New York Botanical Garden – Kusama: Cosmic Nature
Tuesday, June 2\textsuperscript{nd}

\textbf{Please note:} We will have two pickup locations – The Springfield Museums State Street parking lot and the Springfield Jewish Community Center parking lot.

\textbf{6:45 am} – Arrive at the Museums’ State Street parking lot located directly across the street from the Springfield City Library. Park in the lot and board the bus at the curbside.

\textbf{Depart at 7 am sharp.}

OR

\textbf{7:15 am} – Meet at the Springfield JCC parking lot, located at Dickinson Street.

\textbf{Depart at 7:30 am sharp.}

\textbf{10:30 am} – Estimated arrival at the New York Botanical Garden. We will make one rest stop en route. The New York Botanical Garden is National Historic Landmark located in the Bronx, New York City. The 250-acre site's verdant landscape supports over one million living plants in extensive collections.

\textbf{11 am} – Enjoy a private, guided walking tour of the garden and entry to the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory to experience a profound, multisensory presentation of the work of the internationally celebrated Japanese artist \textbf{Yayoi Kusama}. Exclusive to NYBG, this exhibition is designed to capture and illuminate the artist’s engagement with nature throughout the changing seasons from spring into fall. There will also be works on view in the Mertz Library Building.

Kusama’s lifelong fascination with the natural world will be revealed in depth with multiple installations, including her signature mirrored environments and organic forms, polka-dotted sculptures of colossal flora, mesmerizing nature-based paintings, biomorphic collages, works on paper, botanical sketches, as well as a spectacular horticultural showcase in the Conservatory.

Lunch is on our own at one of the Botanical Garden restaurant/cafes or food trucks on the grounds. Or, bring a lunch to eat at one of the designated picnic areas.

\textbf{Dining Options:}

\textbf{Pine Tree Café} – A family-friendly menu ranges from artisanal panini, Neapolitan-style pizza, and signature salads, to sweet treats and snacks. $$

\textbf{The Hudson Garden Grill} – Provides an intimate sit-down dining space in a picturesque garden setting with a full dining menu. Reservations recommended. Telephone: 646-627-7711 or reserve on Open Table.

\textbf{3 pm} – Meet the bus and depart for Springfield with an estimated return by 6 pm.

\textbf{What to bring:} Dress in layers for variable temperatures on the bus and outside. Wear proper shoes and a hat for walking in the gardens. Bottled water is provided for the return home.