

COLUMBIA NEIGHBORS

B U L L E T I N



Photo credit: Harlem Community School District 5

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Reimagining Education in Harlem

Harlem Community School District 5 Superintendent Sean L. Davenport's deeply rooted passion for education stems from a storied journey of self-discovery and service. Growing up, he rarely saw himself reflected in his learning environments, from the pages of his textbooks to the people surrounding him.

Now, sitting at the helm of Harlem's District 5—a collective of 23 schools throughout Central Harlem and Morningside Heights—Davenport is cultivating culturally responsive learning spaces where local youth can feel seen, heard, and celebrated; schools that center the neighborhood's rich history and empower young scholars to

be active participants in building its future.

"I saw it as a chance to help change the mindsets of families and speak to the greatness of Harlem through education," Davenport said.

Neighbors spoke with Davenport—a proud Norfolk State University alum—about his path in the education space, his foundational contributions to Thurgood Marshall Academy Lower School, engaging the local community through education, and his key priorities and vision for District 5.

Read the rest of the story on neighbors.columbia.edu/sean-davenport

Harlem Holiday Lights Parade Returns With a Twinkle

'Tis the season, neighbors! What better way to kick off holiday festivities than floating around Harlem under twinkling lights?

Columbia University had the pleasure of joining all of its Uptown neighbors and Grand Marshal Misty Copeland at the Harlem Holiday Lights Parade on Nov. 19, which paid tribute to Harlem's storied history of dance.

Many thanks to the 125th Street BID, Columbia's Office of Government and Community Affairs, the Apollo Theater, Settepani Harlem, Community Boards 9 and 10, and all of the other amazing partners and sponsors who made this event possible.



Photo credit: Eileen Barroso

Get into the holiday spirit and look back on the festivities with our photo essay from the event at neighbors.columbia.edu/24-lights

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Optimal Aging and Intergenerational Support Systems

December 4, 6 - 8 pm

Columbia Bundles Community Scholar Chris Lawrence leads a discussion on intergenerational work to meet the needs of an aging population.

neighbors.columbia.edu/aging

32nd Annual African Diaspora International Film Festival Through December 15

With an eclectic selection of 65 films from 32 countries, screening locations include Teachers College and The Forum on Columbia's campuses.

neighbors.columbia.edu/african-film

Lenfest Kids: 'Gulliver's Travels'

December 14, 12 p.m.

Lenfest Kids will be showing the animated classic, *Gulliver's Travels*. All local families are encouraged to join the viewing.

neighbors.columbia.edu/gulliver



Music Monday at The Forum: Every Voice Choirs

December 16,
6 - 7 p.m.

Get ready to sing along to your favorite holiday songs with a special "communit-ty caroling" holiday performance.

neighbors.columbia.edu/caroling-monday