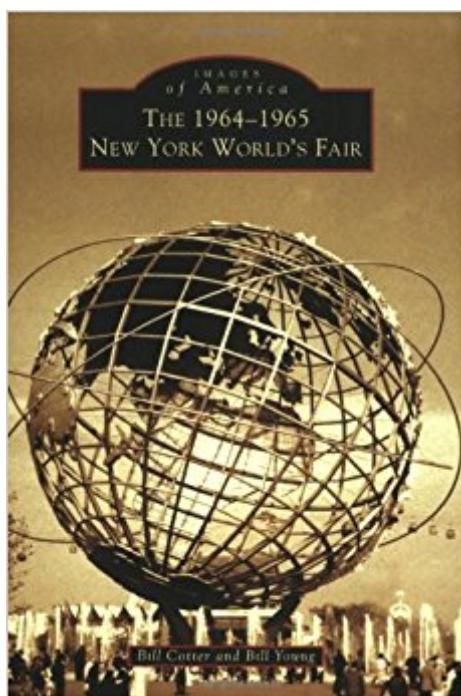


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# The 1964-1965 New York World's Fair (Images Of America)



## Synopsis

The 1964-1965 New York World's Fair was the largest international exhibition ever built in the United States. More than one hundred fifty pavilions and exhibits spread over six hundred forty-six acres helped the fair live up to its reputation as "the Billion-Dollar Fair." With the cold war in full swing, the fair offered visitors a refreshingly positive view of the future, mirroring the official theme: Peace through Understanding. Guests could travel back in time through a display of full-sized dinosaurs, or look into a future where underwater hotels and flying cars were commonplace. They could enjoy Walt Disney's popular shows, or study actual spacecraft flown in orbit. More than fifty-one million guests visited the fair before it closed forever in 1965. The 1964-1965 New York World's Fair captures the history of this event through vintage photographs, published here for the first time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Title: 1964 World's Fair Marks 45th Anniversary  
Author: Jessica Lyons  
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Flushing Meadows-Corona Park can be a very busy place, particularly when it is a warm spring or summer day. As busy as it is now, that is nothing compared to hustle and bustle there in 1964. Between April of 1964 and October of 1965, more than 50 million people came to Queens to take part in the World's Fair. April 21 will mark the 45th anniversary of one of the borough's biggest events. In the book The 1964-1965 New York

World's Fair: Creation & Legacy, co-authors Bill Young and Bill Cotter explain that the efforts to bring the fair to New York began with a group of businessmen who wanted to do something special to celebrate the state's 300th anniversary, which would be in 1964. Although there were other cities also looking to host the fair, on October 29, 1959, President Dwight Eisenhower announced New York as the federal choice for it, the book explains. From there, Robert Moses began designing the site for the fair in Flushing-Meadows-Corona Park, which was a former refuge dump that was also used for the 1939 World's Fair. It would take five years and \$1 billion to design and build. Young and Cotter wrote that the "designers tried to provide a modern and futuristic look wherever possible to make the fair a truly special place." A resident of Long Island at the time the fair opened, Cotter was 12 years old and said he liked being a short train ride away. He said his parents let him go to the World's Fair as long as he took his brother and brought him back in one piece. "The size of it absolutely blew me away," said Cotter, who now lives in California. "There was always more. The sheer scope of it was just amazing to me, particularly when I realized in just two years it would all be gone." Queens Borough President Helen Marshall said much of what was seen at the fair gave people "a forecast for the future," allowing them to see many things that may have seemed futuristic at the time but that are now a part of life. Some of the things viewed and heard at that particular fair were speaker phones, predictions of the computer era and picture phones, just to name a few. "A lot of the things that were shown at the World's Fair became a part of American life," said Whitestone resident Anita Mantione. Another part of the fair that many people who went there remarked on is the diversity of people they were able to meet. "You never got to talk to as many different people as you did at the fair," said Cotter, who also co-authored the book The 1964-1965 New York World's Fair with Young. The wonderment that the fair provided to so many millions of people officially came to an end on October 17, 1965. Even after all of that time, the 1964 World's Fair remains a significant part of the history of Queens. Additionally, it holds a special meaning for many, and some popular places in Queens are here specifically because of the fair. But as memories begin to fade, preservation and keeping the history alive are still an issue.

Bill Cotter and Bill Young are longtime members of the World's Fair Collectors Society. Cotter's many visits to the fair as an adolescent inspired him to become a submarine designer for the United States Navy and later an entertainment executive. Young hosts a prominent website that explores the history of the fair and its space-age attractions. Both are avid collectors of world fair

memorabilia.

Valuable resource.

Being born and raised in Brooklyn and having went to the fair myself, I was looking for pictorial documentation to share with my children. This is an excellent book on the fair,s history. I am obsessed with the fair and this is a great addition to my library.

This book does an excellent job of describing the glitz, excitement and joyous excess that was known as the 1964 World's Fair. With great pictures and great writing this book elegantly handles the challenge of taking you on a whirlwind tour of the fair. May favorite part of the book is how it manages to weave facts about the fair, facts about the time period and unique insider information into the tapestry of the book.In other words, I really enjoyed the book. It doesn't matter whether you were alive in 1964 or not, by the end of the book you'll be longing for a time when the future held so much promise. At the very least, you'll want a waffle.

This book has some great photos from the 1964 World's Fair, including the pavilions, monuments and even the transportation used there. Each photo is almost a window into what it was like to be there. very interesting background on the fair too, although by no means very deep. It probably could have used more photos of some of the exhibits and a map might have been helpful, but overall a great book. Very good supplement if you are reading other material on the World's Fair.

Great photo history with some melodramatic prose.

Wonderful photographs. There aren't a lot of books about this fair and this fills a gap.

I was there in May 1964. I was seven years old and it a great peek into the future! The GM and IBM pavilions were my favorite.

Loved it. Going there made it all that much more special

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