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# Drumthwacket Adorned for the 2015 Holiday Season

Monday, November 23, 2015 Tags: [Other](#)

## Holidays at Drumthwacket Continues 25-Year Tradition

Trenton, NJ – First Lady Mary Pat Christie announced that this year’s festive display, *The Holidays at Drumthwacket*, takes a nostalgic look back at the more than 25-year tradition of decorating the Governor’s Official residence in Princeton. The Drumthwacket Foundation is continuing the annual custom by partnering with the Garden Club of New Jersey and Garden Club of America to adorn the residence for the holidays.

“The holiday season at Drumthwacket is a special tradition that the Governor and I look forward to every December,” said First Lady Mary Pat Christie. “Each year, I am continually amazed by the creative artistry of our Garden Club members who transform the residence into a breathtaking holiday wonderland. The Governor and I are again pleased to welcome visitors to tour the historic residence to celebrate Drumthwacket dressed for the holidays.”

This year, the Garden Clubs will decorate the residence using organic arrangements to festively adorn each room. In addition to the Garden Club of New Jersey, other participating garden clubs include Bayhead, Keyport, Mountain Lakes and Warren and for the first time, the Garden Club of America as well as the garden clubs of Morristown and Somerset Hills.

Self-guided Open House tours are available on select days in December. While reservations are required, admission and parking on site are free of charge. To make your tour arrangements, visit <http://www.drumthwacket.org/visit/reservation-form>. In addition, Drumthwacket is wheelchair accessible.

Open House tours are available on these days:

- Wednesday, December 2, 2015 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM
- Sunday, December 6, 2015 11:00 AM– 1:30 PM
- Wednesday, December 9, 2015 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM
- Sunday, December 13, 2015 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM
- Wednesday, December 16, 2015 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

*Holidays at Drumthwacket* includes the following display presentations located throughout the first floor of the residence:

**Foyer (Decorated by the Garden Club of Somerset Hills):** The Garden Club of Somerset Hills celebrates the Garden Club of America - supported “pollinator movement” in their entry hall design. Ornamental honeybees, monarch butterflies, cardinals, and Downy woodpeckers alight on garlands covering stair banisters and lintels, nestle in a standing Christmas tree, and provide dashes of color to a simple schema using green, white and brown.

Orchids and amaryllis massed in graceful containers along with fresh evergreens strewn with pinecones and fruit, white poinsettias, and touches of brown satin ribbon complete the elegant design.

**The Dining Room (Decorated by the Seaweeder’s Garden Club of Bay Head and Mantaloking):** The Seaweeder’s drew their inspiration from the hand-painted wall panels commissioned by the Drumthwacket Foundation in the 1980s. Focusing on the panel’s green background and the peach flower blossoms, the peach hue was darkened to a sienna/cinnamon shade in keeping with the season. With this color scheme in mind, the Seaweeder’s worked with five different evergreens and berries for the floral arrangements. Mint julep cups with boxwood topiaries are at each place setting as well as throughout the dining room. The sea-shell and pine cone ornaments on the tree are a nod to The Seaweeder’s home.

**Parlor (Decorated by the Garden Club of Morristown):** The Garden Club of Morristown created festive floral decorations for the parlor using a preponderance of natural material. A color combination of green, white and gold complement the period furniture, rugs and historic colors used throughout the c. 1835 residence. The floral decorations are positioned to accommodate holiday entertaining at Drumthwacket. The two mantles are adorned with white orchids, greens, lemon topiaries and other natural material. Smaller arrangements are placed on the lamp and side tables. The addition of graceful garden ornaments adds elegance.

**Music Room (Decorated by Tillie Emmert and the Board of the Garden Club of New Jersey):** The Executive Board of the Garden Club of New Jersey was excited to enhance the music room, Drumthwacket’s largest open

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space. Exquisite orchids set the mood for a symphony in elegance upon entering the room. Orchids line the mantelpiece complimenting orchid plants on the piano.

**Library (Decorated by the Garden Club of Mountain Lakes):** The Garden Club of Mountain Lakes is thrilled to festoon the magnificent library in traditional holiday style. The salmon, pear green, red and burgundy colors play beautifully off the stone and woodwork in this enchanting space. The three holiday trees are brimming with classic ornaments and glistening natural touches, while the soaring fireplace rings in the season with its spectacular wreath, highlighted by fresh blooms.

**Governor's Study (Decorated by the Keyport Garden Club):** Keyport Garden Club, which is situated on the Raritan Bay, has cut and dried hydrangeas and luminaria from our members' gardens, which club designers artfully turned into elegant holiday pieces. Preserved cream colored roses and orchids are interspersed throughout our arrangements to add elegance and brightness to the Governor's Study. Dogwood red twigs, also from a Keyport Garden Club member, creates a gentle flow to the arrangements. Also, the white vestibule is decorated by the club to entice visitors into the Governor's Study.

**The Residence Wreaths (Decorated by the Garden Club of Warren):** The Garden Club of Warren designed simple yet elegant wreaths to enhance the beauty of Drumthwacket and compliment the designs provided by the other participating garden clubs. The wreaths can be found on the windows throughout the various areas which the public may visit and at the entrance gate.

**The Front Portico:** The impressive 10 to 12 ft. trees and portico are festively lit for the holidays by Eclipse Events, Bernardsville, NJ.

In recognition of this year's nostalgic holiday theme, the Garden Club of New Jersey is honoring Wini Applegate of the Seaweeders Garden Club of Bay Head and Mantoloking. For over 25 years, Ms. Applegate has been a driving force, ensuring the Garden Club of New Jersey has had the privilege of showcasing the New Jersey Governor's residence.

## About the Partners

The Drumthwacket Foundation

[www.drumthwacket.org](http://www.drumthwacket.org)

Founded in 1982, the Drumthwacket Foundation is a non-partisan, non-profit organization. Its mission is to increase a sense of pride in New Jersey by preserving the Drumthwacket property and broadening access, furthering awareness and support of the Foundation and its initiatives and expanding civic understanding amongst New Jerseyans.

## Garden Club of New Jersey

[www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com](http://www.gardenclubofnewjersey.com)

The Garden Club of New Jersey (GCNJ) founded in 1925, serves over 4700 members in 109 clubs throughout the state. Landscape Design, Gardening Study and Flower Show Schools are offered for educational development. Local and state projects are encouraged to meet the diverse interests of the GCNJ membership. The GCNJ provides education, resources and many opportunities for adult and youth members to expand the love of gardening and floral design and encourages active participation in civic, environmental and historic preservation projects to protect the past for the future.

## Garden Club of America

[www.gcamerica.org](http://www.gcamerica.org)

The Garden Club of America is a national leader in the fields of horticulture, conservation, and civic improvement. Founded in 1913, the Garden Club of America is a volunteer nonprofit organization comprised of 200 member clubs and approximately 18,000 club members throughout the country. GCA members passionately devote their energies and expertise to a wide array of projects in their communities and across the nation. The Garden Club of America promotes a greater understanding of the interdependence of horticulture, environmental protection, and community improvement,

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