

Neighbors Bulletin



Photo courtesy of the Upper Manhattan Asian Alliance.

Community Updates

SUPPORTING OUR AAPI NEIGHBORS IN UPPER MANHATTAN

Started in the summer of 2021, the Upper Manhattan Asian Alliance (UMAA) is taking action to make sure the members of Upper Manhattan's Asian communities—7% of the area's population—are seen and represented. With an uptick in hate crimes against the Asian community in New York, the newly formed organization saw an opportunity for education and change.

The organization was founded in response to the assault on Yao Pan Ma, a 61-year-old Chinese immigrant who was attacked in East Harlem and later died of his injuries. In the fall of 2021, they started distributing meals to Asian seniors living in East Harlem with the help of the organization Heart of Dinner. Since then, they've added a variety of events, including a Moon Festival celebration, and hosting monthly gatherings bringing together organizations serving the local Asian. A key component of their work is language assistance for residents, and helping residents as they engage with the city and other service providers.

Columbia Neighbors recently spoke with the founders of the alliance, Eva Chan and Lilian Chow, to learn more about the group and how people can get involved. Read the Q&A with UMAA at neighbors.columbia.edu/umaa.

MEET THIS YEAR'S FREEDOM AND CITIZENSHIP GRADS



Since its start in 2009, Columbia's Freedom and Citizenship academic enrichment program has graduated nearly 400 students. Freedom and Citizenship provides high school students from New York City who are from low-income families or who would be the first in their family to attend college with an introduction to college-level work in the humanities and prepares them for lives as informed, responsible citizens.



This year's class of graduates includes students from around the city, including several who will be coming to Columbia next year! Meet Joanna Cuatlayo, Alejandro Alvarez Luna, Geraldine Cabrera, and Melanie Ortiz at neighbors.columbia.edu/f&cgrads.

Community Events

Check with event organizers for the latest updates, find more events at neighbors.columbia.edu/events



Hike the Heights

June 4, 10:00 AM

The annual hike is held on the Giraffe Path, a 6 mile trail that connects the Cloisters to Central

Park through Upper Manhattan's cliffside parks.

neighbors.columbia.edu/hikeheights



Family Gardening @ The Greenhouse Education Center

June 4, 11, 18, and 25, 11:30 AM

Children of all ages can enjoy outdoor gardening activities and plant exploration, including exploring the pollinator garden.

neighbors.columbia.edu/gardening



Uptown Night Market

June 12, 4:00 PM

Fill up on food from local restaurants and vendors, enjoy live performances, and

take in the atmosphere on the second Thursday of every month.

neighbors.columbia.edu/nightmarket



#TrustWorkers PhotoVoice Exhibit

Opens June 14

#TrustWorkers: (Re) Building Relationships Between New Yorkers

and the Medical System will feature photographs of and by community health workers.

neighbors.columbia.edu/trustworkers



Little Lions Summer Camp Scholarship Lottery 2022

Deadline June 14

The WHDC's lottery is open for the Columbia

University scholarships for a free 2-week session of Little Lions Summer Camp.

neighbors.columbia.edu/littlelions22



Schomburg Center Literary Festival

June 18, 10:30 AM

Author readings, panel discussions, and workshops will cover prose, poetry, comic books, young adult novels, fiction, and nonfiction.

neighbors.columbia.edu/schomburglit