

*UT* Gardens and Mark Fuhrman have partnered to bring East Tennessee a holiday event that will delight children of all ages and will be an area favorite for years to come. Holiday Express at the UT Gardens features model trains nestled in a covered 4,000-square-foot miniature landscape, an exciting and welcome addition to Knoxville's community holiday events from Thanksgiving to New Year's.



*Media Sponsors*



**UT Gardens**

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THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE   
INSTITUTE of AGRICULTURE



*November 26, 2008  
through  
January 4, 2009*

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE   
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# HOLIDAY EXPRESS

at the UT Gardens

*H*oliday Express at the UT Gardens is a 4,000-square-foot garden railway display nestled in the beauty of the fall and winter UT Gardens. Featuring garden-scale model trains running through a perfectly proportioned miniature landscape, complete with rivers and waterfalls and decorated for the holiday season, the Holiday Express depicts the railroad history of the East Tennessee area over the period of the 1930s to present day. Visitors of all ages will be mesmerized by the miniature



landscape that incorporates approximately a quarter mile of track featuring loops, tunnels, bridges, trestles and 10 different rail lines. The display contains

elaborate, three-dimensional, to-scale replicas of existing area architecture during the eras depicted. These structures are amazingly accurate in detail—so much so that visitors will recognize some of their favorite scenes from the East Tennessee landscape within the fictional town of Ravensford. Children of all ages will see the Ravenfork Lumber Company, Elmo’s Machine Shop, a water-powered grist mill, a log cabin farm scene with a cantilevered barn, and much more.

#### Directions to the UT Gardens:

From Neyland Drive turn north onto Joe Johnson Drive, and right at next light onto Chapman Drive. Visitor parking is directly across from the entrance to the UT Gardens, and is marked with signs for 2-Hr Visitor Parking.

## UT Gardens

*O*ne of the community’s finest treasures, the UT Gardens feature more than 1,000 woody plants under long-term observation and 2,000 varieties of herbaceous plants evaluated annually. Not only do the gardens function as an outdoor laboratory, but they serve as public gardens, sharing their beauty with more than 50,000 visitors per year. The gardens are planted to demonstrate each plant’s ideal use in the landscape. In this manner, visitors are not only able

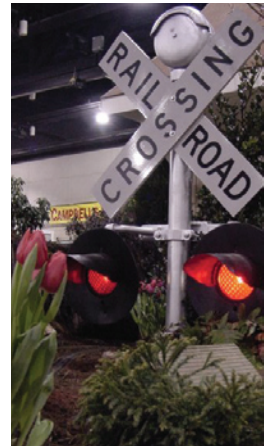


to see what plants thrive and flourish in the Tennessee climate but get ideas on garden design and how to use plants in their own landscapes and gardens as well. A teaching and research facility, the UT Gardens were established in 1983 by the UT Institute of Agriculture Department of Plant Sciences. The gardens are recognized as one of only 34 official All American Selections (AAS) test sites in the U.S.

## Mark Fuhrman Complete Landscape Services

*A* train enthusiast, Mark Fuhrman has been a long-standing participant of the Dogwood Arts Festival’s Home and Garden Show where he wows crowds with his creations. He has now partnered with the UT Institute of Agriculture and UT Gardens to bring his wonderland to a larger audience of Knoxvilleians. Fuhrman customizes each train car and building by hand with a passion and care that has resulted in one of the largest train collections in East Tennessee. His only motivation is his love of trains, their history, and seeing joy on the faces of children and adults.

*H*oliday Express at the UT Gardens will be open to the public every weekend from Thanksgiving through New Year’s. Church, school and seniors groups welcome. Special viewing times for large groups are available by reservation by calling Mark Fuhrman at 865-584-7666.



## Hours and Rates

### Thanksgiving Weekend-

November 26 - 29 . . . . . 1pm - 9pm

November 30 . . . . . 1pm - 6pm

### Remaining Holiday Weekends through January 4-

Fridays . . . . . 5pm - 9pm

Saturdays . . . . . 1pm - 9pm

Sundays . . . . . 1pm - 6pm

Admission \$5, Children under 4 Free

