**Save the date: garden educator symposium in Ithaca, N.Y. July 11-14**

ITHACA, N.Y. Mark your calendar. Cornell University’s Garden-Based Learning Program will host the American Horticultural Society’s (AHS) 26th annual National Children & Youth Garden Symposium in Ithaca, N.Y. July 11 to 14, 2018.

This professional development event will bring together hundreds of educators, garden designers, community leaders, youth program coordinators, and others from across the country who are dedicated to connecting children and youth to the natural world. Attendees will:

* Explore topics ranging from curriculum to program management to garden design and maintenance during four dynamic days of educational sessions, field trips, and expert keynote presentations.
* Experience Central New York's abundant natural beauty and the world-renowned facilities of Cornell University. Visit the award-winning [Ithaca Children’s Garden](https://ithacachildrensgarden.org/), [Cornell Botanic Gardens](http://www.cornellbotanicgardens.org/), Finger Lakes parks and wineries, [the Cornell Lab of Ornithology](http://www.birds.cornell.edu/Page.aspx?pid=1478), [the Johnson Museum’s](https://museum.cornell.edu/) botanical art collection and more.
* Share ideas, success stories, and inspiration with like-minded colleagues from across the nation.

"Attending my first NCYGS in 2013 was a pivotal point in my career,” says Fiona Doherty, Cornell University Extension Support Specialist. “The symposium expanded my network, provided me with fresh perspectives and fueled my passion for youth engagement and garden-based education. Each symposium I have attended since has continued to inspire and energize me and provide me with new skills and ideas.”

Online [registration](http://ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/youth-gardening/ncygs/2018-registration-rates) will open in April and includes discounts for AHS members, students and presenters. Contact organizers for volunteer and [sponsorship](http://ahsgardening.org/uploads/pdfs/2018-NCYGS_sponsorship_opportunities.pdf) opportunities.

More program details and online registration will be available at: [www.AHSgardening.org/NCYGS](http://www.AHSgardening.org/NCYGS)

E-mail: [education@ahsgardening.org](mailto:education@ahsgardening.org)

Call: (703) 768-5700

Follow AHS on Twitter: @AHS\_NCYGS (#ncygs18)

