spring tulip bloom or Fall foliage display. Following JMG will provide a live glimpse into the dynamic nature of our little ecosystem (check out our latest post to see who's been in the pond lately)! And you have a choice of Facebook or Twitter for the same postings to see what is currently blooming AND learn about all of the wonderful community programming that we run throughout the year.



World Music Festival on the Garden Lawn, August 2018











Our World Music Festival was spared the rainy weather four Sundays in a row in August to the delight of New Yorkers tired of stormy weather. Four different groups inspired by music ranging from French Chansons to Afro-Cuban sound, to Brazilian Chorro music, and to Ethiopian-Brooklyn mix gave joy to listeners of all ages. Children danced on the lawn and grown ups danced on the Garden paths.

These concerts, which were free to the public, were made possible through the generosity of friends of Jefferson Market Garden. The concerts were curated by Ron Wasserman and Elizabeth Butson.

44 years ago, our wonderful community had the foresight to save the land next to the library for what is today, Jefferson Market Garden. It is you, our special community, that allows the Garden to thrive. We thank all our volunteers, our Board, our local businesses and all the Garden visitors from near and far who support us and make us a true GARDEN BY and FOR THE COMMUNITY. Your continued support is essential. www.jeffersonmarketgarden.org/support