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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**ELLWANGER GARDEN OPEN TO PUBLIC
DURING LILAC FESTIVAL**

Special Events Set for Twilight Hours

ROCHESTER, NY May 1, 2014 — Escape the crowds at the Lilac Festival for a little while and stroll over to The Ellwanger Garden at 625 Mt. Hope Avenue. Rochester's "secret garden," filled with colorful perennials, The Ellwanger Garden is maintained by The Landmark Society of Western New York. It will be open to the public daily during Lilac Festival. Look for signs directing you to nearby off-site parking. Admission is free; a suggested \$5 donation is appreciated to help maintain the Garden.

The Ellwanger Garden offers some new features this year during the Lilac Festival. On the weekends the garden will be open traditional festival hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., but on weekdays of the festival, Friday May 9 and Monday, May 12 through Friday May 16, the garden will be open from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The public is invited to stop by after work to enjoy the spring blooms. "The light and shadows at twilight make the garden a magical place," said Cindy Boyer, Landmark Society Director of Public Programs. "It's a great time to take photographs and listen to the birds sing their evening songs."

During these twilight hours there will be special events for visitors (weather permitting):
Monday May 12 – Professional photographer David Boyer will be on hand to offer tips on photographing flowers and plants – whether you are using a camera or your phone. (no tripods please).

LANDMARK SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK, INC.

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Tuesday through Friday – Individual members of the Striking Strings Hammered Dulcimer Group, directed by Mitzie Collins, will provide live acoustic music, floating over the garden. On Wednesday the 14th they will be joined by an acoustic guitarist.

Wednesday and Thursday – Watch watercolorist Mary Nicosia create a painting live, as she paints en plein air (in the open air.)

About The Landmark Society: *The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc. is one of the oldest and most active preservation organizations in America, serving nine Western New York counties. Formed in 1937, The Landmark Society continues to protect the unique architectural heritage of our region and promote preservation and planning principles that foster healthy and sustainable communities. For additional information about The Landmark Society, visit www.landmarksociety.org. The Landmark Society is supported in part by New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.*