In January, Columbia’s Board of Trustees announced that Nemat “Minouche” Shafik, a leading economist whose career has focused on public policy and academia, would become the 20th president of the university starting July 1, 2023. Shafik recently embarked on a tour of Columbia’s campuses, including a breakfast reception at Manhattanville Market, where she met with local elected officials and community leaders. The celebration was hosted by Hon. Rolando T. Acosta, a member of Columbia’s Board of Trustees. Among the attendees were New York City Council Member Shaun Abreu, Assemblyman Al Taylor, and Senator Robert Jackson. See the photos from the festive breakfast reception at neighbors.columbia.edu/minouche-shafik.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A Passion for Black History in Harlem

For Harlem native Carolyn D. Johnson, it’s Uptown’s historical flair that makes the community one of the most unique places on the globe.

“I like to tell people no place in the world has contributed more to American history and world history than Harlem,” said Johnson. “We need to honor the individuals that have paved the way to make Harlem what it is.”

Johnson’s passion for Harlem’s history led her to create her own local boutique tour company, Welcome to Harlem. Launched in 2004, Welcome to Harlem offers in-person experiences exploring Harlem’s rich past and cultural diversity and has inspired her other businesses, including the education-driven platform Harlem Roots and her latest creation, the Harlem Renaissance-inspired board game Harlem-Opoly.

Neighbors chatted with Johnson about some of the most significant spaces in Harlem that are connected to Black history, from The Apollo Theater to Strivers Row. See the full list at neighbors.columbia.edu/harlem-opoly.

Meet Columbia’s Next President

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