Neighbors Bulletin

CommunityUpdates

SHOP & DINE LOCAL DIRECTORY LAUNCHES

In December, Shop & Dine Local launched on the Columbia Neighbors website. Shop & Dine Local provides a resource to help find locally owned restaurants and shops in Harlem and Morningside Heights. With this directory, we hope to encourage a deeper connection between Columbia students, faculty, and staff, and the locally-owned small businesses that help create Harlem's rich and varied streets and culture. Shop & Dine Local will also serve as a means to promote those local businesses, and enrich their relationships with Columbia.

Many small businesses have struggled a great deal during the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope that building connections between residents and businesses in Morningside Heights and Harlem will allow Shop & Dine Local to be one of the many ways Columbia supports our local businesses during and beyond these challenging times. Learn more about those other programs, including the Columbia-Harlem Small Business Development Center and the Harlem Local Vendor Program at neighbors.columbia.edu/resources.

Check out Shop & Dine Local at neighbors.columbia.edu/shopdinelocal.

NEW YORK EXTENDS COVID-19 RENT RELIEF

New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) has re-opened the COVID Rent Relief Program with expanded eligibility criteria, in order to serve New Yorkers who missed the opportunity to apply during the first round of grants as well as those who were ineligible previously. For this round of grants, it is no longer a requirement that a household was rent burdened (paying more than 30 percent of monthly gross income towards rent) prior to March 7, 2020.

Applications for the one-time stimulus payment are open until February 1, 2021. Previous applicants who did not receive payments do not need to reapply for consideration for this round. Learn more and apply via neighbors.columbia.edu/rentreliefextension.

CommunityEvents

Check with event organizers for latest updates as details may change. More details can be found at neighbors.columbia.edu/events

The Schomburg Center's Annual Black Comic Book Festival
Jan 13-16
The Schomburg Center's 9th Black Comic Book Festival, celebrating the rich tradition of Black comics, is virtual and expanded to 4 days.
neighbors.columbia.edu/comicfest

CU Grow 5th Cohort Application
Due Jan 13
CU Grow accepts firms in the built environment trades. Firms are paired with an expert coach to assist in growing their businesses.
neighbors.columbia.edu/cugrowapp

Summer of Translational Aging Research for Undergraduates Application
Due Jan 15
STAR U is a fully-funded research training program to encourage students to pursue further studies and careers in aging and neuroscience.
neighbors.columbia.edu/staruapp

Live from Columbia: Brandee Younger & Dezron Douglas
Jan 19 7PM
This installment of the Live from Columbia series features harpist Brandee Younger and bassist Dezron Douglas performing jazz works.
neighbors.columbia.edu/livefromcu

Small Business Finance 101
Jan 20 10AM
In the first part of this two-part webinar, participants are introduced to basic finance terminology and budget categories.
neighbors.columbia.edu/smallbiz101

Job Readiness Workshop
Feb 3 3PM
Participants in this workshop will learn techniques to effectively "sell" their abilities and locate jobs suited to future career goals.
neighbors.columbia.edu/jobreadiness