GreenThumb Harvest Fair  On Saturday, September 12th, GreenThumb held its annual Harvest Fair at The Garden of Happiness in the Bronx. Karen Washington coordinated the event along with GreenThumb, Bronx Green-Up and Just Food. Also in attendance was the commissioner of the Parks Department, Adrian Benepe who spoke highly of the GreenThumb community gardeners, “who have been going green before there was such a thing.” Despite overcast skies and scattered rain there was much cheer and dancing to salsa music from the Santos White Band.

The inaugural Urban Farmy Olympics was a great success too, as gardeners and youth competed mightily. There were even more winners at the Harvest Contest where a bounty of fruits, vegetables and flowers were on display. Seed saving and canning workshops were also available for the public to harness the skills to preserve the benefits of the harvest through the cold season. Participants left with smiles on their faces, many of which were painted, and a great deal to hold on to as the gardening season finishes up.

Does your garden need any of the following supplies? Look inside for details...

** Icebreakers, Garbage Bags, Gloves, Calcium Chloride, Snow Shovels **
** Pruning Shears, 6" Wreath Ring, Wire, Pine Cones, Ribbon **
** CD of an Oral History Recording of Your Garden **
** Book: Step by Step Greenhouse Gardening **
** Compost / Soil / Cleanfill (for early Spring delivery) **
** Pathmark Vouchers **

Please note that garden members must attend workshops in order to receive supplies. All workshops are free and open to public, with no registration (unless otherwise noted). Workshops are rain or shine, cancelled only in the event of lightning or other dangerous conditions. All supplies are for currently registered gardens only and are available first come, first served, while supplies last.
December

Winter Supply Giveaway

with GreenThumb Staff

Pick up basic gardening and maintenance supplies for your garden over the winter. One pickup per garden group. Please carpool with other garden groups that may not have access to transportation. Call GreenThumb if you need the contact information of gardeners near you.

*The compound gates will not open until 9:45am. Thank you for your patience.

❄️ Icebreakers, Garbage Bags, Gloves, Calcium Chloride, Snow Shovels ❄️

Saturday, December 5th

10am - 2pm

QUEENS

GreenThumb Compound
Queens Plaza South at 10th St.

Directions

By Subway

F TRAIN: to 21st St/Queensbridge. Walk south on 21st St towards Queens Plaza South. Make right onto QPS. Walk 4 blocks to 10th St. Compound on your right.

N, W, 7 TRAINS: to Queensboro Plaza/Bridge Plaza. Walk along Queens Plaza South, towards the East River, to 10th St. Compound is on your right.

By Bus

Q19A, Q32, Q60, Q66, Q101, Q101R, Q102 and Q103 all run along or intersect with Queens Plaza South (QPS). Exit closest to 10th St and QPS. Compound is across from 10th St.

Winter Wreath Making

with Gerard Lordahl / Director-Open Space Greening Program, CENYC

Learn how to create your own natural holiday wreath for indoors or outdoors. All supplies will be provided along with natural pine cones and ribbon to decorate your own handmade, festive wreath. Bring your favorite decorations to add as well. Attendees are strongly encouraged to bring along kids and family members. Wreath making can be a great community garden activity or garden fundraiser event.

❄️ Pruning Shears, 6" Wreath Ring, Wire, Pine Cones, Ribbon ❄️

Tuesday, December 15th

4:30 - 6:30pm

BROOKLYN

BASE High School
883 Classon Avenue, between Eastern Parkway & Union St

Directions

Bus: B48 or B71 to Classon Ave & Eastern Pkwy.
Train: 4, 5 to Franklin Ave; 2, 3 to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum; or S to Botanic Garden Station.

By Subway

F TRAIN: to 21st St/Queensbridge. Walk south on 21st St towards Queens Plaza South. Make right onto QPS. Walk 4 blocks to 10th St. Compound on your right.

N, W, 7 TRAINS: to Queensboro Plaza/Bridge Plaza. Walk along Queens Plaza South, towards the East River, to 10th St. Compound is on your right.

By Bus

Q19A, Q32, Q60, Q66, Q101, Q101R, Q102 and Q103 all run along or intersect with Queens Plaza South (QPS). Exit closest to 10th St and QPS. Compound is across from 10th St.

By Car

FROM MANHATTAN & THE BRONX: Take FDR to 61st St exit. Follow signs to Queensboro Bridge. Staying in the right-hand lane of the bridge, exit to local streets. Continue straight to end, Northern Blvd/Jackson Avenue intersection. Make a right onto Jackson Ave (Northern Blvd). Make a right onto 21st St and then a left onto Queens Plaza South (QPS). Continue on QPS until 10th St. Compound is on your right, across from 10th St.

FROM BROOKLYN, QUEENS & STATEN ISLAND: Take the BQE to the McGuiness Blvd exit. Make a left onto McGuiness Blvd. Continue straight into Queens (over the Pulaski Skyway Bridge), McGuiness Blvd becomes 11th St. Stay straight on 11th St. Make left onto Queens Plaza South. Go 1 block to 10th St. Compound is on your right.
In our humble opinion, gardeners and urban farmers are the best story tellers. You've not only watched your neighborhood undergo dramatic transformations, you were central driving forces behind some of them. Many of you work hard in your respective corners of the city, leaving very little time to record your stories. Through this workshop, we hope to change that by providing an opportunity to reflect on our stories and learn ways to document them. Please join us as we explore the wonderful resources offered by StoryCorps.

** Recording Session at StoryCorps booth in Foley Square **

**Tuesday, January 26th**  
5:30 - 7pm

**MANHATTAN**  
GreenThumb Office  
49 Chambers St, Room 1020 (10th Floor)

**Directions**  
**Bus:** M22, M15, M6, B51  
**Train:** J, M, Z, 4, 5, 6 to Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall; R, W to City Hall; 1, 2, 3, A, C, E to Chambers St.

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**StoryCorps**

StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit project whose mission is to honor and celebrate one another’s lives through listening. Since 2003, tens of thousands of everyday people have interviewed family and friends through StoryCorps. Each conversation is recorded on a free CD to take home and share. It is also archived for generations to come at the Library of Congress.

StoryCorps invites community gardeners to share their stories. Record a conversation for yourself, your families, your communities and for history.

Call (646) 723-7020 x13 or email nyc_outreach@storycorps.org to learn more and schedule an appointment at our StoryBooth, located in Foley Square above City Hall Park in downtown Manhattan.

Learn more and about StoryCorps at www.storycorps.org

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**MulchFest**

*Bring your holiday tree to a designated city park to be recycled into mulch that will nourish plantings across the city! Remember to remove all lights and ornaments before bringing the tree to a MulchFest site.*

Additionally, GreenThumb is once again working to include community gardens as drop-off sites and chipping sites. For the latest info on which gardens are participating, call GreenThumb.

For a complete listing of drop-off sites call 311, or visit the MulchFest website: http://www.nycgovparks.org/services/mulchfest/mulchfest.html

**Chip in! Mulch your tree! Help NYC grow!**
Starting Seeds in Greenhouses & Cold Frames  
with Sara Katz, Bronx Green-Up, New York Botanical Garden  

Get started early by planting seeds in a greenhouse! Also learn techniques for starting outside earlier in the season.  

✦✦ Book: “Greenhouse Gardening: Step by Step to Growing Success” by Jonathan Edwards, Cold Frame information ✦✦  

Saturday, February 6th 11am - 12:30pm  
BRONX  
Jardin la Roca / The Rock Garden  
Corner of E. 160th & Elton St  

Directions  
Bus: BxM4A to Grand Concourse/ E. 161st. Start out going East on E. 161st towards Sheridan Ave. Turn right onto Elton Ave.  
Train: 2 or 5 train to 3rd Avenue - 149th St station. Walk North on Melrose Ave towards E. 160th. Turn left onto E. 160th and walk to Elton St. Garden is on the corner.  

Getting Your Group Growing  
with Eric Thomann & Karen Washington, Just Food Trainers  

Get ready for the upcoming season with a workshop on growing your garden group, and sowing the seeds for the future. Tips for reaching out to the community, incorporating new members, working with different greening groups, and much more!  

✦✦ Pathmark Vouchers✦✦  

Wednesday, February 24th 6 - 7:30pm  
BROOKLYN  
St. John's Recreation Center  
1251 Prospect Place, between Troy & Schenectady Aves  

Directions  
Bus: B15, B65 to Troy Ave & Bergen St; B46 to Utica Ave & Prospect Place  
Train: 3, 4 train to Utica Ave-Crown Heights Station. Walk five blocks north on Utica Ave to Prospect PI & turn left.  

The Real Dirt on Community Composting  
with Jodie Colón, Bronx Compost Project  

Come share your stories and be inspired by others as we discuss the triumphs, tragedies, and troubles of composting at community gardens, schools, and apartment buildings.  

Pre-registration recommended. Please call (718) 817-8543 or e-mail bronxgreenup@nybg.org  

✦✦ Compost / Soil / Cleanfill Request (for early Spring delivery)✦✦  

Thursday, February 11th 6:30 - 8:30pm  
BRONX  
New York Botanical Garden, Watson Building, Room 315  
200th Street & Kazimiroff Blvd  

Directions  
Bus: Bx41, Bx55, or Bx26 to Webster & Bedford Park Blvd.  
Train: B, D, or 4 train to Bedford Park Blvd. Transfer to the Bx26 bus east OR walk eight blocks down the hill on Bedford Park Blvd to Kazimiroff Blvd. Please enter via the gate on Kazimiroff Blvd between Mosholu Pkwy & Bedford Park Blvd.  

Save the Date...  

26th Annual GreenThumb GrowTogether  

Saturday, March 20th 9AM-4PM  
HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
149th St & the Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10451
School Gardens

The Garden to Café Project

For a long time now students from public schools around the city have been working hard in gardens to grow fresh food and vegetables both in their own schools and community gardens.

The Garden to Café Project brings these student-produced harvests into their schools for a fun day celebrating the freshest food and the students' accomplishments. In addition, there are informative presentations about the value of eating fruits and vegetables, the work it takes to produce food, and environmental benefits of local foods. Harvest events may take place in the June, Sept., Oct. or Nov. depending upon when you're ready to harvest.

Garden to Café was born out of a partnership between the Department of Education’s Office of School Food and the New York State Agriculture and Markets Urban Food Systems Program.

We are looking for schools with active food producing gardens in which the students do hands on education to apply for the Garden to Café 2010.

If your school or one you know of would be interested in the Garden to Café program, or receiving further information about GreenThumb's work with school gardens, please contact Rasheed Hislop via e-mail at rasheed.hislop@parks.nyc.gov or by phone at (212) 788-8062.

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The School Resource Guide

School gardens have many of the same needs as community gardens, however there are many unique issues. GreenThumb has published a guide to help teachers, parents and others working with schools to establish gardens or keep them flourishing.

In the guide you will find useful resources for projects, fundraising, culinary expertise and much more.

The guide is currently available at the GreenThumb office, as well as for PDF download on our website: greenthumbnyc.org/resources.html

JUMP BACK INTO THE GROWTOGETHER T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST!

Each year, GreenThumb challenges the greening community to interpret our theme with a creative T-shirt design.

This year’s theme is... Sowing Hope Sembrando Esperanza

So pick up a pen, crayon, pencil or whatever you use to draw, and submit your pictures to the GrowTogether T-shirt contest!

The winning design will appear on the 2010 GrowTogether T-shirts, worn by hundreds of gardeners all over the city.

Any GreenThumb gardener is welcome to enter. Applicants may send in up to 3 entries.

The deadline for entry is Monday, January 11th, 2010.

Rules
• Artwork must relate to the contest theme
• Designs must be in black & white only
• Artwork must be signed
• Entries must include name, address, garden affiliation, & phone number
• Any size paper is acceptable
• If you're a minor, please include your age on the entry

Please send your entries to:
GreenThumb
Attn:T-shirt Design
49 Chambers St, Room 1020
New York, New York 10007

Or you can email them to: eric.frey@parks.nyc.gov

If you have any questions, please call (212) 788-8070.
Winter Supply Giveaway  
Saturday, December 5th  
10am - 2pm  
QUEENS

Just Food’s NYC Food & Climate Summit  
Saturday, December 12th  
MANHATTAN

Winter Wreath Making  
Tuesday, December 15th  
4:30 - 6:30pm  
BROOKLYN

Mulchfest  
Saturday, January 9th  
10am - 2pm  
CITYWIDE (see page 3 for details)

Mulchfest  
Sunday, January 10th  
10am - 2pm  
CITYWIDE (see page 3 for details)

Garden Tales  
Tuesday, January 26th  
5:30 - 7pm  
MANHATTAN

Starting Seeds in Greenhouses & Cold Frames  
Saturday, February 6th  
11am - 12:30pm  
BRONX

The Real Dirt on Community Composting  
Thursday, February 11th  
6:30 - 8:30pm  
BRONX

Getting a Group Growing  
Wednesday, February 24th  
6 - 7:30pm  
BROOKLYN

The events calendar is also online!  
All of these workshops & other great garden events throughout the city are at:  
http://greenthumbnyc.org/gardenevents.html  
If your garden group is having an event and would like to advertise it on the events calendar, let us know!
Learn about **growing food and food justice!**

Attend a City Farms workshop.
For more information:  
[www.justfood.org/cityfarms/workshops](http://www.justfood.org/cityfarms/workshops)

Or contact Owen:  
(212)645-9880 x229, owen@justfood.org

Sell your garden vegetables at a **farmers market!**

Find a City Farms Market near you:  

Call Jane for more about starting or joining markets:  
(212)645-9880 x228, jane@justfood.org

**Just Food** is a NYC based non-profit working to grow fresh, locally-grown food in the neighborhoods of NYC.

208 E. 51st St. 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
(212)645-9880  [www.justfood.org](http://www.justfood.org)

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**Bronx Master Composter Certificate Program**  
From the Bronx Green-Up

**Applications due February 20, 2010**

This comprehensive “train-the-trainer” course is designed to promote the practice of composting in homes, schools, and community gardens in the Bronx.

The program is held at The New York Botanical Garden in the spring and consists of:

- Six Tuesday evening classes
- Two Saturday field trips
- 30 hours of Bronx-based volunteer outreach service in compost education and promotion.

Course materials fee is $40; limited scholarships are available.

For an application and course details, contact the Bronx Compost Project at 718.817.8543 or bronxgreenup@nybg.org or visit [www.nyc compost.org/program/master.html](http://www.nyc compost.org/program/master.html) for information on the program in all five boroughs.

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**How does your community garden reduce global warming?**

Attend Just Food’s  
**NYC Food and Climate Summit: Creating a Platform for Change!**

**When:** Saturday, December 12, 2009  
**Where:** New York University, Kimmel Center  
**Contact:** For more details, visit [www.justfood.org](http://www.justfood.org) or contact Nadia Johnson at nadia@justfood.org or (212)645-9880 x237.

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Former Director of GreenThumb Jane Weissman has recently published a new book with Janet Braun-Renitz called *On the Wall: Four Decades of Community Murals in New York City*, which looks at the diverse and powerful history of murals throughout New York City, many of which can be found in community gardens.  
(University, Press of Mississippi, [www.upress.state.ms.us/books/1123](http://www.upress.state.ms.us/books/1123))

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**2009 GreenThumb Harvest Fair at the Garden of Happiness, Bronx, NY.**  
Photo by Malcolm Pinckney
In 2008, we had 49 workshops with more than 3,000 attendees.

**Do you have any suggestions for a new workshop?**

**Would your garden like to host an event or workshop?**

**Do you want to lead a workshop?**

Let us know! We’re always looking ahead for new programming.

Call our main office at (212) 788-8070

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**Saving Seeds** For those who wonder, “How can I make sure my seeds are fresh, and my vegetables will be just as healthy and delicious next year as they were this year?” To help us answer that question, Just Food Trainer, Fareed Anderson-Bayeh held a workshop and demonstration at McKinley’s Children’s Garden on how to properly remove, dry and store common seeds for peppers, tomato, corn, sunflowers and beans for the next planting season. By saving and replanting seeds, gardeners are more likely to get similar results the next season, help maintain local biodiversity, and will also save money by not having to buy seeds!