



CAMDEN CITY GARDEN CLUB, INC.

Operator

Camden Children's Garden



* 3 Riverside Drive * Camden, NJ 08103 * Tel: (856) 365-8733 * Fax: (856) 365-9750 *
* www.camdenchildrengarden.org * info.camdenchildrengarden.org *

From the office of: Mike Devlin

Media Contact: Tracy Tomchik ~ Cell: 215-219-4803

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Seeds of Summer 2010 @ the Camden Children's Garden

CAMDEN, N. J. (July 21, 2010) Despite the cut in state funding to the Camden City Garden Club (CCGC), operator of the Camden Children's Garden (CCG), we are growing green and in sustainable activities! Please see the exciting recent happenings and upcoming activities to come in the Summer 2010!

Please see below for more information about these exciting Summer Events!

- [Family Festivals at the Camden Children's Garden](#)
- [Garden Featured in "A White House Garden Cookbook"](#)
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UPCOMING SUMMER HAPPENINGS?

Family Festivals at the Camden Children's Garden

The Camden Children's Garden welcomes families from all over to enjoy Family Festivals on the Camden Waterfront, NJ. In addition to all of the fun activities, many surrounding food, gardening and environmental education, festivals include crafts, themed educational activities, storybook readings, and often live entertainment. Most festivals also offer a planting activity, where even the littlest of hands can dig in the dirt to plant a take home food potted plant/seed, many to later grow food. Each festival hosts a concession stand offering a Farm Stand where visitors can purchase produce and fresh baked goods from Duffield's Farm of South Jersey. Upcoming summer events include:

July 24 & 25 - **Storybook Celebration**

August 14 & 15 - **Peach, Princess & Pirate Party**

August 28 & 29 - **Chocolate & Vanilla Festival**

Family Festivals are held every 2nd and 4th Weekend of the month April-November. Download a full list of [2010 Family Festivals](#) at the Camden Children's Garden.

Garden Featured in "A White House Garden Cookbook"

The Camden Children's Garden is included in "A WHITE HOUSE GARDEN COOKBOOK". The Red Rock Press presents, as part of a collaboration of community gardening organizations all over the nation, *A White House Garden Cook Book*. The author Clara Silverstein has captured the mood and interest of American families at just the right time when they are becoming more concerned with healthy eating. The Camden City Garden Club submitted several recipes from members and the book will include a few that feature the Camden Children's Garden.

Orders for the cookbook are coming in from all over the world to learn the great secrets of eating from the garden - the JFK Library in Boston the FDR Library and Museum in Hyde Park, Monticello, and Mount Vernon will also be selling the books. Half of the profit from the cookbook sales made through the Children's Garden will be donated to keeping the Garden operating during these difficult times. The books' retail value of the cookbook is \$24.95; however, you can order a cookbook at the discounted price of \$20.00 by ordering using the attached form and by picking up your book from the Camden Children's Garden. To order today, please download/complete the attached form with scanned copy from the book of the Garden's feature in the book. Please contact the Camden Children's Garden with questions at 856-365-8733 or at vfrick@camdenchildrensgarden.org.

NEW GARDEN EXHIBIT ~ FOOD: From FARM to Family

In summer 2010, a new exhibit was installed at the Camden Children's Garden! Enter the Potting Shed to find a new exhibit, *Food: From Farm to Family*. First, children find rows of food "growing" in the *Farm Area*. Children can tend the farm and use a wheelbarrow to take the food to the *Farm Market Area*, where they can separate the food into baskets. Then, kids can pretend grocery shop as they make a healthy selection and place items into a shopping cart. The cart can be wheeled home to the child-sized kitchen, where it can be "prepared" for the family and set on a table in the *Family Area*. Nearby, take a look at the new USDA Food Pyramid to see if your family has prepared a healthy meal. Please DO try this at home with homegrown or store-bought local produce!

WHAT HAS HAPPENED THIS SUMMER?

Jack Johnson Visit and Concert Collaboration

The Camden City Garden Club and Camden Children's Garden is teaming up with [Jack Johnson](#) on his 2010 World Tour and *All At Once*. Jack Johnson is a Hawaiian resident, singer-songwriter, musician, filmmaker and surfer known for his work in the soft rock and acoustic genres. He is also an avid eco-friend and urges his fan base to evoke change through community service. *All At Once* is a social action network connecting nonprofits with people who want to become active in their local and world community. *All At Once* comes to life every Jack Johnson concert in the Village Green, a collection of interactive booths where you can get educated, get inspired, and connect face-to-face with us and other local and national non-profits.

On July 11th, the Camden Children's Garden was honored by the visit of some very important guests - the star Jack Johnson, his wife Kim, 3 children and staff came to enjoy the garden's educational exhibits and learn more about the impact that the Camden City Garden Club has on the City of Camden. Jack Johnson was especially interested in hearing about our sustainable food systems made possible by our Community Gardening Program and other eco-education offered to Camden residents. Later, the Garden staff (Mike, Val and Tracy) went over to the Jack Johnson Concert to participate in the Village Green and further promote our programs. The Camden Children's Garden was the featured non-profit at the event and on the AllAtOnce.org. Concert-goers were given a passport to have stamped by us for either donating or signing up for our mailing list, or doing other eco-friendly actions, like carpooling, recycling

or refilling their water bottle with FREE water offered at the concert. The incentive for the passport activity was to have a chance to enter to win the "Best Seat In the House" where the winner would watch the concert from the side of the stage. Through this activity, we were able to collect over 100 names for our mailing raise almost \$200 to be matched by Johnson. The concert also included a slide show featuring the Children's Garden/Camden City Garden Club's programs and other area non-profits, and Jack even said a big "Thank You" to the non-profits during the show! It was an amazing day for green living and the Children's Garden. Moreover, Jack Johnson's new charity is matching every dollar contributed to SAVE THE CAMDEN CHILDREN'S GARDEN at the show or directly to our organization between now and October 15 (Up to \$2500). Please make a contribution today and your money will be doubled by the Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation! Please see photos below from the Jack Johnson visit and concert.

Rockstar Jack Johnson Invites Camden Children's Garden to promote our community service the July 11th Concert in Camden, NJ. Johnson's Incentive Contest urged concert-goers to visit the local non-profits presenting at the concert and perform 3 actions to enter for a chance to win a seat backstage to watch the concert! See AllAtOnce.org for info.



Rockstar Jack Johnson is promoting eco-friendly actions by promoting free watering stations and allowing Camden Concert-goers to bring in their own water bottles and refill with free water during the show on July 11, 2010.

Rockstar Jack Johnson and his family visited their Camden Concert's Featured Non-Profit, the Camden Children's Garden on July 11th, 2010 before the show. Here Eco-advocate, and world-famous singer, Jack Johnson poses with Camden Children's Garden Founders Mike Devlin and Valerie Frick.



Rockstar Jack Johnson and his family visited their Camden Concert's Featured Non-Profit, the Camden Children's Garden on July 11th, 2010 before the show. Here Eco-advocate, and world-famous singer, Jack Johnson poses with Camden Children's Garden Public Relations Consultant Tracy Tomchik.

Thank You to Fundraiser Sponsors, Guests, Honorees and Donors

On behalf of the Camden City Garden Club and the Camden Children's Garden, we would like to thank those who supported our Fifth Annual Fundraiser Garden Party and Champions of Children Awards. Your tremendous support was much appreciated for this year's fundraiser theme, *Growing Green*, as we continue our work for in community gardening in Camden, job-training program for youth from Camden, providing Grow Lab programs in the Camden schools and expanding the Camden Children's Garden. The Garden Party Fundraiser took place on Friday, June 12th, and, despite the economy, the event was a success for the fourth consecutive year. Almost 200 guests joined us as we honored the 2010 Champions of Children Awardees. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the Garden, the eclectic entertainment, the exciting auctions, and once again happily celebrated an enchanted evening with our staff. All enjoyed the fresh cuisine from the Tortilla Press, music by Ong's Hat String Band and horticultural demonstrations by Simple and Create-A-Scene Designs. Along with providing a special night for fundraiser attendees, your support will help us continue and enhance our important work. Donors have been thanked by an official letter to be received via mail.

Flower Show Exhibit Installed at the Campbell Soup Company

The Campbell Soup Foundation sponsored the CCGC/CCG 2010 Philadelphia International Flower Show Exhibit, *Soup & Salad: From Camden to the World*. This past March at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, the Camden City Garden Club delighted visitors with our whimsical display demonstrated a children's vegetable garden and imaginatively addressed food security and sustainability. The display educated Flower Show visitors about how easy it can be to grow their own produce and motivate families to prepare fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables to enjoy together. "Salad" represented the Camden City Garden Club's Programs and "Soup" represented a longtime friend and sponsor, Camden's own

Campbell Soup Company.

Campbell partnered in 2009 with the Future Farmers of America in the *Campbell's Help Grow Your Soup!* campaign, through which Campbell's Tomato Seeds are distributed across the nation so that people can grow their own specialty Campbell's Tomatoes. Campbell also made a difference at home by sponsoring the CCGC/CCG Youth Program, Flower Show, and partnered to build community gardens in Camden using Campbell Seeds. The 2010 Flower Show exhibit was installed in June 2010 at Campbell's newly expanded World Headquarters in Camden, NJ.

Food Forum in Camden, NJ

The Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems Funders (SAFSF) 2010 Forum was held in Philadelphia, PA June 15-18. The organization also made a trip to Camden to visit the Camden Children's Garden, Camden City Garden Club's Community Gardens throughout city and the Cathedral Kitchen, which is our partner and Camden's premier green soup kitchen.

New Jersey State Funding Status

Although, the Garden is growing elsewhere, Governor Christie's Administration has cut the Camden Children's Garden completely from the 2010 and next year's budget. Due to this funding lack, the Garden was forced to cut their operating hours down to three days a week: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (Thursday by group reservation). See the recent *Philadelphia Inquirer* article about the [Camden Children's Garden Funding](#) for additional information. The Garden is asking our supporters to please contribute whatever possible to the Camden Children's Garden to keep us open.

Camden City Garden Club & Camden Children's Garden

The Camden City Garden Club, Inc. is an organization that has been greening, beautifying and helping to feed the people of Camden, NJ for 26 years. The Club is a non-profit (501)(c)(3) environmental and educational organization. Originally formed for the purpose of assisting Camden City residents with community gardening and beautification, the Club has expanded to serve 85 families, 34 community gardens, and 24 church gardens today! Through the **Community Gardening and Greening Program**, Club is responsible for the creation and cultivation of scores of community gardens around the City of Camden. In addition, the organization soon expanded to include a variety of community-enhancing programs, such as **GrowLab** which has been offering hands-on nutrition and horticulture education to Camden students in their classrooms for 21 years. The **Youth Employment and Training Program**, which has just completed its 16th successful year, gives Camden's at-risk teens the opportunity to earn an income while working to help their community. The Youth Program gives local teens job experience working with the community through the Club's various programs. The Club has also operated the South Jersey favorite oasis for families, the **Camden Children's Garden**.

The Camden Children's Garden, now in its 11th year, is designed for children and families. Operated by the Camden City Garden Club, Inc., this is a special place to explore and discover the natural world. This 4.5-acre garden features a variety of themed educational exhibits for children for creative and imaginative play, such as the Dinosaur Garden, a Giant Picnic Garden, Storybook Gardens, Red Oak Run and Tree House, Cityscapes Garden and more! Enjoy great indoor attractions including the Philadelphia Eagles Four Seasons Butterfly House, Plaza de Aibonito, our Puerto Rican tropical greenhouse exhibit, and Benjamin Franklin's Secret Garden and Workshop. Enjoy the carousel, Arrow River Express Train Ride, and Spring Butterfly Ride for a modest fee. Operating hours have been cut due to the state budget cut and are now April - November, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10:00am - 5:00 pm (Thursday by group reservation). Admission is \$6 for adults and \$5 for children (age 3 -11). Children ages 2 and under enjoy the Garden free of charge. The Garden is closed in January and February. Family Festivals are family-oriented special events held at the Garden on the second and fourth weekends of the month, from April through November.

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