



NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT (NYRP) carries out founder Bette Midler's dream of a cleaner, more beautiful New York City one block at a time. NYRP restores and revitalizes underserved parks, community gardens and open spaces throughout New York City's five boroughs.

# GOODdirt

NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 2008

## DEAR FRIENDS,

If there is one thing I miss out in Las Vegas—it's TREEEEEEES. Don't get me wrong, the desert has its charms, but I'm always eager to get back to the green of New York City. Who would have ever thought our concrete jungle could become a green destination? Well it has, and it only continues to grow greener and greener. We're very proud and excited to be a part of the greening ecolution happening throughout our great city.

As spring pushes new leaves out above our heads, everyone at NYRP is working dilligently to put new trees into the ground. MillionTreesNYC, our ten-year, tree-planting initiative with the NYC Parks Department, has to date planted more than 80,000 trees with the help of students, community members and corporate sponsors.

On Earth Day, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and David Rockefeller made a combined contribution of \$10 million to MillionTreesNYC—an extraordinarily generous gift by two New Yorkers who have shown, through their example, the effect individuals can have on the well-being of our city. In these challenging economic times, it is essential that individuals and corporations equipped with the necessary resources step up to the plate to help us realize our goal of a greener, more sustainable New York City.

But just as important is the collective strength gained from all New Yorkers digging in and contributing to MillionTreesNYC. Consider this: if every New Yorker donated just \$2 to MillionTreesNYC, we would be halfway to our goal. We—as New Yorkers—have extraordinary power and energy when we work collectively for a shared purpose. Together, there is nothing we can't do!

If every New Yorker invested a little time and energy in educating friends and family members about the importance of trees, participated in a volunteer tree-planting project or made a promise as a community tree steward to help a street tree thrive, then we would quickly transform our streets and neighborhoods into lush, thriving greenspaces.

This is the kind of investment that will change the landscape of our city forever—a commitment to greening and stewardship shared across communities and passed down from generation to generation. Now that's what I call a renewable resource!



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*Bette*  
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# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Going green—it's the buzz phrase on everyone's mind, especially this time of year when nature leads the way so beautifully. It is one thing to talk about going green but quite another to make a lifestyle change or contribution that creates a lasting effect on the environment.

In April—New York City's inaugural MillionTreesNYC Month—NYRP changed the landscape of several New York City neighborhoods by planting more than one thousand trees across New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) campuses, on streets and in parks throughout the City's five boroughs, all part of our MillionTreesNYC initiative. Our efforts were made possible through the generous support of MillionTreesNYC Month presenting sponsor BNP Paribas and lead sponsors The Home Depot Foundation and Toyota.

In addition to MillionTreesNYC, NYRP is also committed to steadily transforming our 57 community gardens into village greens. These restored gardens not only beautify neighborhoods, but they also foster community pride and give New Yorkers shared spaces to celebrate this city's incredible diversity. In this issue of *Good Dirt*, you'll read about two such NYRP community gardens—the Garden of Hope and Toyota Children's Learning Garden.

NYRP community gardens are not just about creating something pretty or a great design for design's sake. All of that is a backdrop for the more important transformation that occurs in these neighborhoods. We see how our restored gardens bring communities together, providing an intersection for all residents—including the elderly, parents with young children, teenagers and many more. These healthy, invigorated gardens have something for everyone. Whether its film screenings in the summer, environmental education activities for youth, vegetable gardening for green thumbs or simply a nearby cool spot to enjoy the beauty of nature, there are countless ways New Yorkers can benefit from our newly revitalized, green oases.

We have more community garden restorations underway, others in the planning stages and thousands more trees to plant. To be honest, I'm not always sure how we pull it off, except to say that we are making extremely efficient, full and creative use of our limited resources as a nonprofit organization. Every member of the NYRP staff has pitched in and literally gotten their hands dirty by clearing trash and cleaning green-spaces, planting trees and doing whatever else has been asked of them in our ongoing mission to green New York City. I am honored to work with such a dedicated and hard-working team.

I urge you to join us in creating a greener, healthier New York City by becoming an NYRP member, participating in the newly launched NYRP Volunteer Corps or visiting [www.milliontreesnyc.org](http://www.milliontreesnyc.org) to learn more about tree-planting opportunities and workshops available to all New Yorkers. However you choose to go green—be sure to make it count.

Drew Becher, NYRP Executive Director

**ON THE COVER:** (Clockwise from left) Student at Nature Mania in Swindler Cove Park; Hancock Block Association President Marlene Marshalleck, designer Ellie Cullman and NYRP Founder Bette Midler at the Garden of Hope.

GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE!  
NYRP is proud to be a member of



American  
Community  
Gardening  
Association





# NEW YORK RESTORATION PROJECT SITES

PARKS

COMMUNITY GARDENS

MAJOR PROJECTS



- 1** FORT TRYON PARK  
NEW LEAF  
ANNE LOFTUS PLAYGROUND
- 2** SHERMAN CREEK
- 3** SWINDLER COVE PARK  
RILEY-LEVIN CHILDREN'S GARDEN  
PETER JAY SHARP BOATHOUSE
- 4** FORT WASHINGTON PARK
- 5** HIGHBRIDGE PARK
- 6** ROBERTO CLEMENTE STATE PARK
- 7** BRIDGE PARK

BETTE MIDLER FOUNDED the nonprofit New York Restoration Project (NYRP) in 1995 to carry out her dream of a cleaner, more beautiful New York. NYRP reclaims, restores and develops under-resourced parks, community gardens and open spaces throughout New York City, primarily in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. NYRP invests in the communities it serves by providing ongoing maintenance and environmental education and recreation programs.

## NYRP MAJOR PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Swindler Cove Park
- Riley-Levin Children's Garden
- Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse
- Fort Tryon Park / New Leaf Restaurant & Bar
- Highbridge Park
- Roberto Clemente State Park
- Bridge Park
- 24 community gardens in Brooklyn
- 18 community gardens in the Bronx
- 17 community gardens in Manhattan
- 4 community gardens in Queens
- 1 community garden in Staten Island
- Environmental Education and Recreation Programs

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO MAJOR PARK SITES

- 1** Fort Tryon Park & New Leaf: Take M4 bus to last stop (Fort Tryon Park—The Cloisters), or take A train to 190th Street.
- 2 3 4** SHERMAN CREEK / Swindler Cove & Highbridge Parks: Take 1 train to Dyckman Street, turn right on Dyckman and walk 1/5 mile to intersection of 10th Ave. and Harlem River Drive. Continue south on Harlem River Drive—Swindler Cove Park is on your left and lower Highbridge Park is on your right. For upper Highbridge Park, take M101 bus along St. Nicholas Ave. and exit around 189th Street.
- 5** Fort Washington Park: Take 1, 9 or C train to 168th Street or M4 bus to 165th Street; walk west on 165th to the park.
- 6 7** Roberto Clemente State Park and Bridge Park, Bronx: Take Bx40 or Bx42 bus.

Go to [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info) for subway and bus maps.

## IN THE GARDENS: GARDEN OF HOPE OPENS IN BROOKLYN

After two years of planning, fundraising and designing, NYRP's Garden of Hope in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, celebrated its grand opening on May 6 on a beautiful spring day. NYRP Founder Bette Midler hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony, joined by Hancock Block Association President Marlene Marshall, NYRP staff and Ellie Cullman, the garden's creator.

"In what was once an empty lot on a street of handsome brownstones, we created a new, cohesive and multipurpose space to be actively used by the community," said Cullman, the renowned interior designer of Cullman & Kravis who spearheaded the project. "Designing, funding and restoring the Garden of Hope has been an incredibly meaningful experience for me. I wanted to create a permanent memorial to my late business partner and beloved friend, Hedi Kravis." A native Brooklynite, Cullman

said her work with the Garden of Hope was also significant as both Hedi and she were born and raised in the area. Cullman was introduced to NYRP by Paige Rense, editor-in-chief of *Architectural Digest*, who hosted a meeting of designers and architects to showcase the exciting design opportunities in NYRP's community gardens.

Eagerly supported by the neighborhood, the Garden of Hope is a lovely spot for community gatherings and weddings and a strong contender for this summer's Greenest Block in Brooklyn competition. Wrapped in espaliered euonymus and featuring boxwoods and sky pencil holly in the front, the garden creates three distinct zones: a quiet area with benches, an open area for children to play and a gazebo area with a table and chairs for small gatherings. The garden's elegant design includes an artful front gate; Peruvian travertine paving; gray, cedar benches; pergola, planters; two sheds; and a concrete-ball sculpture to accent the back of the garden.

"The iconography of the garden celebrates the geometry of the circle and the square, the most basic and universal vocabulary of forms," said Cullman, whose work

in the garden will be featured in an upcoming issue of *Architectural Digest*. "Designing this garden was a challenge, but thanks to the contributions of Alyssa Miller and David Korins, we were able to achieve an attractive and extremely functional design. I called on Hedi's many friends, who generously supported the funding of this project."

The garden opening was a lovely opportunity for Ellie, Bette, Marlene and Georgina, Hedi Kravis' daughter, to demonstrate the significance of the Garden of Hope. Guests enjoyed a delicious backyard barbecue lunch by Glorious Foods and music by jazz harpist Paul Thureen and bassist Andrew St. Aubin. An open-house weekend followed to welcome the neighborhood to this beautiful, new community greenspace. 🍷



NYRP's Garden of Hope, a beautiful, new village green in Brooklyn.



Ellie Cullman, Garden of Hope designer, and Bette.



May 6 opening of the Garden of Hope in Bedford-Stuyvesant.

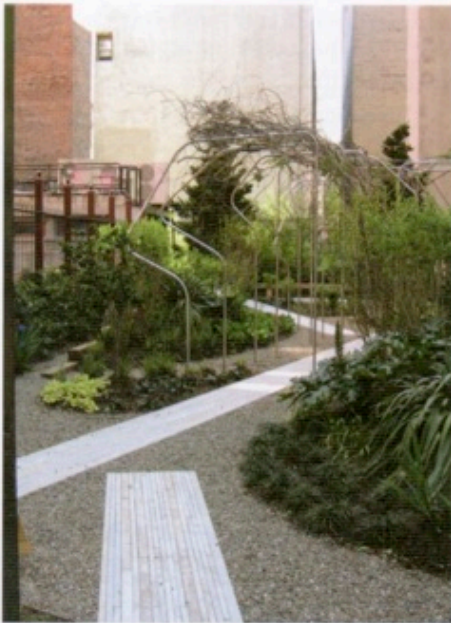


Bette with NYRP staff and AmeriCorps volunteers in front of the Garden of Hope.

# TOYOTA CHILDREN'S LEARNING GARDEN OPENS IN EAST VILLAGE

To celebrate its 7th Annual Spring Picnic on May 19, New York Restoration Project (NYRP) chose a very special, newly restored community greenspace—The Toyota Children's Learning Garden, located on 11th Street in Manhattan's East Village.

Toyota, a lead sponsor of Million-TreesNYC, provided generous funding to NYRP to transform this site into an outdoor classroom—where schoolchildren will experience hands-on activities that explore this unique patch of green, one of few in the community.



Michael Van Valkenburgh's innovative design.

The 1,600-square-foot garden was designed by renowned landscape architect Michael Van Valkenburgh, whose firm MVVA is designing Brooklyn Bridge Park. The front of the space features a sloped, "upland" habitat garden. Moving through the site on a reclaimed, white-marble walkway under a lush, kiwi vine—original to the garden and growing over a stainless-steel arbor crafted by Metal Dimensions in Brooklyn—visitors pass an acidic-soil garden and a woodland garden.

Plant varieties featured in the garden include ferns, hostas, bear's britches (acanthus) and other perennials. At the back of the space, there's a wetland "bog" habitat with bamboo that is slowly and naturally fed by rain barrels harvesting water from the neighboring rooftop. NYRP has planted large specimen trees in the garden, including a 22-foot Japanese cedar and four Hinoki cypress, where birds are already nesting. Among other artistic features, three types of surfacing—marble, washed pea gravel and mulch—create textures that stimulate the senses.

Hardwood benches built from slabs of native black locust were crafted by artisan Hector Ducci. These beautiful art objects feature an ancient construction technique called mortise and tenon that uses wooden pegs instead of hardware. The garden also features a lot-wide tree pit on the sidewalk in front that has been planted with a green wall of hornbeam trees—this serves as a



Toyota's generous funding creates an outdoor classroom with varying habitats.

bioswale to decrease stormwater going into the City's sewer system. NYRP will utilize this innovative strategy in more community garden restorations in the future.

Toyota's gift has not only made the \$300,000 restoration of this community gem possible, but also provides an endowment that will enable NYRP educators to reach out to the more than 50 elementary and secondary schools in close proximity—including the Children's Workshop School, M361, located directly behind the garden—ensuring that the Toyota Children's Learning Garden remains busy and green for years to come. 🌱



**Decorating Master Class:**  
**The Cullman & Kravis Way**  
Ellie Cullman  
224 pages, 2008, Abrams

Renowned New York City interior designer, Ellie Cullman is the gifted creator and innovator behind NYRP's newly opened Garden of Hope in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn. A Brooklyn native, Ellie has just

released *Decorating Master Class*, a comprehensive, hands-on guide to interior design gleaned from the work of her firm Cullman & Kravis, founded in the early 1980s with her late best friend and fellow Brooklynite, Hedi Kravis. Co-written with colleague Tracey Pruzan, this beautifully illustrated guide presents a wide range of design strategies that incorporate architecture, art and antiques into living spaces—meeting the

style, comfort and functional needs of contemporary lifestyles. The book also covers many different types of projects and is laid out clearly with illustrated explanations, problem-solving tips and guidance on textiles, wall- and floor coverings and much more. Cullman's work has been featured often in *Architectural Digest*, and she lectures widely on interior design. 🌱

# NATURE MANIA AT SWINDLER COVE PARK



Educational fun at Nature Mania: Erik Callender presents an alligator and snakes; Kids enjoy Talons – A Birds of Prey Experience; Kids make and sail paper boats at Jonathan's Pond.

**M**aking the most of this year's spring break, NYRP presented Nature Mania for New York City school kids at Swindler Cove Park, from April 21 to 25. This weeklong series of intense connections with nature drew a total of 323 kids—grades 2 through 8—from nearby Dyckman Houses, Children's Aid Society, Harlem Children's Zone and other organizations. Created to engage and teach children more about their urban environment, Nature Mania was broken up into five, different green-themed days—each one with its own educational topic and interactive projects designed to get kids more involved in the world around them.

Monday's theme, "The Art of Nature," had students roving Swindler Cove Park to


create art that described the park's many habitats and ecosystems. Educators from the Museum of Modern Art, NYRP and high school mentors led the kids in art-making activities with a natural palette, including chlorophyll and vegetable juices, and a photo scavenger hunt in neighboring Highbridge Park.

Tuesday, the students got deep into the "Nature of Animals." NYRP Educator Dennis Rosario, a graduate student in Entomology from NYU, led a bug hunt in Highbridge Park. At Swindler Cove, students took binoculars and studied birds or investigated the ducks, sunfish and bumblebees of Jonathan's Pond. The Reptile Guy, Erik Callender of Edventures, wowed kids with an alligator, boa constrictor and other snakes they could hold and study up-close.

and with strong pitching arms, they distributed them throughout the park.

"Nautical Nature" on Thursday taught kids that water is the source of life. As part of this program, students investigated Harlem River wildlife seining at Bette's Beach, conducted water-quality tests and had a paper-boat-making contest at Jonathan's Pond. In addition to individualized activities, each day also featured learning stations that students rotated through on an hourly basis to learn about and engage with the urban environment and its inhabitants.

Nature Mania concluded on Friday with a celebration entitled "Yeah! Nature Day," where all the kids were sworn in as Nature Maniacs and collected signatures on their official T-shirts from the new friends acquired throughout the week. Along with a cookout, the kids also enjoyed Talons—A Birds of Prey Experience, led by Lorrie Schumacher and Talon Skye. Their flock of hawks, owls and falcons demonstrated flight and feeding patterns...mmm, mice are tasty!

The goal of Nature Mania was to put a new spin on Earth Month by introducing kids to the direct connections they can make with the outdoors to celebrate nature in their neighborhoods 365 days a year. In celebration of the success of NYRP's inaugural Nature Mania, kids will return to Swindler Cove Park with their parents on June 7 for free family portraits in nature. 



NYRP Educator Omari Washington leads kids in a Nature Mania activity.

## AKIIMA PRICE – CHIEF OF EDUCATION &amp; PROGRAMMING

Part from being warm, creative and a dynamo of inspiring energy, Akiima Price, NYRP's new chief of education and programming, has a keen insight into the minds and needs of urban youth. With her wealth of experience, she's guiding NYRP toward a whole new model of environmental educational programming—nature for urban kids.

Price hails from Washington, D.C., but she got her first taste of environmental education way out West. While an undergraduate at the University of Maryland, she spent summers in Nevada at the Lake Mead National Recreation Area and worked with urban youth from Las Vegas. In turn, the park asked her to develop curricula and join them as a U.S. Park Ranger.

"Youth hunger for role models and take them where they can find them, good or bad," said Price. Growing up in low-income areas of the nation's capital, Price credits her father as a strong force in her life. "He modeled love, kindness and a strong work ethic. I grew up with a sense of self that allowed me to walk away from negative stuff," said Price.

Inspired to be a positive force for youth and the environment, Price has worked with the Anacostia Watershed Society, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Discovery Creek Children's Museum, The Nature Conservancy and Earth Conservation Corps. Using creative language and interactive nature games, Price makes kids comfortable with new, outdoor activities. Through



Akiima Price (r.) shares her knowledge (and a millipede) with students.

her programs and innovative ways of talking about the environment, she makes nature hip—something city kids can relate to and engage in—while also creating a new approach to environmental education.


"For many urban youth, the outside doesn't always represent a safe place," said Price. "If these kids can laugh and feel safe outside and reconnect to their instinctive wonder and curiosity in nature, while being led by someone who looks like them, it can have a deep impact."

To facilitate environmental education among New York City's urban youth, NYRP will launch Nature in My Neighborhood in fall 2008—an easy-to-use curricula for Swindler Cove Park, NYRP community gardens, public schoolyards and playgrounds. These activities include schoolyard surveys, watershed walks and restoration tutorials to help classes think about and plan for greenspaces in their schoolyards. Programming includes pre- and post-

activities that are easily incorporated by teachers.

When kids come to Swindler Cove Park, NYRP educators lead sensory hikes and other activities that make tangible and creative use of the outdoors. In additional after-school programs, kids have an opportunity to work on their homework with the aid of high school student volunteers, who in turn learn mentoring skills. "Our programs teach teamwork and give kids concrete roles to play," said Price. "Undercover, though, we're promoting self-esteem and conflict-resolution skills."

Additionally, in NYRP's community gardens, Price and NYRP Community Outreach Manager Angela Michie are developing programs for single moms and other residents. "Not everyone in the community has a green thumb, but we want everyone to feel like the community gardens welcome them and have something for them to do and enjoy," said Price.

With this in mind, Price has created NYRP Garden Games for kids and families. "Go Dig!," "Dr. Dirt" and "Plant Power Dice Game" are just a few of the colorful and wildly creative games designed to help community residents explore NYRP gardens, while also providing family members time to learn about and engage in nature together. "Teaching your child is very empowering; the games also serve as a motivation or reward for positive behavior," said Price. "They're just another tool to create a positive connection with nature." 

## LOOK WHAT WE FOUND!

Since late February, this young harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*) has been spotted sunning at the Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse on the Harlem River. Other recent seal sightings have been reported at Red Hook, Brooklyn, and on the Hudson River at Riverside Park—demonstrating an improvement in New York City's water quality and the success of the 1972 Marine Mammal Protection Act, which established a Federal responsibility to conserve and protect marine mammals. Harbor seals can live up to 35 years (females live longer than males), and each has a unique fur pattern.



## IN THE COMMUNITY:

# OUR FAVE IN THE NABE – MOTT HAVEN, SOUTH BRONX

### BRUCKNER BAR & GRILL

1 Bruckner Boulevard  
(at 3rd Avenue)

Tucked into a secluded corner of Mott Haven at the end of Bruckner Boulevard, the Bruckner Bar & Grill is a tasty treat in the rapidly changing South Bronx (“SoBro”). This once-tough, industrial neighborhood framed by the Major Deegan Expressway, Harlem River and the 3rd Avenue Bridge now features antique shops, the Clock Tower lofts, a garden center and the newly opened Bronx Museum Project Space. At Bruckner Bar & Grill, you’re likely to dine alongside construction workers and artists, from a moderately priced menu of sandwiches, salads, dinner entrees and weekend brunch. The large, casual space also serves the neighborhood’s growing, creative community by hosting poetry readings, live music and art exhibits. For more information, visit [www.brucknerbar.com](http://www.brucknerbar.com).



Bruckner Bar & Grill is located near NYRP's Bronx Community and Cultural Garden on 143rd Street at Willis Avenue. 🌿

### LONDON CALLING — GUERRILLA GARDENERS COMMIT RANDOM ACTS OF GREENNESS

Richard Reynolds just wanted to add a little green around his London tower block apartment, but his stealth gardening under the cloak of night has spawned a movement of guerrilla gardeners worldwide. Whether in Brussels or San Diego, grassroots groups gather after dark at traffic triangles or on bleak strips of rights of way to plant flowers and perennial greenery and weed and water neglected green-spaces. As an international community, the guerrilla gardeners communicate and organize on [www.guerrillagardening.org](http://www.guerrillagardening.org), created by Reynolds, a 30-year-old Vicar's son with a day job in advertising. On May 1, many in the movement celebrated the 2nd International Sunflower Guerrilla Day by “seed bombing” public spaces with sunflowers in cities around the world. Since forming in 2006, Reynolds’ local London group has grown to more than a thousand strong, and he’s collected his experiences and tips for urban gardeners in his colorful book, *On Guerrilla Gardening: A Handbook for Gardening Without Boundaries*. As Richard says, “Let’s fight the filth with forks and flowers.”

## GARDENERS’ GATHERING— CENTRAL PARK ARSENAL



On March 29, NYRP held its first annual “Gardeners’ Gathering” at the Central Park Arsenal. The event brought together for the first time nearly 100 New York City residents who actively use NYRP’s 57 community gardens across the City’s five boroughs. Neighbors met neighbors, as well as NYRP’s horticulture and education staff, who discussed garden guidelines and how to set

up Google groups for each site. The networking event included lunch by Whole Foods and a seed giveaway. NYRP also announced two new summer initiatives: garden composting demonstration sites and vegetable and flower seedling giveaways in each borough (see [www.nyrp.org](http://www.nyrp.org) for details). Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers from Columbia Community Outreach (CCO), a student-run, community service organization at Columbia University.





## NYRP VOLUNTEER CORPS LAUNCHES AT SWINDLER COVE PARK

On April 23, NYRP launched its new Volunteer Corps, a program to organize individual volunteers into a unified force for greening. The inaugural group included students from Harlem Children's Zone and Stuyserve Community Service Group and individual New Yorkers eager to pitch in and help. The Corps planted nine, large red oaks along 10th Avenue and in front of NYRP's Environmental Education field office at Swindler Cove Park in Upper Manhattan. The project was conducted in agreement with the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT), which recently replaced the sidewalk but left ample space for NYRP to create a block-long planting bed. The NYRP Volunteer Corps will have a number of organized events during the year, each designed for a team of 30 volunteers. Corps participants receive an NYRP Volunteer Corps T-shirt and membership card, which earns points toward environmental-themed gifts. For more information, visit [www.nyrp.org](http://www.nyrp.org).



## THE BUDS CELEBRATE FIRST ANNIVERSARY

On Arbor Day, April 25, the Buds—NYRP's Junior Committee—celebrated its one-year anniversary with a fantastic bash at Jay-Z's 40/40 Club. More than 50 enthusiastic New Yorkers under the age of 40 celebrated a year of fun and productive greening projects and the hugely successful inaugural MillionTreesNYC Month. The fabulous night drew current and new Buds, friends and family. NYRP also debuted its "Think Globally. Plant Locally" tank top, whose proceeds support MillionTreesNYC. Call NYRP at (212) 333-2552 today to order your tank. Thanks to all the Buds for making the group's inaugural year such a success!



## HULAWEEN 2008 SAVE THE DATE!

On Friday, October 31, NYRP Founder Bette Midler will host NYRP's annual Hulaween Gala—the fall party to beat all parties! To be held at the Waldorf Astoria, this year's not-to-miss bash will honor whole-food guru and Chez Panisse founder, Alice Waters. The beyond-hilarious comedienne Kathy Griffin will serve as the night's Emcee, and top fashion designer Michael Kors will return to judge this year's over-the-top costume contest. Come join the fun and support NYRP's work to clean, green and plant trees across New York City. For Hulaween tickets, call Melissa Stone at Buckley Hall Events at (914) 579-1000 or contact Kristin Dougherty, NYRP chief development officer, at (212) 333-2552 or [kdougherty@nyrp.org](mailto:kdougherty@nyrp.org).

## A VISIT TO CHANTICLEER AND THE GARDENS OF PENNSYLVANIA

Saturday, June 14, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Escape the concrete and rush of everyday city life, and spend the day at a truly distinct, green oasis. Once the estate of Christine and Adolph Rosengarten Sr., Chanticleer was left to their son, Adolph, who opened it as a public garden in 1993. This 30-acre garden features a variety of trees, lush lawns and unique planting combinations. With thousands of bulbs carpeting the ground in the spring, orchards of flowering trees, woodland paths and homemade elements of sculptural beauty placed throughout, Chanticleer is a unique masterpiece that is sure to inspire. A nominal fee will be charged for this program to cover the cost of round-trip, coach transportation.

*Bette's Garden Club summer/fall calendar will include private tours of New York City's open spaces, art exhibits and a New York City landmark. Stay tuned!*

## THE BUDS— NYRP'S JUNIOR COMMITTEE:

### GOURMET NATURAL FOODS DINNER

Friday, August 15, 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy a night of fine dining as The Natural Gourmet Institute prepares and serves an innovative, beautifully presented and healthy four-course vegetarian meal. Founded over 30 years ago by Annemarie Colbin, The Natural Gourmet Institute was created on the premise that what we eat significantly affects our physical, mental and spiritual well-being. The Institute also offers seminars and classes, in addition to their popular Friday night dinners. Ticket price to be announced.

### CAMDEN SHARKS VS. NEWARK BEARS BASEBALL GAME

Friday, September 12

Now in their 10th season, the 2007 Atlantic League Champion Newark Bears reflect the best in minor league baseball. Come relax with The Buds at the end of a long work week with a drink, burgers and hot dogs and fireworks! Game starts at 7:05 p.m., event details to be announced.

*For more information about Bette's Garden Club and Buds membership and events, please contact Kristin Dougherty at (212) 333-2552 or [kdougherty@nyrp.org](mailto:kdougherty@nyrp.org).*