

# Neighbors Bulletin



Photo by Eileen Barroso

## Community Updates

### GET READY FOR RANKED CHOICE VOTING

There's a good chance you've heard by now that New York City's June 22 primary elections will use ranked choice voting. But what does ranked choice voting mean and how does it work?

In ranked choice voting (RCV), rather than picking a single candidate in the polling booth, voters rank up to 5 candidates in order of preference. If no candidate gets to 50% of the vote when all the first choice votes are tallied, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and the votes are counted again. In this round, anyone whose first choice was eliminated has their vote given to their second choice candidate. This process continues, with the candidate with the fewest votes being eliminated each time, until one candidate reaches the 50% mark. With this process, even if a voter's first choice candidate turns out to not have broad support, they are less likely to "waste" their vote.

RCV eliminates the need for run-off elections if no candidate gets 50% of the vote initially, which saves money and prevents drop-offs in turnout due to multiple elections. RCV can also increase representation for members of minority groups and cut down on negative campaigning.

Learn more about RCV and get voting resources at [vote.columbia.edu](https://vote.columbia.edu).

### RELIGION AND THE HISTORY OF BLACK MUSIC



Josef Sorett, Professor of Religion and African American and African Diaspora Studies at Columbia University, will bring together scholars, musicians, media workers, and fans for Religion and the History of Black Music, a six-part series running from May 26 to August 4. In its first half, the series will cover gospel music's trajectory from blues in the 1930s to its contemporary iteration, and the second half will cover the history of hip hop from the 1970s on, with a focus on how religious ideas have been part of it. Upcoming events include Gospel Blues to Modern Gospel (1930s–1970s) on Wednesday, June 9th and Trajectories in Contemporary Gospel (1980s–present) on Wednesday, June 23.

Check out [summer.sps.columbia.edu/rhbm](https://summer.sps.columbia.edu/rhbm) for registration, playlists, speakers, and more.

## Community Events

Check with event organizers for latest updates as details may change. More details can be found at [neighbors.columbia.edu/events](https://neighbors.columbia.edu/events)



### Maya Lin at The Forum Jun 10, 12PM

Renowned artist and designer Maya Lin presents new and major works, followed

by a conversation with The Earth Institute's Andrew Revkin.

[neighbors.columbia.edu/mayalin](https://neighbors.columbia.edu/mayalin)



### Harlem Moves with Limón Dance Company June 11, 6:30PM

Learn the energetic and ease-filled Limón Technique at West

Harlem Piers Park, accompanied by live music. No experience necessary. [neighbors.columbia.edu/harlemmoves](https://neighbors.columbia.edu/harlemmoves)



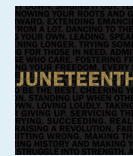
### Earth Institute LIVE K-12: Grow Your Green Thumb

June 17, 4PM

Bring flowers for a sketching and

journaling session, and learn about growing plants at home, tips for going green, and more.

[neighbors.columbia.edu/growgreen](https://neighbors.columbia.edu/growgreen)



### Virtual Village Juneteenth Teach-In June 18, 11AM

One Hundred Black Men of New York will host a teach-in with

presentations on the history of Juneteenth and what it means for our nation.

[neighbors.columbia.edu/teachin](https://neighbors.columbia.edu/teachin)



### New York City Primary Election June 22

Vote in the primary election for mayor, comptroller, public

advocate, borough presidents, and city council.

[neighbors.columbia.edu/vote](https://neighbors.columbia.edu/vote)



### HYPOTHEkids Afterschool Science Club

Thru July

Kids in grades K-5 can try fun, free, outdoor

STEAM activities, including Science Club projects and a puzzle station, and also get homework help.

[neighbors.columbia.edu/scienceclub](https://neighbors.columbia.edu/scienceclub)