



Wave Hill

Public Garden & Cultural Center

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Press Release

WAVE HILL CELEBRATES 60 YEARS AS NEW YORK CITY'S INSPIRING, ARTISTIC GARDEN GEM

From Horticultural Vision to Cultural Touchstone, Bronx Gem Launches Anniversary Year with an Immersive Celebration, Garden Fête, and a Special Fall Tribute to Horticultural Visionary Marco Polo Stufano

Bronx, NY, April 30, 2025 — This summer, Wave Hill marks six decades as one of New York City's most inspiring green spaces. Known for its majestic gardens, visionary exhibitions, and innovative education programs, Wave Hill has invited visitors of all ages and backgrounds to find connection, creativity, and serenity in nature. This June kicks off a season of celebration with a weekend of immersive experiences designed to reflect the garden's unique spirit.

The festivities begin June 4 with its Garden Fête, a gala under the stars honoring longtime steward D. Bryce O'Brien II, followed by Be Inspired!, a four-day celebration (June 5-8) of contemporary art, immersive nature programming, and sunset concerts.

Also opening this week, the group exhibition *Trees, we breathe*, honoring the legendary trees of Wave Hill, which are among the oldest and most notable in New York City. The exhibition features works by Sarah Ahmad, Andrea Bowers, Sari Carel, Michelle Frick, Ben Gould, Sara Jimenez, Weihui Lu, Julia Oldham, Yoko Ono, Yeseul Song and Jesse Simpson, Rose B. Simpson, Rachel Sussman, Carlie Trosclair, and Sam Van Aken, who take up a variety of tree species and media, including sculpture, sound, drawing, site-responsive installation, video, and living artwork.



From environmental education to site-specific art, Wave Hill has become a sanctuary not just for plants, but for ideas. "There is inspiration everywhere you look," says Ray Oladapo-Johnson, President and Executive Director. "This is a place where nature, culture, and community thrive together."

Wave Hill, originally a private estate, became a public garden in 1965 and quickly evolved into a world-class garden and vital resource, thanks in large part to the vision of founding horticulturist Marco Polo Stufano. His legacy will be celebrated at the September Gardener's Party.

GARDEN FÊTE — Wednesday, June 4, 2025

The festivities begin with Wave Hill's signature gala benefit evening, Garden Fête—an immersive celebration of nature, art, and legacy honoring D. Bryce O'Brien II a devoted steward of Wave Hill and champion of its mission. Funds raised will support Wave Hill's next chapter—from tree preservation and ecological restoration to expanded community programming and accessibility initiatives.

BE INSPIRED! — June 5–8, 2025

The anniversary celebration continues with Be Inspired!, four days of joyful, nature-infused programming across Wave Hill's gardens, galleries, and woodlands. Thursday admission is free and the weekend offers additional programming, live music, and extended evening hours.

Highlights include:

- Meet Our Garden Makers—an opportunity to talk directly with Wave Hill's talented horticulturists about what fuels their creativity.
- The Great Pollinator Ramble, a roving host of larger-than-life pollinator puppets, created by Processional Arts Workshop
- *Trees, We Breathe*, an exhibition that draws attention to humanity's symbiotic relationship with trees and a chance to meet the artists
- Sunset Performances cap off the weekend with two unforgettable outdoor concerts as the sun dips behind the Palisades:
 - Saturday, June 7 – Brass Queens, NYC's boldest all-female brass band, brings the energy
 - Sunday, June 8 – Colombian artist Alea performs a sunset set of genre-defying rhythms.

THE GARDENER'S PARTY — Sunday, September 21, 2025

Later this fall, Wave Hill hosts The Gardener's Party, a deeply personal celebration honoring Marco Polo Stufano, the visionary founding Director of Horticulture whose creativity and spirit shaped the gardens into the work of living art they are today.

For more on Wave Hill's 60th Anniversary celebrations and ticket information, visit: [Wave Hill at 60 - Wave Hill](#).

Press Contact

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Wave Hill Incorporated is an independent non-profit cultural institution governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. The City of New York owns the buildings and grounds of Wave Hill. With the assistance of the Bronx Borough President and Bronx representatives in the City Council and State Legislature, Wave Hill's operations are supported with public funds through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the Zoos, Botanical Gardens and Aquariums Grant Program administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; the National Endowment for the Arts; and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.



About Wave Hill

A 28-acre public garden and cultural center overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades, Wave Hill's mission is to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscapes, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts.

HOURS: Open all year, Tuesday–Sunday, 10AM–4:30PM. Marco Polo Stufano Conservatory 10AM–Noon/1–4PM.

ADMISSION TO THE GROUNDS: \$10 adults, \$6 students and seniors 65+, \$4 children 6–18. Free Thursdays.

Free to Wave Hill Members, children under 6.

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