

Fall/Winter 2019



Daan Roosegaarde's WATERLICHT at the Lenfest Center for the Arts

# Columbia: Year of Water Celebrating Earth's Most Precious Resource

By Cassandra Nathan

◀ his fall, Columbia launched the Year of Water, a multi-subject exploration of water that will touch on all of its aspects: social, political, cultural, economic and environmental. Led by the School of the Arts and including the entire University, public programming will feature art exhibitions, lectures, screenings, readings and research seminars

"It is exciting for the School of the Arts to spearhead the Year of Water and to play a central role in convening the institutes, schools and programs at Columbia engaged in research," said Carol Becker, dean at the School of the Arts. One of her goals is to use art to make water-related research visible to the public. "Artists have a unique capacity to really affect how people feel, how their minds work, but also how their hearts really open to these issues; and that, I believe, is really how consciousness and change occur," said Becker.

Over the course of three days in October, Dutch artist Daan Roosegaarde presented WATERLICHT, a science-fiction-meets-immersive-art installation. Set in Small Square on the Manhattanville campus, Roosegaarde's interactive work used LED lights and lenses to create an ever-changing "dream landscape about the power and poetry of water," and raise awareness of rising global sea levels.

Close to 10,000 people from across Columbia and Harlem came to Manhattanville to experience WATERLICHT. "It feels like when you're a kid and go into the pool and hold your breath, and you look up and everything feels so quiet and peaceful," said Charlotte Munson, a junior at Columbia College.

The artist Olafur Eliasson was also on campus for a public discussion of his large-scale architectural projects, such as Ice

Watch, a work in which he extracted 30 blocks of glacial ice from waters surrounding Greenland and placed them in the streets of Copenhagen, Paris and London to serve as a visual reminder of the impact climate change has on the environment. "We must recognize that together we have the power to take individual actions and to push for systematic change. Let's transform climate knowledge into climate action," said

The Year of Water will continue through the end of the Spring 2020 semester. To learn more, please visit yearofwater.columbia.edu for a calendar of events, an online database of water-related research and a directory of more than 300 faculty, students and staff who are engaged in important research and action on issues related to water.

## WHDC and Partners Launch Harlem Jazz & Music Festival

By Mickey Noella, West Harlem Development Corporation

est Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC) and its partners, Harlem Week and Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone, proudly celebrated the inaugural Harlem Jazz & Music Festival. This much-anticipated music and cultural festival celebrated 17 genres of music, all of which are embedded in the fabled Harlem music and cultural experiences from around the world, ranging from Southern U.S., Caribbean, Latin, Cuban, European, African, Asian and South American roots.

Held at the end of August, the festival featured 31 indoor and outdoor events, often packed with standing room only, at 19 venues throughout Harlem. The Showman's Jazz Club and Minton's Playhouse were celebrated as the two remaining world-renowned venues that made Harlem the jazz and music mecca known throughout the world.

The festival supported WHDC's mission of providing economic opportunities and quality of life to sustain a vibrant West Harlem community. In addition to the events themselves, a variety of local vendors offered their products to attendees.

West Harlem Development Corporation and its partners anticipate seeing more vendors in the coming years. The well-attended events and positive feedback confirmed that the festival was a first-class experience and successful launch of what is to become a famed brand of music festival and staple of Harlem's rich culture.



Jazz musician Frank Lacy performing at the MIST Harlem for the Harlem Jazz & Music Festival

# In the Know

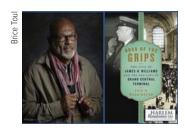


#### **Wallach Art Gallery Names Betti-Sue Hertz** as Its New Director and Chief Curator

The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery named Betti-Sue Hertz as the new director and chief curator of the gallery located on Columbia's Manhattanville campus. A New York City native, Hertz returns to the city after 20 years in California, where she served in major roles including, most recently, as director of visual arts at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco and curator of contemporary art at the San Diego Museum of Art. Major

exhibitions that Hertz has curated (or co-curated) include "Public Intimacy: Art and Other Ordinary Acts in South Africa," which was presented by both the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art in 2014, and "Dissident Futures" in 2013, also at Yerba Buena, which explored how people think about possible futures through

Hertz is well-positioned to guide the Wallach in reaching its community in new and innovative ways and to bring Columbia's faculty and students into creative conversations with its neighbors. "I am especially excited," she said, "about making visible and public the work of the University's talented scholars and artists in dialogue with the dynamic energies of Upper Manhattan's local artistic communities and cultural institutions." A version of this article originally appeared on the Columbia News website.



#### **Columbia Community Scholar Eric K. Washington's New Book**

NYC-based artist, historian and author Eric K. Washington recently released his book, "Boss of the Grips: The Life of James H. Williams and the Red Caps of Grand Central Terminal." Washington uncovers the nearly forgotten life of James H. Williams (1878-

1948), the chief porter of Grand Central Terminal's Red Caps — a group of Harlembased black men that Williams organized into the essential labor force of America's most august railroad station. Washington reveals that, despite the highly racialized and often exploitative nature of the work, the Red Cap was a highly coveted job for college-bound black men determined to join New York's bourgeoning middle class. Examining the deeply intertwined subjects of class, labor and African American history, Washington chronicles Williams' life, showing how the enterprising son of freed slaves successfully navigated the segregated world of the northern metropolis and, in so doing, ultimately achieved financial and social influence.



#### **Karen Jewett, VP for Government** and Community Affairs, Retires

By Bashar Makhay

After 14 years of service to the University and local community, Karen Jewett, vice president of the Office of Government and Community Affairs (GCA), has retired. Jewett worked closely with former EVP of GCA Maxine Griffith on planning for the University's 17-acre Manhattanville campus, including the complex city and state land use and planning review processes, helping to negotiate the historic Manhattanville West Harlem

Community Benefits Agreement and serving as the point person for the University's interaction with the West Harlem Development Corporation. Jewett founded and directed the Columbia Community Scholars Program and supervised the production of this newsletter. For the past two years, Jewett oversaw GCA and ensured that Columbia's relationships with government and civic organizations were maintained.

Jewett has served on the board of Columbia Community Service and, most recently, joined the board of Community Impact. She has been a local resident of Morningside Heights for 35 years, so it's likely you will still see her around the neighborhood, especially with her newly adopted dog, Maloney. The Office of Government and Community Affairs wishes Jewett a retirement full of reading, traveling, time with family and lots of delicious sweets.



#### Changes at 125th Street and **Broadway**

Changes are happening to the Columbia-owned site at the southwest corner of 125th Street and Broadway with a building project. This includes the McDonald's restaurant franchise that closed in early September and the row of warehouses between the former McDonald's site and Prentis Hall at 632 West 125th Street. The project will

support the Manhattanville campus and will have no impact on Prentis Hall, home to the School of the Arts and the Department of Music. Fencing at the site and preparations for demolitions have begun. Columbia will provide additional information as it becomes available. For more information, contact Columbia University Facilities and Operations at projx@columbia.edu or call 212-854-2222 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

#### **New Community Scholars Cohort**

By Margaret Barrows

Congratulations and welcome to the seventh cohort of Columbia Community Scholars. The Columbia Community Scholars Program enables independent scholars to pursue their lifelong learning aspirations, whether it be completing an independent project or attaining skills in a particular area. The program allows scholars in Upper Manhattan a formal opportunity to access University resources and participate in the intellectual life of the University through interaction with faculty, students and other visiting scholars.



Renee Cummings, criminologist, journalist, crisis intelligence specialist and international criminal justice consultant. Cummings will study the impact of artificial intelligence on criminal justice and the social impact of artificial intelligence on communities of color and incarcerated populations. She plans to create a book and a documentary on the subject.



Kenneth Miles, Community Board 9 member; strategic impact, culture and partnerships consultant; founder at Intent Partners. Miles is developing a community-based, culturally responsive think tank around population health, civic engagement, education and ethical tech.



Kevin O'Connor, literary agent with a background in children's media, including television and music, and adult nonfiction, especially books on science, technology, history, art and design. O'Connor is identifying, documenting and communicating strategies to guide and support firsttime authors through the publication process in children's books, young adult novels and adult nonfiction.



Valerie Rochon, award-winning dance instructor for NYC public schools. Rochon will engage in archival research on choreographer and dancer Jean-Léon Destiné in order to catalog her collection of his work and finish writing his biography.



Dalton Whiteside, graduate of the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture at the City College of New York, architectural historian and tour guide focused on West Harlem. Whiteside is completing a book on the architectural history of institutions in West Harlem and a virtual model of the area as a time-traveling experience where viewers can begin to understand change through space and time.



#### **Chef Franklin Becker's New Food Court in** the Jerome L. Greene Building

By Cassandra Nathan

Respected chef and television personality Franklin Becker has signed a lease to bring a new, multiconcept food hall to the Jerome L. Greene Science Center at Columbia University's Manhattanville campus. The new food hall will be open to the public in the summer of 2020. While food options are still to be determined,

a cornucopia of selections will likely include full-service restaurants with outdoor seating, Spanish tapas, Sicilian-style pizza, hummus and Southern food. As an added perk there will be seasonal weekend bazaars that will feature local vendors selling their unique offerings to the community. At the new food hall, Chef Becker is committed to hiring from within the community and working with local providers, farmers, fishermen and artisans. He also plans to partner with anti-hunger New York nonprofits to serve New Yorkers who experience challenges around obtaining healthy and affordable food.

#### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY Neighbors Newsletter

309 Low Library 535 W. 116th St., MC 4319 New York, NY 10027

The Neighbors Newsletter is published by the Office of Government and Community Affairs.

Shailagh Murray Executive Vice President of Public Affairs

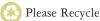
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Contributors: Margaret Barrows, Caroline Harting, Yolanda K. Jones, Mickey Noella, Matthew Orama

To receive a copy of the Neighbors Newsletter, contact the Office of Government and Community Affairs at 212-854-0684 or send an email to neighbors@columbia.edu.



### Medical Students Provide Free Care to LGBTQI+ Community

By Matthew Orama



Columbia medical students volunteer their time and expertise to our most vulnerable New Yorkers.

n individual's sexual orientation or gender should not be an inhibitor to quality health care. This is the ethos perpetuated at Columbia University Irving Medical Center's (CUIMC) Q Clinic in midtown Manhattan. The Q Clinic, a student-run organization established in October 2015 by students and faculty at CUIMC, provides free primary care services for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex and other gender nonconforming communities in New York City. The clinic particularly prioritizes those who are underserved, under- or uninsured, or resource- and housing-insecure. While the clinic was created to address a gap in LGBTQI+ health care, student workers welcome patients of all gender identities, sexual orientations and backgrounds who walk through their doors.

Columbia medical students and faculty formed the Q Clinic to address the lack of comprehensive primary care services that are sensitive to the unique and diverse needs of those who identify as LGBTQI+. The clinic offers a welcoming space for patients to receive quality care in a safe, respectful and more casual setting. Individuals have access to resources on health management and receive free STI/HIV lab screenings, subsidized medications and PrEP and flu shots. In the event that the Q Clinic does not provide a specific service needed, staff members work to connect patients to alternative clinics throughout New York City.

Various aspects of the Q Clinic's methodology are also unique. The trained team of medical students and doctors prioritize learning from their patients to improve and

tailor health plans. Patients are encouraged to share their experiences as members of the LGBTQI+ community, and their stories are taken into consideration when forming care strategies.

A special emphasis is placed on introducing student doctors to the nuances and specific concerns of working with the LGBTQI+ community. Sarah Householder, a Columbia medical student and outreach coordinator for the Q Clinic, said, "By working with a population as diverse as ours, I get exposure to a lot of different stories and new perspectives on just how difficult it can be to receive affordable, respectful medical care in New York if you are uninsured, underinsured, or even fully insured but have an insensitive provider. Every patient encounter I have is on the basis of our core principles of empathy, respect and sensitivity, and we take the time to understand our patients' full stories and how more complex factors might be contributing to their health. The principles of the care that we provide have become a fundamental aspect of how I view medicine and will practice in the future."

Householder added that the clinic also allows students a unique opportunity for collaboration and leadership. "We are working together on how to run the clinic day to day and also how to meet our long-term goals. It gives us, as medical students, a chance to see how health care works from the bottom up, while working to create a medical clinic that we are proud of."

Because the clinic covers the costs of all medications, lab fees and special projects, it is always looking for new partners to help promote its services and for sponsors who can help keep the doors open.

The Q Clinic is located at 446 West 36th Street, 3rd Floor, inside the Metropolitan Community Church of New York. Walk-in hours are available on Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m., and appointments can be made for other times by calling 347-565-5042. No ID or insurance is required to receive care at Q Clinic, and all care is confidential.

For more information, visit qclinic.org and follow @qclinicnyc on Facebook and @qcliniccolumbia on Instagram.

### Students Create New Scholarship in African American Studies

By Caroline Harting

ast December, Columbia University announced the formation of the African American and African Diaspora Studies Department, where undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students will have an opportunity to produce innovative scholarship, conduct research and examine African American life in U.S. society. The department is a year old, but Columbia Libraries already has robust collections to support this new discipline and its students.

"Since African American history is inseparable from American history, the University's archival holdings have always been relevant to the project of African American and African Diaspora Studies," said Thai Jones, the Herbert H. Lehman Curator for American History at the Rare Book & Manuscript Library (RBML). "For instance, we have documents related to buying and selling of enslaved people by prominent New Yorkers from the colonial and revolutionary eras."

While there are artifacts dating back to the 1700s, many of the important documents have been acquired in the past few decades. Some of these include the papers of Amiri Baraka, David Dinkins, C.L.R. James, Hubert Harrison and Alexander Gumby as well as the Black Journalists Oral History Project. Last year, Columbia acquired the archive of Yuri Kochiyama, a Japanese American civil rights and social justice activist who was a close friend of Malcolm X.

Over the last five years, in an encouraging trend, Jones has seen a tremendous increase in the number of students who access the RBML.



Columbia students (from left: Keziah Anderson, Bérénice Sylverain, Tommy Song), who use the Rare Book & Manuscript Library

"The kind of teaching we do in the archives, through classes like the Columbia University and Slavery seminar, allows students to participate actively in the process of creating historical knowledge," said Jones. "By acquiring advanced research skills, they are able to see how past scholars have used and misused the historical record. And they feel

empowered to make their own contributions to these ongoing conversations."

A version of this article originally appeared on the Columbia News website.

### West African Brothers Open Cafe at 125th Street and Lenox

By Yolanda K. Jones and Cassandra Nathan





Mohammed Diallo (left) and Rahim Diallo (right)

Brothers Mohammed and Rahim Diallo, graduates of the Columbia-Harlem Small Business Development Corporation's (SBDC) Harlem Local Vendors Program (HLVP), recently accomplished a major milestone, opening the Ginjan Café on 125th Street. Their journey began years ago when they emigrated from Guinea to the United States as teenagers. Despite very challenging obstacles in their youth, they went on to earn several higher education degrees and establish careers in insurance and engineering.

As immigrants, they often longed for authentic West African food, and while the cuisine satisfied their nostalgia quests, the drinks were often hit or miss. The brothers noticed a gap in the market that they set to fill: taking African delicacies beyond local restaurants and into broader retail distribution. Ginjan Bros LLC was born, and the effort to create beverages with flavors that would capture the culture, with a standardized taste that was true to the vibrant notes of Africa, was underway.

Shortly after creating their company, the brothers were accepted into the HLVP, which is designed to provide local Harlem vendors guidance and assistance with their businesses and assist in securing supplier partnerships with retail partners, including Whole Foods Market and Columbia Dining. The brothers worked closely with HLVP adviser Glamis Haro, who guided them through their financial projections and business plan. In speaking about the brothers' dedication, Haro said that "the brothers are hardworking, consistent and tenacious." As part of the program, they were given space at Hot Bread Kitchen, an incubator that provides small businesses support and a shared commercial kitchen, where they were able to fine-tune their recipe and bottle their first offering, an all-organic West African ginger beverage sold under the brand name Ginjan. With the product ready to be sold and distributed, the brothers participated in a buyer fair arranged by HLVP and ultimately picked up a contract with Whole Foods Market to distribute their authentic ginger beverage.

Haro said that she would love to work with the brothers again. "The brothers' story is just the kind of journey and success we want for all of our participants. They took their hard work and went from selling door to door to now having a flagship store. We are very proud of them."

In speaking about why it was important to open up the café, Rahim shared that the idea of opening a shop was to "change people's perception of Africa and Africans." He said that people have a certain perception of Africa, one of famine, hunger, war and corruption. The Diallo brothers wanted to create an immersive space for individuals to "change their perspective of Africa in a space with African design, decor, music, food and drinks," Rahim said. Rahim and Mohammed plan to open more cafés in places such as Washington, D.C., California and Georgia.

The flagship Ginjan Café made its home as the first tenant in the long-empty Corn Exchange building at 85 East 125th Street, a place where developers sought to keep the integrity of the building with its red Philadelphia brick, copper moldings and slate roof. The interior of the café is adorned with African-inspired prints, vibrant colors and polished tree stumps. Spicy and sweet notes fill the air from the freshly pressed juices.

The café is conveniently located across the street from the MetroNorth station, blocks away from the Manhattanville campus at Columbia University.

# Graduate Scholarships for Elementary School Teachers The Community Benefits Agreement at Work

By GCA Staff



Meredith Hill (right) teaches a garden lesson to Columbia Secondary School middle and high school students at the Columbia Secondary School community garden, on Amsterdam between 118th and 119th Streets.

eaching is one of the most influential yet historically underresourced professions of all time. Teachers are charged with teaching our future generations while (ideally) maintaining a well-balanced lifestyle of their own. These challenges are compounded for teachers living in New York City, where the cost of living is higher compared with their peers. Between income disparity and the stress of student loans, most teachers do not find it lucrative enough to teach.

In an effort to support and enhance the quality of elementary school education within the local community, Columbia University offers scholarships with a cumulative maximum of 18 credits per year for qualified elementary school teachers to earn a master's degree in an appropriate field from Columbia University or Teachers College. This program, one of the benefits associated with Columbia's Manhattanville campus expansion, seems to be particularly

impactful. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), elementary years are a formative time in the development of a child's brain.

Participants in the Graduate Scholarship Program must teach in Manhattan Community Board 9 for a minimum of five years after completing their degree. Scholarship recipient Victoria Guan shared that this was especially motivating and made her studies in graduate school more meaningful; she was able to apply new teaching methods directly in the classrooms of the very community she was in place to benefit.

The career growth of another scholarship recipient, Meredith Hill, shows the exponential benefits of the program. During her undergraduate studies at Barnard College, Hill volunteered at Community Impact, a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving disadvantaged people in the Morningside Heights, Harlem and Washington Heights communities.

Hill also eventually became a founding member of Columbia Secondary School for Math, Science and Engineering. In addition to her role as assistant principal, Hill runs the School's community garden (located on 119th Street and Amsterdam Avenue) and, in January 2020, will be a founding member of Middle School 371, right here in Community School District 5, with a focus on Project-Based Learning. Hill credits her success, in part, to the graduate scholarship program. "I was able to take advantage of an opportunity I would have otherwise not had and get a degree that allowed for advancement. It allowed me to follow my life dream and start a school."

The Graduate Scholarship Program is part of the West Harlem Community Benefits Agreement intended to address the lack of quality education in Community District 9. For more information, contact projx@columbia.edu.

### In the Mix













#### 1. Manhattanville Community Day

On Sept. 28, a number of family-friendly activities took place on the Manhattanville campus for Community Day. The event was organized in partnership with the Zuckerman Institute, the Wellness Center, The Forum, the Wallach Art Gallery, the School of the Arts and various community organizations. Events took place at the Lenfest Center for the Arts, The Forum, the Jerome L. Greene Science Center and the Small Square. Children of all ages engaged in hands-on activities, where they learned the science behind the brain and how memories guide emotions and form the foundation of our personalities.

### 2. Topping Out Ceremony Held for Columbia Business School in Manhattanville

On Sept. 5, a topping out ceremony was held to celebrate the Ronald O. Perelman Center for Business Innovation and the Henry R. Kravis Building on the Manhattanville campus reaching their full heights. To honor the occasion, key project leaders made remarks, and then the final beam was hoisted to the top, completing the structural steel portion of the buildings. Facade installation is now well underway, and completion of the two buildings is anticipated for 2022.

### 3. CCS Fifth Annual Back to School Event Was a Great Success!

Columbia Community Service and the Office of Public Safety teamed up for the 2019 Back to School Drive to collect school supplies from University faculty, students and staff for children in the local community. This year, thanks to the generosity of donors, more than 700 book bags filled with school supplies were donated to hundreds of children. The backpacks were distributed at the Fifth Annual Back to School event, co-sponsored by Community Board 9 and the NYPD 26th Precinct, where families gathered to participate in rock climbing, health and dental screenings, haircuts and braiding and other fun activities.

#### 4. Public STEM Teachers Spend the Summer Learning About Wireless Technology

COSMOS RET is an intense summer program for teachers who learn how to master the most advanced techniques in wireless technology with help from researchers at Columbia University and NYU. Among those pictured are 10 of the teachers who worked at both campuses designing webbased lab experiments that illustrate the theory and practice of wireless networking, and developing web-based laboratories or projects, which they will use in their classrooms. Learn more about this and other Engineering outreach programs at outreach.engineering.columbia.edu.

#### 5. Uptown Artisanal Pop-Up

A group of NYC small businesses, graduates of Columbia-Harlem Small Business Development Corporation's (SBDC) Harlem Local Vendor Program, banded together to create the Uptown Artisanal Pop-Up market, open for a limited time in partnership with Columbia University. The market is located in the former Liberty House retail space at Broadway and 112th Street and takes place the second weekend of every month. A variety of products are offered, including handbags, desserts, eco-friendly beauty products and more. Columbia University provided the space for the pop-up rent-free. Learn more at uptownartisanal.com.

### 6. *Tales from the Mano River* by Adama Delphine Fawundu

Adama Delphine Fawundu, a Brooklyn-born artist and alumna of Columbia's School of the Arts, has transformed the lobby of Miller Theatre with *Tales from the Mano River,* a new installation inspired by her ancestral home in Sierra Leone. This piece is made up of composited images of the Mano River — which begins in the Guinea Highlands and connects Sierra Leone to Liberia before emptying into the Atlantic Ocean — along with traces of masked "beings" and scans of fabric handmade by Fawundu's aunt using water from the Mano River. The site-specific mural will cover the walls of the lobby in Miller Theatre through June 2020.

# **Community Services**

As part of the University's commitment to the local community, Columbia has dedicated a website to serve as a hub of news, resources and more for our neighbors in Upper Manhattan to communicate some of the University's commitments for project-related programs and services that are available. For comprehensive information about these programs, services and much more, please visit **neighbors.columbia.edu/manhattanville**.

#### **Outreach to Disconnected Youth**

The Connecting Youth Initiative (CYI) at Columbia University offers resources and supportive services to out-of-school and out-of-work youth ages 16-24 in the local community to help them reengage with educational institutions, obtain a high school equivalency degree and/or seek training for career readiness and job placement. Through strategic, targeted outreach activities, CYI staff provide case management to local youth and young adults to match them with appropriate service providers and referrals for skills training, internships, work-based learning and job placement opportunities with community-based organizations and Columbia University. For more information, please call 212-854-4143, or visit gca.columbia.edu/CYI.

#### **Columbia Employment Information Center**

The Columbia Employment Information Center (CEIC) serves as the central community-based resource for local residents to apply for open positions at Columbia University. The Center provides a wide range of services to the local community including in-person and online job readiness training programs, one-on-one job-search counseling and assistance, and access to online job opportunities at Columbia.

For more information, please call our 24-hour hotline at 212-851-1551.

#### **Course Auditing**

Columbia University funds up to 50 courses per year through Columbia's Professional Studies Auditing Program for residents (25 residents from NYCHA Manhattanville Houses and Grant Houses and 25 residents from the local community). The Auditing Program provides adults not currently enrolled in college with the opportunity to attend up to two selected lectures drawn from Columbia University's offerings in the Arts and Sciences during the academic year. For more information about the program, please call 212-854-9666.

## **Dental Services for Preschool Children**

Columbia University's College of Dental Medicine offers free dental care and education for preschool-age children from the West Harlem area through the Mobile Dental Center, a program of the Community DentCare Network. The program aims to reduce dental decay and improve the oral health of Upper Manhattan's underserved children. For more information call 212-305-6368 or visit dental.columbia.edu/about-us/community-outreach.

## **Dental Health Screenings for Senior Citizens**

The Eldersmile Program, as part of Columbia University's College of Dental Medicine Community DentCare Network, offers prevention, education, screening and treatment services for seniors in Upper Manhattan through mobile van visits to General Grant Houses, Manhattanville Houses and senior centers throughout Washington Heights/Inwood and Harlem. Services also include diabetes and hypertension screening. For more information call 212-305-1045 or visit dental.columbia.edu/about-us /community-outreach.

#### **Scholarships for Lifelong Learners**

Columbia University provides scholarships for 50 residents of Manhattanville Houses, Grant Houses, and the local community who are 65 and older to audit up to two courses per year. Administered through Columbia's School of Professional Studies, the Lifelong Learners Program is designed for individuals committed to the principles of lifelong education. For more information about the program, please call 212-854-9666.

#### **Summer Sports Little Lions Camp Scholarships for Children**

Columbia University offers 25 need-based scholarships for children ages 6 to 12 from the Manhattanville area to attend Columbia's Little Lions Camp. One scholarship is equal to one week of camp All scholarship applications must come to Columbia University through the West Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC). For more information, please contact the WHDC at 646-476-3394.

#### Space Provisions for Non-Columbia-Affiliated Local Artists and Cultural Organizations

Columbia University makes good faith efforts to accommodate requests by local organizations not affiliated with Columbia for access to its indoor or outdoor spaces for programming that may include, but is not limited to, information sessions, performances, special events or presentations. Payment for such space is in accordance with current University protocols. Columbia University space is generally awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to Columbia and student activities, followed by local community activities. For more information call 212-854-5800 or visit uem.columbia.edu.

# Columbia Community Scholars Program

Columbia University offers independent, community-based scholars from Upper Manhattan access to a range of University services and resources. Services and resources are provided at no cost to participants and include access to all of University libraries — including online access, course auditing privileges, dialogue with scholars in their field of study and participation in seminars and social events developed specifically for these scholars. For more information, visit gca.columbia.edu/communityscholars, call 212-854-5915, or email communityaffairs@columbia.edu.

#### **Athletics Clinics**

Columbia University's varsity sports programs and coaches of football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, swimming, track and field, and tennis sponsor and participate in seasonal sports clinics for local community children in University facilities and throughout Harlem and Washington Heights.

For more information, please call 212-254-2233, or visit perec.columbia.edu/sports-camps.

#### **Housing Legal Assistance**

Columbia University provides funding for two attorneys at a legal assistance provider acceptable to NYCHPD serving the Manhattanville area, to provide anti-eviction/anti-harassment legal assistance for residents of the Manhattanville area.

Contact Legal Services NYC directly and ask a representative if you are eligible for the benefit described above. Phone: 212-348-7449; Fax: 212-348-4093. Legal Services NYC can also be found online at legalservicesnyc.org.

#### **Columbia Wellness Center**

Located on the ground floor of the Jerome L. Greene Science Center, the Wellness Center provides health resources to area residents. ColumbiaDoctors hosts community-based initiatives that train members of the Harlem community to become health advocates to prevent stroke and promote mental health. The center also provides free cholesterol and blood pressure screenings, health insurance enrollment, weight counseling and other services.

Please note that the Wellness Center is not a clinical practice. For more information call 212-853-1146, email wellnesscenter@cumc.columbia.edu or visit communitywellness.manhattanville.columbia.edu.

#### **Shuttle Bus Service for the Elderly and Disabled**

Columbia University provides a shuttle bus service free of charge to members of the local community who are disabled or who are 65 and older (including their attendants) through the ADA-accessible Intercampus Shuttle. The shuttle connects 96th Street, the Morningside campus, Manhattanville campus, the Medical Center (CUMC) and Harlem Hospital (HH) to subway stations at:

- 96th Street and Broadway
- 116th Street and Broadway
- 125th Street and Broadway
- Harlem Hospital Center (135th Street and Lenox Avenue)
- Columbia University Medical Center (168th Street and Broadway)

The shuttle bus service runs on a regular schedule throughout the day on weekdays, except on state and federal public holidays.

Senior citizens and disabled passengers must show their Access-A-Ride, Reduced-Fare MetroCards, or Medicare cards, to access the service.

For more information visit transportation.columbia.edu, or call 212-854-3382 or email transportation@columbia.edu.

## **Undergraduate Scholarships for Aid-Eligible Students From the Local Community**

Columbia University has established the Thompson-Muñoz Scholarship Fund to serve up to 40 aid-eligible undergraduate students per year who are admitted to Columbia College and/or the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, with funding made available to meet their fully demonstrated financial need. Eligible students must undergo Columbia's undergraduate admissions process. For more information, contact Columbia's Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 212-854-2522.

# Our Elected Officials and Community Boards

#### FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sen. Charles E. Schumer 757 Third Ave., Ste. 17-02 New York, NY 10017 Phone: 212-486-4430 TDD: 212-486-7803 Fax: 212-486-7693 schumer.senate.gov

Sen. Kirsten E. Gillibrand 780 Third Ave., Ste. 2601 New York, New York 10017 Phone: 212-688-6262

Fax: 212-688-7444 gillibrand.senate.gov

Rep. Jerrold Nadler (District 10)

201 Varick St., Ste. 669 New York, NY 10014 Phone: 212-367-7350 Fax: 212-367-7356 nadler.house.gov

Rep. Adriano Espaillat (District 13)

Harlem State Office Building 163 West 125th Street New York, NY 10027 Phone: 212-663-3900 espaillat.house.gov

#### STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

State Capitol Albany, NY 12224 Phone: 518-474-8390 Fax: 518-474-1513 governor.ny.gov

State Sen. Brian Benjamin (District 30)

163 West 125th Street Harlem State Office Bldg., Suite 912 New York, NY 10027

ny senate.gov/senators/brian-benjamin

State Sen. Robert Jackson (District 31)

5030 Broadway Suite 701 New York, NY 10034 Phone: 212-544-0173 Fax: 212-544-0256

Phone: 212-222-7315

nysenate.gov/senators/robert-jackson

Assembly Member Daniel J. O'Donnell (District 69)

245 W. 104th St. New York, NY 10025 Phone: 212-866-3970 nyassembly.gov/mem/Daniel-J-O'Donnell

Assembly Member Inez E. Dickens (District 70)

163 West 125th Street Suite 911 New York, NY 10027 Phone: 212-866-5809

nyassembly.gov/mem/Inez-E-Dickens

Assembly Member Al Taylor (District 71) 2541-55 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd.

New York, NY 10039 Phone: 212-234-1430 nyassembly.gov/mem/Al-Taylor

Assembly Member Carmen De La Rosa
(District 72)

(District 72)
210 Sherman Avenue
Ste A&C
New York, NY 10034
Phone: 212-544-2278

ny as sembly. gov/mem/Carmen-N-De-La-Rosa

#### LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Bill de Blasio

City Hall New York, NY 10007 Phone: 212-788-3000 Fax: 212-788-2460 www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor

Public Advocate Jumaane Williams

1 Centre St., 15th Flr. New York, NY 10007 Phone: 212-669-7200 (General) Phone: 212-669-7250 (Ombudsman) Fax: 212-669-4701 pubadvocate.nyc.gov

Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer

431 West 125th Street New York, NY 10027 Phone: 212-531-1609 manhattanbp.nyc.gov

Comptroller Scott Stringer

1 Centre St. New York, NY 10007 Phone: (212) 669-3916 TTY: 212-669-3450 Fax: 212-669-2707 comptroller.nyc.gov

City Council Speaker Corey Johnson (District 3)

224 West 30th Street, Suite 1206 New York, NY 10001 Phone: 212-564-7757 council.nyc.gov/district-3 City Council Member Helen Rosenthal (District 6)

563 Columbus Ave. New York, NY 10024 Phone: 212-873-0282 Fax: 212-873-0279 council.nyc.gov/district-6

City Council Member Mark Levine (District 7)

500 W. 141st St. New York, NY 10031 Phone: 212-928-6814 Fax: 646-582-1408 council.nyc.gov/district-7

City Council Member Diana Ayala (District 8)

105 East 116th Street New York NY 10029 Phone: 212-828-9800 council.nyc.gov/district-8

City Council Member Bill Perkins (District 9)

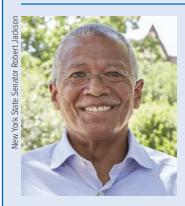
Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building 163 West 125th Street, Room 729 New York, NY 10027 Phone: 212-678-4505 Fax: 212-864-4379 council.nyc.gov/district-9

City Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez (District 10)

618 W. 177th St., Ground Flr. New York, NY 10033 Phone: 917-521-2616 Fax: 917-521-1293 council.nyc.gov/district-10

### He Represents You ...

**New York State Senator Robert Jackson** 



obert Jackson is the state senator for the 31st District in the New York State Senate. The district stretches along Manhattan's Hudson River and includes the neighborhoods of Washington Heights, Inwood, Marble Hill, Hamilton Heights, Harlem, Morningside Heights, the Upper West Side, Hell's Kitchen and Chelsea.

Jackson was elected to the State Senate in November 2018 and chairs the Committee on Cities. He is a member of the New York

State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus; and a member of the Civil Service and Pensions; Education; Higher Education; Housing, Construction and Community Development; Labor; and New York City Education committees. Prior to becoming a state senator, Jackson represented District 7 in the New York City Council from 2001 to 2013. As a council member, he helped start the Drop-Out Prevention Initiative and worked on legislation to support Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises and the Small Business and Jobs Survival Act.

A co-founder of the Campaign for Fiscal Equity, Jackson took New York State to court in 1993, arguing that the state's way of disbursing funds to public education did not provide adequate resources to students in New York City, violating both the New York State Constitution and the federal Civil Rights Act. As a result of winning this lawsuit, the Campaign for Fiscal Equity secured billions in additional funding for New York City students; the ruling also led to the 2007 creation of the Foundation Aid Formula by the State Legislature to ensure adequate distribution of resources.

Jackson has lived in Washington Heights since 1975 and grew up in Upper Manhattan alongside eight brothers and sisters. He attended PS 186 and Benjamin Franklin High School, and he graduated from the State University of New York at New Paltz. He is married and has three daughters.

#### **COMMUNITY BOARDS**



Community Board 7

Represents the community between the Hudson River and Central Park West from 59th Street to 110th Street.

250 West 87th Street New York, NY 10024 Phone: 212-362-4008 office@cb7.org Board Chair: Roberta S

Board Chair: Roberta Semer
District Manager: Penny Ryan

www1.nyc.gov/site/manhattancb7/index.page

Community Board 9

Represents the community between the Hudson River and Morningside/Edgecombe Avenues from 110th Street to 155th Street.

16 Old Broadway (Between 125th and 126th Streets) New York, NY 10027 Phone: 212-864-6200 info@cb9m.org Board Chair: Barry Weinberg District Manager: Eutha Prince cb9m.org

Community Board 10

Represents the community between Fifth Avenue and Morningside/Edgecombe Avenues from 110th Street to 159th Street.

215 West 125th Street, 4th Flr.
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-749-3105
mn10cb@cb.nyc.gov
Board Chair: Cicely Harris
District Manager: Shatic Mitchell
www1.nyc.gov/html/mancb10/html/home/
home.shtml

Community Board 11

Represents the community between 96th Street and 142nd Street, Fifth Avenue and the East and Harlem Rivers, and includes Randall's and Ward's Islands.

1664 Park Avenue, Ground Floor New York, NY 10035 Phone: 212-831-8929 mn11@cb.nyc.gov Board Chair: Nilsa Orama District Manager: Angel D. Mescain cb11m.org

Community Board 12

Represents the community between the Hudson River and the Harlem River from 155th Street to 220th Street.

530 West 166th Street, 6th Flr. New York, NY 10032 Phone: 212-568-8500 ebsmith@cb.nyc.gov Board Chair: Richard R. Lewis District Manager: Ebenezer Smith www1.nyc.gov/html/mancb12/html/home/

# Introducing Columbia University Neighbors A Hub of News, Resources and More for Our Neighbors in Upper Manhattan

By Bashar Makhay

#### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



he Columbia Newsletter: News for Our Neighbors is now the Columbia University Neighbors Newsletter, a part of the newly launched Neighbors Hub at Columbia University. Designed to foster collaboration and strengthen ties between the University and our surrounding community, the Hub includes a new website, social media, monthly e-news, a monthly printed bulletin in English and Spanish and this twice-yearly printed newsletter.

Bulletin, E-News and Newsletter: The Neighbors Bulletin is issued monthly and replaces Growing Together. Each edition of the Bulletin includes community updates and a listing of events of interest in a print-friendly format. The Bulletin is available in English and Spanish and is emailed alongside the Neighbors E-News, which is sent up to twice a month and supplies a useful listing of community news, events, resources and more. The Neighbors Newsletter provides news, information on community benefits, a listing of resources and contact information for local elected officials. It is distributed throughout Upper Manhattan.

Social Media: In addition to following @Columbia, you'll want to follow @NeighborsHub on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for regularly posted events in the community and updates from Columbia. @NeighborsHub is also the new home for updates from the Office of Government and Community Affairs and Columbia Community Service (CCS), including highlighting the work of CCS grantees.

Website: At the center of it all is the Columbia University Neighbors website, neighbors.columbia.edu, which is divided into four main sections: Resources, Manhattanville Campus, Events and News. The News section contains highlights from the University and Upper Manhattan. The Events section focuses on happenings at

the University and those hosted by our community partners throughout Upper Manhattan. The Manhattanville Campus section replaces the soon-to-be-retired Manhattanville website and provides information about the campus, history, University commitments and construction updates and opportunities. Lastly, the Resources section highlights community benefits and resources in Upper Manhattan and provides a directory of Columbia University programs and resources in Upper Manhattan searchable by keyword, target age group and popular categories.

The Neighbors Hub is maintained by the Office of Government and Community Affairs in collaboration with the Office of Communications and Public Affairs and Columbia University Facilities and Operations. Over the following months you will see us develop the Hub and its various mediums into a platform that provides relevant and timely news, events and opportunities for neighbors of Columbia University. We hope you will find this resource useful and invite your feedback and collaboration.



Connect with the Neighbors Hub online!

meighbors.columbia.edu

f@NeighborsHub

✓ @ NeighborsHub

**☑**@ NeighborsHub