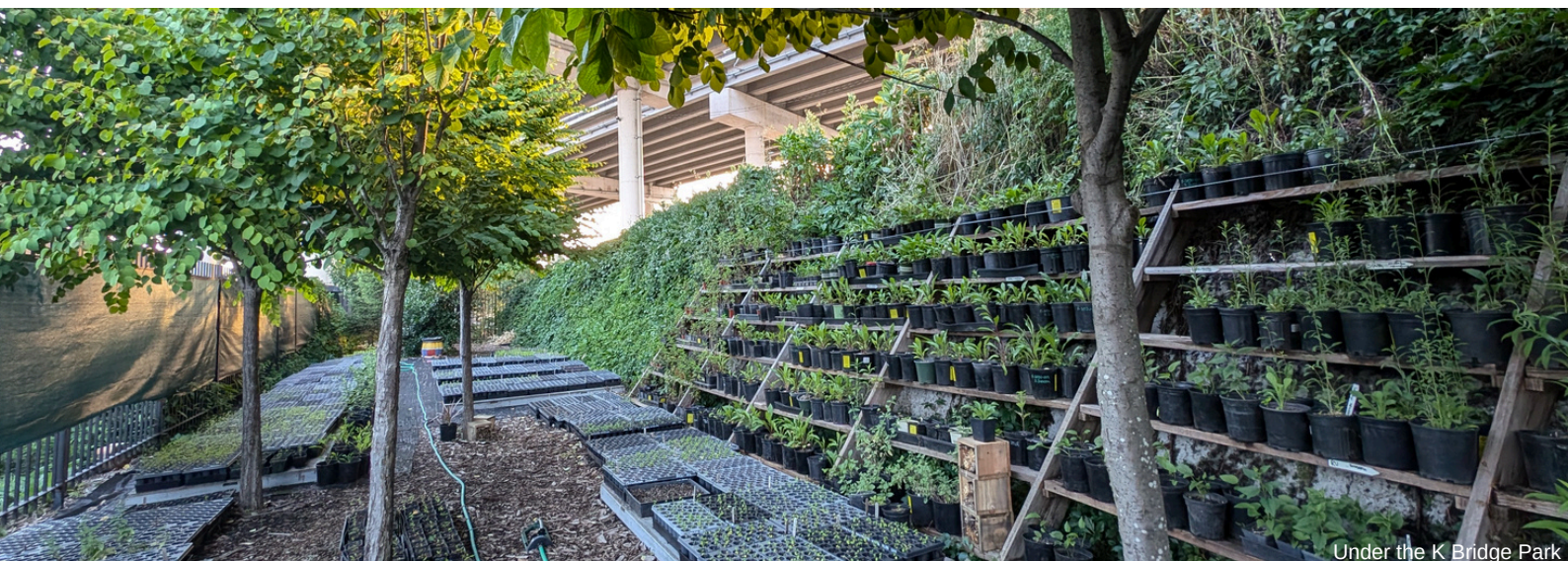


METRO HORT GROUP

An Association of Horticultural Professionals in the New York City Tri-State Region



Under the K Bridge Park

Spring and summer are always the most challenging seasons for those of us in the green industry. When the temperatures scorch, I feel my patience wilting along with our gardens. Problems can always snowball in the summer and I'm so grateful to have such an amazing network of people to connect with whenever life throws a new challenge in my perfectly laid gardening plans. This summer, I urge you to take advantage of contacts in the directory or make connections on our social channels whenever you're feeling particularly challenged. Together our members are forming an amazing supportive ecosystem- creating a beautiful, green, and healthy environment. Take a moment to enjoy the fruits of your labor. The summer heat is only temporary and soon many of us will be thinking of bulbs, spring orders, and saving the date for making fall connections. We have an exciting line of fall programs in the works — I hope to see you there!

Sincerely, *Steph*

Metro Hort Group Board President

**UPCOMING
PROGRAMS**

OPEN TO ALL

- August 20, 2024 | 4:30 - 7 PM - Summer Social at the High Line offices
 - Let's celebrate the last days of summer at the High Line! We will be meeting at the High Line Conference Room located at 820 Washington Street for networking and refreshments. Bring a friend!

FALL MEMBER PROGRAMS

- September 17, 2024 | 6 PM - September in person meeting
- October 17, 2024 | 6 PM - October in person meeting
- November 11, 2024 | 6 PM - Zoom
 - Dr Frank Rossi, *Reimagining the American Lawn: A Search for Environmental Harmony*
- December 11, 2024 | 5 PM - Holiday Potluck and Program

SPECIAL EVENT TICKET

PLANT-O-RAMA JANUARY 28, 2025!

Save the date for the most beloved event of the year! Plant-O-Rama is Metro Hort Group's annual Symposium, Trade Show & Jobs Fair for Horticulture Professionals at Brooklyn Botanic Garden. It is our largest program attracting 750 – 1000 gardeners, designers, arborists, and educators working in public parks, botanical gardens, & private Edens in the New York City Tri-State region. We are holding a snow date for January 30, 2025.

Check out the Metro Hort website in early October for program details, exhibiting opportunities, and sponsorships.

»»» FIND AN EVENT

Looking to engage more in horticulture within the community? Our community calendar has an up to date listing of all of the local horticulture happenings. The calendar includes workshops, tours, lectures, and symposia that will bring your skills to the next level. Are you hosting an event? Share your event today at events@metrohort.org for free promotion. You can also tag us on socials and we will re-share.

»»» POST A JOB OR FIND YOUR NEXT CAREER MOVE

Metro Hort's job board continues to be one of the best ways to recruit horticultural talent in the tristate area. Employers can post jobs for free on our website. You do not have to be a member to post and the posting will remain on our site for up to 3 months.

The jobs board is a great way to make your next career move with new jobs posted daily. Employers are required to include salary information and benefits so you can plan which career move is best for you.



Chanticleer



Metro Hort Group
is hiring

**PLANT-O-RAMA
EVENT MANAGER**

The Metro Hort Group Board of Directors seeks a dedicated event manager to lead and manage Plant-O-Rama, a beloved and popular annual event.

Contract Period: August 2024 - January 2025
Compensation: \$25.00 - \$50.00 per hour based on experience



➤➤➤ STRATEGIC PLANNING

This spring, the Board of Directors kicked off Metro Hort Group's first ever strategic planning process. Facilitated by a strategic planning consultant, this collaborative process is intended to set the organizational goals and strategies for the next five years—breaking out long-term and short-term goals with strategies for best practices. Focuses in the short term will include updating the organizational governance, refining Metro Hort Group's look and brand, updating the membership structure and surveying the membership.

➤➤➤ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nominations to serve on the Metro Hort Board of directors are open! Board Members serve a three-year term and are required to attend and contribute their professional expertise at board meetings, advocate, lead, and advance Metro Hort Group.

Submit a nomination by Friday, October 18, 2024.

GET INVOLVED

Metro Hort Group is a volunteer run organization. Volunteering is a great way to meet new friends and give back to the community. Volunteering can also help you learn new skills while gaining a sense of accomplishment. Anyone is welcome to volunteer but we are presently seeking those who have particular interest in digital and written communications, audio and video technology, and event management.





Hortie Hoopla



GROWING THE NEXT GENERATION

HORTIE HOOPLA

On July 17, 2024 the School of Professional Horticulture (SoPH) hosted the 2024 Hortie Hoopla - a free, full-day event for interns, seasonal employees, and aspiring horticulturists full of networking, education, and food. Metro Hort Group was proud to sponsor this amazing day in support of the next generation.

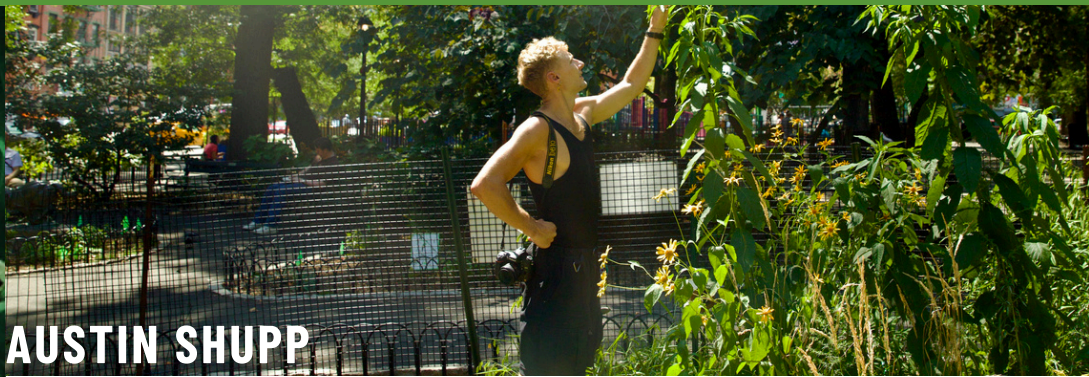
Each year SoPH welcomes guests to the New York Botanical Garden to experience insights from engaging speakers, including the 2024 Hortie Hoopla keynote speaker Jennifer Beaugrand -Founder and Executive Director of the non-profit organization, The Bronx is Blooming, and recipient of a \$5 million Urban & Community Forestry Grant from the USDA Forest Service to assist with revitalization and ecological restoration of community parks, “engaging thousands of local students, Bronx youth, and diverse community partners in tree planting and stewardship.” Jennifer was an easy match for this year’s theme of Urban Trees and Forests.

My Story Presentations included Che’Von Cooper – Bronx Green Up, Scout Kerensky-Coodley – City College of New York, Will Thomson – Trees of New York, Yuki Kaneko – The High Line, Christina Severin – Brooklyn Bridge Park. The event featured Hila the Earth: Eco-Rapper/Earth Advocate

SCHOLARS SPOTLIGHT

Metro Hort Group has an annual Professional Development Grant program which opens to members each fall. The grant can be applied to support continuing education classes and other training or opportunities relevant to urban horticulture. The grant award is up to \$1,000. Typically two grants have been awarded. In 2024, three grants were awarded to members. The grants cycle will open again to members this fall with awards being announced at Plant-O-Rama 2025.

Meet our 2024 recipients on the next page...!



AUSTIN SHUPP

"I used the grant to start a certificate program with The Native Plant Trust. So far it has been great. I've been able to take foundational courses on form, function, families, and ecology mixed with courses specific to soils, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees all focused on plants of the northeast. As someone who transitioned into horticulture it's been so beneficial to take the knowledge from the field and learn the classroom side of it."



LAWRENCE HAYWOOD

"I want to grow to take the next level in my career in horticulture. I fell in love being outside looking at plants- turning a nothing into the best looking garden and space." Lawrence is using his professional grant funds to take courses at NYBG.



SCOUT KERENSKY-COODLEY

"I applied the grant towards the cost of my Spring 2024 tuition at City College of New York, where I am pursuing a master's degree in landscape architecture. For me, this degree is a continuation of my work in horticulture, providing me with the opportunity to integrate my enthusiasm for plants with design and engineering skills. Throughout school and especially after I graduate, I plan to apply these skills locally, positively contributing to ecologically informed landscape design and management in New York City."

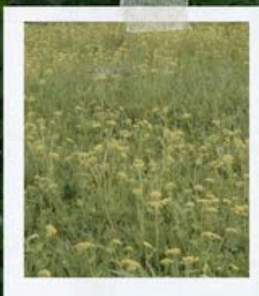
A SEASON IN REVIEW

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

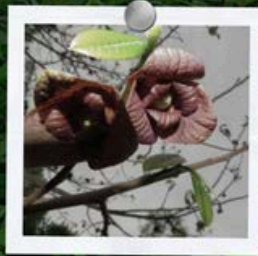
- February 22, 2024: Allyson Levy and Scott Serrano | *Low Maintenance Fruiting Plants from Around the World* (Recording Available to Members)
 - Allyson Levey and Scott Serrano spoke on Hortus Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, a level II accredited arboretum. Their book, *Cold Hardy Fruits and Nuts* features edible plants from around the world.
- March 21, 2024: *We're Growing: Voices From The Field Panel*
 - Our panel spoke on top picks for spring 2024 plantings which are listed below.
 - Rosemarie Miner, founder and Principal of ecological landscaping firm, Our Temenos.
 - Jessica Kaplan, Director of Horticulture at Riverside Park NYC
 - Sara Evans, Director of Living Collections and Curator at The Green-Wood Cemetery
 - Juan Correa, Horticulturist at Blue Dahlia Landscape + Design
- April 18, 2024: Bill Logan | *Planting and Tending the New Urban Forest* (Recording Available to Members)
 - Bill Logan spoke on the relationships between plants and people in an interesting discussion of holobiont - the word you've never heard of, but need to know.



Scutellaria incana



Zizia spp.



Asimina triloba

WE'RE GROWING
VOICES FROM
THE FIELD
SPRING PICKS



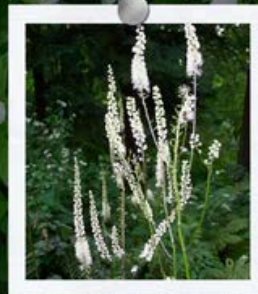
Hydrangea quercifolia



Mertensia virginica



Rhododendron
'Yaku Princess'



Cimicifuga racemosa



Sassafras albidum

FIELD TRIPS & SOCIALS

Thank you to all of our field trip hosts and attendees!

- April 30: NYBG Azalea Garden
- May 9: Spring Social Meetup
- June 1: Chanticleer and Stoneleigh
- June 18: Under the K Bridge Park
- June 22: Scott Arboretum & Private Gardens
- July 16: Rockefeller University
- July 23: Smiling Hogshead Ranch

Stay connected

