

How to Find a Secret Garden

Films, yoga, and celebrity bees in places you'd never expect.



Movie Night at 6/15 Green
(Photo: Efran John Gonzalez)

Salute the Sun in Bed-Stuy: Every Saturday at 10 a.m. in the [Garden of Hope](#), instructor Margherita Tisato leads a free hour-long Vinyasa class for all levels on this Zen'd-out and manicured patio and lawn (the garden was designed by Ellie Cullman, who counts many Upper East Side apartments in her portfolio). Mats are provided.

392 Hancock St., Bedford-Stuyvesant.

Watch *The Corpse Vanishes* on 16-mm.: [6/15 Green](#), in Park Slope, hosts two film nights a season (*The Corpse Vanishes* on June 20 and *The Wizard of Oz* on August 22). Local families bring folding chairs and potluck salads and gather under the willow tree to watch movies on 16-mm. curated by film archivist and neighborhood film-night hero “Movie Mike.”

Sixth Ave. and 15th St., Park Slope; [615green.org](#).

Hail the Queen Beeyoncé: In the back corner of Clifton Place Memorial Garden and Park, two bees named Beeyoncé and Bee Arthur reign over a couple of dresser-shaped hives and colonies. On weekends from 2 to 4 p.m., beekeeper Kellen Henry is ready to answer all your questions about her veiled getup and why she's pumping smoke into the hives. At the end of the season, volunteers help harvest tiny Mason jars of hyperlocal Bed-Stuy honey.

1031–39 Bedford Ave., Bedford-Stuyvesant; [cliftonplacememorialgardenpk.com](#).

Lose at Dominoes: [El Cataño Community Garden](#) is where you'll find the most dedicated dominoes players in the city—or in Manhattan, at least, if their rival players at [Willis Avenue Community Garden](#) in the Bronx have anything to say about it. On every day but Monday, this sliver of concrete and Weber grills fills with the din of tiles flipping. Start as a spectator, then call dibs on next game—anyone who can keep up with the speed can join in (though Spanish speakers have a leg up), and the seasoned players might even teach beginners a thing or two.

171 E. 110th St.

Talk Books Under a Trellis: One of the most beautiful features of one of the East Village's most beautiful gardens, 6BC Botanical Garden, is the dreamy, wisteria-covered library with gardening books and French doors opening onto a patio. Now the library has an outdoor book club to match. Anyone who wants to join can meet on the second Wednesday of each month to chat about that month's pick, which will be voted on.

Sixth St. nr. Ave. B; 6bc.org.

Finagle Your Way Into the Gramercy Park of Queens: Clay tennis courts, a ball field, shady picnic knolls with grills—everything you may have heard about Sunnyside Gardens Park is true. The members-only park, open to just 500 families in the same planned community that Jonathan Lethem's dissidents called home, lets in the riffraff just a handful of times a year. Your only chance this summer to glimpse it is during its version of Shakespeare in the Park: *The Merchant of Venice* on July 31 and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on August 7 are totally free.

48-21 39th Ave.; sunnysidegardenspark.org.