



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GrowNYC and TBS Partner to Renovate  
Hattie Carthan Community Garden in Bed-Stuy  
*Tracy Morgan, Star of 'The Last O.G.,' Unveils New Garden***

**New York, NY** – On Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> non-profit GrowNYC partnered with TBS and Tracy Morgan to renovate the Hattie Carthan Community Garden, a NYC Parks GreenThumb garden in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn. The Hattie Carthan Community Garden is one of the largest in Brooklyn, containing multiple large growing areas that are maintained by residents of the Bed-Stuy neighborhood throughout the growing season. The garden operates a youth program and seasonal community-based [farmers market](#).

Morgan, star of the TBS series *The Last O.G.*, which debuted as the #1 comedy of 2018, was onsite to unveil the new garden. Thanks to generous support from TBS, GrowNYC's gardening team added much-needed renovations including: 30 new garden beds, 25 new benches, picnic tables, new plants, soil, seedings, as well as a new mural celebrating Hattie Carthan that was painted by a Bed-Stuy based artist, Tiffany B Chanel.

Hattie Carthan was an environmental and community activist known as 'the Tree Lady of Brooklyn' for her tireless fight to bring trees to Bed-Stuy, the neighborhood where Morgan was raised in the Tompkins Houses. Bed-Stuy played a prominent role in both of their lives.

Inspired by the new season of *The Last O.G.*, the unveiling event featured free bites and drinks by Brooklyn-based Carnal and Drive Change, a food truck and service company that employs the formerly incarcerated to train them for bright futures in the culinary industry. James Beard-nominated Chef Joseph "JJ" Johnson led a healthy cooking demonstration using fresh ingredients. Visitors also participated in a volunteer station by Feeding America and City Harvest, where they helped tackle hunger by packing bags of produce that were distributed to soup kitchens and food pantries in Brooklyn.

Quotes:

"For decades, the Hattie Carthan Community Garden has been a fixture in the neighborhood," said GrowNYC President and CEO Marcel Van Ooyen. "We're so grateful to TBS for supporting this renovation so that it can increase access to healthy foods for Bed-Stuy residents while also providing a beautiful green space, for decades to come. And we're deeply indebted to NYC Parks and GreenThumb for partnering with us on projects like this throughout the City."

"TBS was inspired by The Last O.G.'s theme of new beginnings and Tray's culinary dreams to partner with GrowNYC and renovate the historic Hattie Carthan Community Garden. This Bedford-Stuyvesant

landmark has been improving the quality of life of the neighborhood by providing educational opportunities and healthy nutritional options to the local community,” said Michael Engleman, chief marketing officer for TBS and TNT. “TBS and The Last O.G. were inspired by this OG of environmentalism & community activism and are looking forward to celebrating her legacy Hattie’s way—with a neighborhood block party!”

“Hattie Carthan Community Garden is a beacon of light in the Bed-Stuy neighborhood, spreading awareness about the benefits of growing your own food, community advocacy and positive environmental impacts,” said **NYC Parks First Deputy Commissioner Liam Kavanagh**. “Thanks to this generous renovation from TBS and ‘The Last O.G.,’ NYC Parks GreenThumb and GrowNYC can continue to partner with local Bed-Stuy residents of all ages to ensure Hattie Carthan remains a vital resource and peaceful respite.”

### **About *The Last O.G.***

*The Last O.G* starring Tracy Morgan and Tiffany Haddish centers on Tray (**Morgan**), an ex-con shocked to see just how much the world has changed when he is released from prison for good behavior after a 15-year stint. Both Morgan and Haddish have their own very personal stories of second chances and redemption that tie into broader topics of gentrification, change and adaptation. Academy Award winner Jordan Peele is the executive producer of this groundbreaking show that mixes satire and dark comedy. Season two of *The Last O.G* premieres Tuesday, April 2nd on TBS.

Getty link to approved select photos from the day [here](#).

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GrowNYC is an environmental nonprofit that provides 3 million New Yorkers each year with opportunities to make NYC truly livable. The group operates neighborhood Greenmarkets, community gardens, recycling and environmental education for youth. Learn more at [www.grownyc.org](http://www.grownyc.org).

GreenThumb is an arm of NYC Parks that oversees more than 550 community gardens across New York City, totaling more than 100 acres. GreenThumb was established more than 40 years ago in response to the community gardening movement of the 1970’s. Each year, GreenThumb holds more than 150 workshops for community gardeners, providing support, materials and operational assistance. GreenThumb’s network of nearly 20,000 community gardeners produce 87,000 pounds of produce annually and volunteer millions of gardening hours.