



GARDEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Richard Marotta, Ph. D., Headmaster

Volume 94 Number: XXXV

"Cultivating Success in Every Child"

Friday, May 5, 2017

Thoughts for the Week

By Richard Marotta, Ph.D., Headmaster



Some of you may know that my office has been renovated to bring it into the twenty first century. Part of this process involved my having to go through and reorganize papers and files. During this clean-up, I came across an old article that I had saved about the history of progressive education and how that movement has affected mainstream education over the past century.

Some of the impetus for the progressive movement came from John Dewey, American philosophy and educator, some from Maria Montessori and some from the nineteenth century Swiss educator, Pestalozzi. And of course, Freud's work with children and psychology opened a new pathway into understanding the mind of the child and how to relate that mind with its characteristic patterns of development to the educational system.

In "The Walden Story", the author, who is anonymous, makes a salient point at the beginning of the article. The author writes:

Once you concede that the child is not merely a lump of clay to be molded to the adult's fancy the object of education undergoes a radical change. Instead of trying to fashion a child in your own adult image the object becomes one of bringing forward this inner life of the child and redirecting it into social and creative channels.

Some of these ideas reflect our own mission at Garden School, in which we also attempt to bring "forward the inner life of the child" by encouraging and supporting each child's sense of self and awareness. Fostering self-worth touches upon the idea of the inner life of the child through its understanding, and cultivating those qualities that make that child unique. While we all share common characteristics, we also assert individual characteristics that make us who we are in our own minds as well as in the view of our culture.

Toward the end of this article, the writer makes a statement that reflects so much of modern life: "The modern school by its very premises is a safeguard of the characteristics of initiative, skepticism, and search for truth." This statement speaks to our commitment to encouraging and developing critical thinking within each of our students. Recognizing the truth, distinguishing it from falsehood, cultivating within our minds and within our society, all depend on our ability to think critically about issues and ideas. To me, this is one of the most important and necessary aspects of our program.

Critical thinking holds the key to personal success and growth and sustains our culture and our democracy. It is more than a progressive idea; it is a cultural necessity.





DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Wednesday, March 1: 2017-2018 Financial Aid Applications Deadline!**
All FA applications should be turned into the Business Office by this time. Please contact Ms. Maisano at mmaisano@gardenschool.org if you have any questions or need more time
- **Friday, May 12:** Talent Show
- **Friday, May 12:** International Night
- **Monday, May 15:** Honor Society Induction Ceremony
- **Tuesday, May 16:** Music Recital
- **Thursday, May 18:** Walk-A-Thon
- **Friday, May 19:** Caumsett State Park Trip & Sleepover for Grade 4
- **Friday, May 19:** Brooklyn Museum Trip for Grades 2 & 3
- **Monday, May 22:** Dance Recital
- **Tuesday, May 23:** PTA Elections
- **Tuesday, May, 23 &**
- **Thursday, May 25:** SAT Exams for Grades 4 to 6
- **Thursday, May 25:** Senior Prom at The St. Regis
- **Monday, May 29:** School Closed for Memorial Day
- **Tuesday, May 30:** Senior Dinner
- **Wednesday, May 31:** Spring Fling Show

March of Dimes

Thank you so much for helping me raise over \$1200! With 1 in 10 babies born prematurely in our country, the March of Dimes mission is more urgent than ever. Together, we are supporting the lifesaving research and programs that help more moms have healthy, full-term pregnancies. That's something we both can be proud of!

Thanks again for giving more babies a chance at starting life stronger and healthier. I couldn't do it without you.

Sincerely,
Carmela Knopf



Garden School Parent Association

By: **Maria D'Amore (PTA Secretary)**

Dear Garden Parents,

*The Annual Garden School Walk-A-Thon is May 18th, less than 2 weeks away! Please **complete and return the permission forms** on the following pages and give your support to upgrading the look and environment of Garden!*

*Please **consider walking in and especially volunteering** for this amazing fun-filled event! Even bigger & better than last year - we will need all the help we can get...*

Honor that special someone, **note your family name or advertise your business!** Time is running out to place your info on this year's Walkathon t-shirt! Deadline is Monday!!! Questions? Please Ask! **Please e-mail me back or text me at 718-517-0769 with any questions or concerns- or if you can volunteer!**





WALK WITH US ON MAY 18TH
TO GIVE GARDEN A NEW FACE...
FROM TOP TO BOTTOM!!!



Garden's tradition of walking a mile in our neighborhood, improvement of our school continues- with a full day of walking, fun, food and excitement! Mark your calendars!

On the agenda in our *top to bottom* facelift and improvements:

- Upgrade and renovate the Cupola
- Installation of New Energy Efficient Windows to lower costs
- Installation of a New Environmentally-Friendly Water Filtration System - a Huge Benefit for our Children!
- Installation of Recycle Bins to Further our Focus on the Environment

Last year's Walkathon proceeds provided us with a brand new library. Let's keep that momentum going!!
Walk with Garden and FOR Garden!



This year's will be even bigger and better than Walkathon 2016...



GARDEN SCHOOL WALK-A-THON

PERMISSION SLIP & PAYMENT FORM



PERMISSION & PAYMENT (PRINT, COMPLETE AND SEND WITH PAYMENT)

I, _____, give my child(ren) _____ in grade(s) _____, permission to participate in the **WALK-A-THON** on Thursday, May 18th.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

So that your child can enjoy all the festivities & proudly wear a Garden T-Shirt, please enclose:

- One Child: \$40 { }
- Each Additional Child: \$20 { }

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

Please mark with an {x} those you will generously be providing!

- Family Name on T-Shirt: \$100 { }

Name on Shirt: _____

- Business or Corporate Sponsorship: \$250/\$500/\$1000 { }

Corporate Name on Shirt: _____ or email graphics to: PTA@GardenSchool.org

Help the PTA defray costs by sponsoring a Walk-A-Thon activity! (Your support will be recognized for sponsoring the blow-ups):

1. Wacky 40 Foot Obstacle Course: \$500 { }
2. Crayon Combo: \$250 { }
3. Adrenaline Rush Obstacle Course: \$500 { }
4. 5 Game Sports Arena: \$500 { }

Garden Student Council PROJECT H2O-GO Water Bottle: \$20 { } Choose: Silver { } Blue { }

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____ Thank you for your support!!!

Please attach/enclose cash/check made out to: GARDEN SCHOOL PTA.



Support Garden Student Council's PROJECT H2O-GO!

PROBLEM: Every day at Garden School, too many plastic bottles are used and thrown away, trashing our environment for hundreds of years.

SOLUTION: Reusable bottles and Hydration Stations installed at Garden School!

Help us make this a reality by buying a Garden School Water Bottle! These double-insulated thermal bottles will keep liquids hot or cold for up to 12 hours! The screw tops will ensure NO MESSY LEAKS! The Hydration Stations will be installed to both filter and refrigerate water to fill the reusable bottles again and again!



College Guidance

By: Lisa Sohmer, Director of College Counseling

Congratulations to the Class of 2017 on your college acceptances. All of us at Garden School are proud of you.

Class of 2017 College Acceptances



Bard College
Barnard College
Baruch College *
Becker College
Bethesda Christian University *
Binghamton University *
Boston College
Brandeis University *
Brooklyn College
Brown University *
Bryn Mawr College
Cal State Fullerton
City College *
City Tech College
College of Charleston
College of Staten Island
George Washington University
Hobart & William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Hofstra University – Honors
Hunter College
Ithaca College
John Jay College
La Guardia CC
Lehman College
Macaulay Honors College – City *
Marist College
Mt. Holyoke College

New York Institute of Technology
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
Penn State University – Abington *
Queens College *
Queensboro CC *
Rosemont College
Rutgers University
Sarah Lawrence College
Smith College
Springfield College
St. John's University *
Stony Brook University *
SUNY Canton *
SUNY New Paltz *
SUNY Oswego
Syracuse University
Temple University
The College of New Jersey
The New School
University at Albany
University of Central Florida
University of Connecticut - Honors
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
University of Rhode Island *
University of Rochester *
Villanova University

* denotes enrollment



INTERNATIONAL NIGHT



Taste food from all around the globe!

Featuring food from The Americas, Europe, Asia and so much more!

When: Friday, May 12th 4pm-7pm

Where: School Gymnasium

Admission: \$10 per Person, \$25 for a family of three

International Night is when the Garden Community comes together to celebrate and enjoy food from different cultures!

Proceeds from the evening go to Oxfam, a nonprofit charity organization fighting to end poverty around the globe.

Food for International Night is provided by the Garden School Community!

If you can bring food from your culture to support International Night and Oxfam, please complete the slip below and bring it to the Main Office to put it in Mr. Melara's mailbox. Thank you!

International Night Food Donation Slip to Support Oxfam

Name/Family Name: _____

Name of Food: _____

Does this food contain ingredients that could cause allergies? (Please Specify) _____

Full Ingredients: _____



Garden Spring Athletics Schedules

Garden School Boys Varsity Baseball 2017

Boys Varsity are in the Playoffs!

PLAYOFF Opponent	Day	Date	Time	Location
BWL	Mon	5/8	4:00	Randall's Island 20

Show up and support Griffin Baseball!

Or, watch the cast here: [5/8/17 Garden School at Brooklyn Friends School](#)



Garden School Varsity Tennis Schedule 2017

Day	Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Wed	5/17	FASNY	USTA	4:00
Mon	5/22	York Prep	USTA	4:00
Mon 5/19/2017		ISAL "Post Season ALL-DAY Tournament"	USTA	10AM-5PM

Pre-K For All Science

By: Mrs. Rodriguez & Ms. Cevallos (PKFA Teachers Room 5)

During our month of May our students will be learning about "Plants". In this unit, children are able to develop a concept and awareness of what plants need to grow. Throughout the unit children will identify seeds, roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and fruit. They will plant seeds and observe as they start growing. Children will learn that plants are living things that need sun, water, air, and nutrients to grow.

Finally, they will learn how much we depend upon plants by categorizing common plant products found in our community and in their homes.

Early Childhood World Language, Mandarin

By: Kelly Jie (Mandarin Teacher)

In this unit, early childhood children will gain the ability to recognize multiple types of foods and drinks through pictures and use this vocabulary in expressions of identification, description, and general communication, such as personal preference of choice of foods and drinks. Initially, students will interpret and react to pictures and stories. Then, students will interact with their teacher and classmates by identifying foods, asking for a variety of foods and drinks, and describing the foods. At the end the unit, children will be able to describe what they love to eat and drinks in Chinese.

Foods

 salad Shālā 沙拉	 bread Miànbāo 面包	 spaghetti Yídáli miàn 意大利面	 soup Tāng 汤
 chicken Jīròu 鸡肉	 French fries Zhà shǔ tiáo 炸薯条	 cheeseburger Zhīshì bǎo 芝士堡	 hot dog Règǒu 热狗
 pizza Pīzà 披萨	 sandwich Sānmíngzhì 三明治	 taco Yùmǐ juǎn 玉米卷	 cereal Màipiàn zhōu 麦片粥



Grades 1 Social Studies

By: Kristen Ahfelht (First Grade Teacher)

In social studies this year, the first graders have covered topics such as rules, leaders, history of our government, symbols of our country, cultures and celebrations.

This week, we went to the Brooklyn Museum with Mrs. Prio, where our students were inspired and excited to learn about history and art beyond the walls of our classroom! The children were able to experience life in the 1800's through the Schenck House exhibit. They questioned what children would play or watch without television or video games in those times. They also made connections through paintings and sculptures. Among the larger than life historical people were George Washington and Robert Fulton. (An interesting fact I connected to Robert Fulton's Statue was that Fulton Street in Manhattan was named after this ferry boat engineer.)

The children asked thoughtful questions and learned so much about the history of our city. The whole trip was a wonderfully engaging and impacting experience for us all!





Grades 2 Social Studies

By: *Paula James (Second Grade Teacher, Grades 1-3, Dean)*

The second grade students have been working on map skills in their Social Studies classes. We know that the ability to "picture the locations of objects, their shape, and their relationship to other objects" is a valuable skill. "Maps help children figure out their place in the world".

The students connected their Language Arts project, of composing an original fairy tale (that is being printed in a book), with mapping. Each child was asked to create a map of the fairy tale land from their story. The maps had to include a compass rose, a scale, and at least one land feature. The students were also given a task to select a character from their story, and give that character directions to get to a specific location on the map. Many students decided to have their main character escape from a villain that was chasing them. It was great to see their enthusiasm as they made a path for a great escape.



Once the maps and directions were completed, the students then put all the direction pages together, and were challenged to figure out which directions went with which map. We used distances and land features to match them up. Next, we worked together to test the directions and see if they would get us to our destination. It was a success! The students were very creative with their directions and enjoyed the challenge of testing the accuracy of the maps. Please stop by and check out our creations in room five and on the bulletin board right outside the room!

Grades 3 Social Studies

By: *Joanne Vogel (Reading Specialist for Grades 1-3)*

Grade Three has just completed an historical fiction story entitled "Boom Town" by Sonia Levitin. The students have been discussing the fictional character, Amanda, who changed the life of her family and helped a new town to expand with her ideas! While contemplating the California Gold Rush era, students brainstormed the settlers' personal characteristics of perseverance, determination, ingenuity, and self-sufficiency. And then on to today's world of the Jackson Heights community, with compare and contrast discussions.

Looking into the past, through stories, sepia pictures, and personal family anecdotes opens the world to our children, with opportunities for self-reflection and seeds for character development. Spend some time looking through family albums and mementos with your child. Describe personal family triumphs and misfortunes, and lessons learned as a means of societal and individual growth.

Grades 4-6 Physical Education

By: *Flance Dervishi (Athletics Program, Director)*

Fourth and fifth grade has begun a new unit of basketball. This version of basketball is slightly modified compared to the sixth grade basketball unit. As always, fourth and fifth grade start off class with a proper stretch and tag game. Students are learning proper offensive coverage along with defensive strategy. This may be the last unit for these two classes.

Sixth grade class also started a new unit of basketball. Advancing off fourth and fifth grade basketball, the sixth grade is playing full court basketball games. They are learning about all the different techniques and skills for how to play basketball; types of passes, how to strategize moves, shooting methods and how to get past defenders. Garden sixth



grader Isabel W. says "All the students are participating in different ways. Beyond the players, some students referee, some keep score, and one student even operates the scoreboard in the middle of the court." Ariel Marvin exclaims "I really enjoy basketball. It's really fun. I love being part of a team."

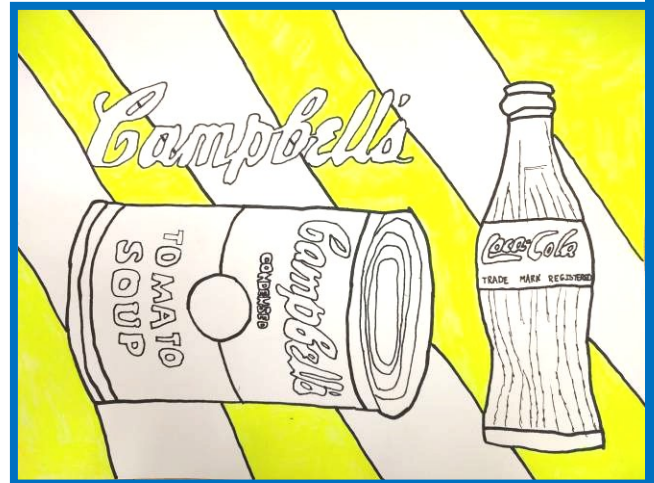
The sixth grade is excited about how their basketball unit is going, and some hope to join the seventh and eighth grade basketball team next year!

Grades 7 and 8 Fine Arts - Art

By: Tiina Prio (Art Teacher, Fine Arts Department, Chair)

The Seventh and Eighth grade artists are hard at work creating their Andy Warhol art project. Their job is to draw symbols relating to Warhol and incorporate the three art principles of unity, emphasis and proportion. The media being used are pencil, marker and acrylic paint. The skills learned are drawing, tracing and painting. The challenge is to incorporate the principles of art mentioned above and creating a work of art to be proud of.

To begin the project the group watched a BBC Documentary on Warhol's life, answering questions during the video to focus on certain important aspects which steered Andy to fame. Many obstacles stood in Warhol's way as he honed his skills and fought his way to the top. Andy Warhol's strong work ethic and strength in the face of challenges helped him achieve his dream.



Andy once said, "They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself." Words to live by. So the artists are working hard to fulfill the requirements of this project and the results are wonderful!

Grades 7 and 8 Fine Arts - Music

By: Tom Heineman (Music Teacher)

After a brief discussion of the American dream, Seventh Graders learned about a person who embodied the idea: James Brown. Overcoming abject poverty, racism, and substantial personal tragedies and obstacles, James Brown was an individual too driven to be denied. His significance as a musician and bandleader, transforming music on a global level and altering expectations for performance, activist, and community leader cannot be overstated. Seventh grade students sat with mouths agape when witnessing some of his moves on stage. Both James Browns' music and story are justly inspirational.

Eighth Graders completed a unit concerning the music of West Africa during the week and began one on Latin American music. They are discovering some of the aspects of the music that connect these two traditions: the brief, repetitive patterns played by instruments, the way in which these patterns are interwoven and combined to create a substantive whole, the collective vocals followed by a soloist's musical reply, the unique drums and percussion instruments that help give the music its character. Nearly all of the instruments have typical patterns they play depending on the musical style.





The Eighth Grade class will have an opportunity to hear several amazing musicians and bandleaders including New York- born and raised Conga player, Ray Barretto. Barretto had been performing and leading bands for decades come the late 1970s, already achieving legendary status. While sitting in his parked car, another driver slammed into his automobile. He suffered multiple injuries, including ones to his hand and arm that disenabled him from playing. After a recovery that spanned nearly two years, Barretto released a comeback album entitled Rican/Struction. On the cover, a group of miniature people are seen reconstructing Barretto's right hand atop a conga head, evoking the Lilliputians from Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels. One track on the album that the Eighth graders will hear is entitled 'Tumbao Africano;' Tumbao refers to a ubiquitous repeated pattern played by the bass in Latin music, and Africano reflects the song's use of Yoruban Bata drums from West Africa.



Grade 9 English

By: Jim Pigman (English Teacher, English Department, Chair)

April is the month of Shakespeare's birthday and National Poetry Month. We celebrate Poetry by holding our annual Poetry Recitation Day. This year it will be on May 16th, Tuesday, at Poets House in Manhattan. Thirty selected Garden students will recite their selected poems in the courtyard auditorium as the student body from grades 9 through 12 cheer them on pick their own favorites. Judges this year will be Marcia Elkind, English teacher Emeritus and Marina Yoffe, Garden 2002, Cornell, 2004.

Performances are judged on the understanding of the poem, expressiveness, and articulation. First Prize is the traditional KITCHEN SINK, a twelve-scoop concoction donated by Jahn's Restaurant on 37th Avenue. The SINK is designed as a feast for the winner and six of his/her friends crowded around the table. Gianni's Pizza donates a \$25 gift certificate for Second Prize. Third Prize is "All You Can Eat" for two in the William Poll Refectory.

Following the recitations, students will walk over to Brookfield Place and enjoy lunch in the assorted restaurants and food stands there. We will return to school via subway by 3 PM.

"Poetry doesn't belong to those who write it; it belongs to those who read it."----Pablo Neruda

Grade 10 English

By: Amira Soifer (English Teacher)

In both the 10th grade English classes, students have continued with a close and critical reading of "The Catcher In The Rye." Throughout our exploration of "The Catcher In The Rye," the classes have been analyzing and examining the character of Holden Caulfield, including preparing for and participating in a debate about the (quite valid) question of Holden's maturity.

Over the last two weeks (including into May, which a student pointed out sagely is national "Mental Health Awareness Month"), students have been participating in a project in small groups in which they diagnose Holden Caulfield. Through in class discussions and presentations as well as their own research, students have developed a strong background knowledge in several psychological conditions. Students have applied their strong background knowledge to diagnosing Holden Caulfield-- presenting quotes and some creative writing to reinforce their "diagnoses." Students will be



presenting their findings and analyses tomorrow in class, including through PowerPoint presentations, posters, essays, and even a script. I look forward to seeing the 10th graders' creativity continue to shine during these presentations and as we wrap up our unit on "The Catcher In The Rye."

Grade 11 and 12 Mathematics

By: Lucien Gherghi (Chair, Math Department)

In 11th grade (honors) we work on solving systems of linear equations using augmented matrix. We also study operations with matrices including finding the inverse of a matrix and the determinant of a square matrix. We found the role of the determinant in deciding if a matrix is invertible. Cramer's rule was also used when possible.

In AP calculus we found the formula for the derivative of the inverse of an invertible function and applied that to find the derivative of logarithmic functions and inverse trigonometric functions. Besides the derivative we work on integrals involving these functions.

Grade 11 and 12 Mathematics

By: Sonia Ambarsom (Math Faculty)

The eleventh graders are continuing their study of trigonometry. They are now specifically, solving trigonometric equations using the algebraic methods of factoring, elimination. Sometimes there may be only one solution, sometimes, two, and, at times, infinitely many. They must decide based on the function and value given for that particular function, then reflect upon its position on the unit circle.

The twelfth graders are coding a Blackjack game based on JavaScript. When we, as logical beings, play Blackjack, we take for granted the complexity of the steps of the game. For example, the students must receive a card then determine its value, whether numeric or a face card. Many programming concepts are embedded in a simple card game including conditionals, loops, etc.

English Language Academy

By: Mr. Roselli (ELA Instructor)

Learning about the history of the United States, our troop of international students joined the first graders at the Brooklyn Museum this week.

On a guided tour called "From Colony to Nation" we analyzed a portrait of George Washington and noticed its symbolism. Tenth grader Ziping observed that the first president of the United States carries a saber that symbolizes power. Doan, an eighth grader, noticed the quill on the desk that symbolizes the law. We all noticed the small image of the American flag included on the sofa's upholstery. Jingkan, a tenth grader, observed it represents the young nation.



As a teacher, I value making concepts come alive through art. Art connects image to thought. In this way, the trip to the museum was a success! Thanks Ms. Prio, Ms. Stiga, and Ms. A for inviting us to travel, eat, and look at art together!



TAKE THE PLUNGE!

GARDEN SCHOOL SUMMER CAMP!



ARTS • ACADEMICS • SPORTS • TECHNOLOGY

- ✓ Swimming Pool + Lessons
- ✓ Flexible Scheduling
- ✓ Door to Door Transport
- ✓ Special Events
- ✓ Lunch & Snack Included
- ✓ Drop In Available

Nursery-13 Years Old • June 26 to August 18



Half/Full Days • 7:30am-6pm Available

Enroll for just one or all eight weeks at a discount

**33-16 79th St., Jackson Heights, NY 11372
(718) 335-6363 • gardenschool.org**

More information and registration forms are available online on [Garden School's Summer Camp Page](#).

See Registration Form on next page. >>>



Garden School Summer Camp Registration

Student Name: _____ Gender: _____ DOB: _____

Grade in Sept. 2016: _____ School: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

Parent Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____

Circle your week of interest @ \$600 per week:

Week 1 June 26

Week 2 July 3 (4 days)

Week 3 July 10

Week 4 July 17

Week 5 July 24

Week 6 July 31

Week 7 August 7

Week 8 August 14

Choose your program:

RATE

• Nursery (Ages 1.5 to 3) # of Days _____ AM/PM Full \$ _____

• Junior (Ages 3-4) # of Days _____ AM/PM Full \$ _____

• Intermediate (Ages 5-6) # of Days _____ AM/PM Full \$ _____

• FAST Specialty (Ages 7 to 13)

IMPORTANT: PLEASE CHOOSE AND CIRCLE YOUR SPECIALTY BELOW

Fine Arts Academics Sports

Technology

Second Child - Deduct 10% Less Discount \$ _____

Total # of weeks: _____ x \$600 = \$ _____ +

Add transportation option (circle one/two way below) x \$125 per week \$ _____

Round Trip Bus / One way Bus-AM or PM

= \$ _____

TOTAL FEE:

Father's Name & Business No _____ () _____

A non-refundable deposit of \$600 secures a place for your child. The balance of the total summer fee must be paid in full by May 27th, 2017. Payment can be made by cash, check, MasterCard, Visa or American Express.

Parent Signature: _____

How did you hear about our Program? _____

Scan/send to: campdirector@gardenschool.org Fax to: (718) 565-1169 Apply online:

www.gardenschool.org/summer