

**ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE
MINUTES of March 4, 2024**

Committee Members:

Member	Present	Virtual	Absent	Excused	Recorded Minutes
Co-Chair Hon. Daria Hardeman	X				
Co-Chair Hon. Tina Lumley	X				
Hon. Walter T. Alexander	X				
Hon. Juan Colmenares	X				
Hon. Carlton Davis	X				
Hon. Sharon De La Cruz		X			
Hon. Tiago Kiel	X				X
Hon. Ilana Mercado		X			
Hon. Carolina Ramirez			X		

Monday, March 4, 2024
6:30 PM

Location: Hybrid meeting 3291/3295 [Broadway, New York 10027](#) and Virtual Zoom Meeting (Zoom info available at [CB9M.org](#) meeting calendar)

Attendees:

Co-Chairs: Hon. Daria Hardeman, and Hon. Tina Lumley

Committee Members:

Hon. Walter Alexander, Hon. Juan Colmenares, Hon. Carlton Davis, Hon. Tiago Kiel, Hon. Ilana Mercado, Hon. Sharon De La Cruz, Hon. Carolina Ramirez

Public:

Savona Bailey-McClain, Executive Director and Chief Curator - West Harlem Art Fund
 Anne Strauss - astrauss@broadwaymall.org - Broadway Mall Association
 Kate Wodell - rues_sis@yahoo.com - Broadway Mall Association
 John McGregor - jmgbooks2@gmail.com - JMG Books
 Messiah Ramkissoon - mramkissoon@youthjustice.org - Youth Justice Network
 Jack Powers - jpowers@youthjustice.org - Director of Community Outreach
 Anthony DeJesus - adejesus@youthjustice.org - Youth Justice Network
 Stefanie Nelson, Stefanie Nelson Dancegroup, www.sndancegroup.org
 Dakota Pippins - dakota@harlemlatenightjazz.org - President Harlem Late Night Jazz Inc. - 646-242-6710
 Jermee Anderson - TAG
 Chimene Keys - Columbia Daily Spectator - Chimene.keys@columbiaspectator.com
 Pheonix Hood - TAG
 Corice Haines - TAG Youth
 Kazembe Balagun, guest film programmer, Maysles Documentary Center, kazembe@gmail.com, 646-220-5049
 Martin Collins - Uptown Arts Stroll Coordinator, Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance - artstroll@nomaanyc.org - 212-567-4394 - www.nomaanyc.org
 Barbara Adeola Grant - President Black American Dance Heritage Inc. - blackamericandance@gmail.com - 212-722-7734.
 Victor Edwards - Community Board President

AGENDA

 I. Call to Order @ 6:38 PM

 II. Adopted Agenda with necessary amendments

City Arts - Youth Transforming Communities

- Moved by: Walter T Alexander
- Seconded by: Tina Lumley

III. Adopt Minutes

- Moved by: Walter
- Seconded by: Tina

IV. Introductions

- All existing and new Arts and Culture Committee attendees introduced themselves.
- Yuen Chin - Director of Harlem One Stop
 - Community based marketing destination for Upper Manhattan
 - Committed to protecting Harlem's cultural identity and artistic expressions
 - Here to voice support for an upcoming bill
- Michael Palma - West Harlem Arts Alliance
- Dakota Pippins - Harlem Late Night Jazz

V. Announcements

a. Who we are. What we do.

Committee contact Information: **CB9Arts@yahoo.com**

Please also cc Co-chairs: **DariaDaria@yahoo.com, TLumley@hotmail.com**

VI. Committee Reports

a. Artist Information - Liaisons: Hon. Tina Lumley, Hon. Walter Alexander

(Email your announcements to Arts & Culture distribution list: TLumley@hotmail.com & XAlex111@gmail.com; and

For CB9 Full Board Community E-blast, send announcements to: Info@CB9M.org)

The Committee collects and disseminates information about artists, opportunities, and performances. So, please contact these emails above to be added to the mailing list, or if you have an announcement

b. Visual Artist Exhibition Project - Liaisons: Hon. Tina Lumley, Hon. Ilana Mercado, Hon. Sharon De La Cruz

- Connect with organizations with spaces that can be dedicated to arts with artists and aspiring artists who might need some spaces

c. Strategic Planning Committee/Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) -

Liaisons: Hon. Carlton Davis, Hon. Juan Colmenares, Hon. Carolina Ramirez, Hon. Sharon De La Cruz

- Strategic Planning Committee was canceled for February

d. West Harlem Arts Alliance - Liaisons: Hon. Daria Hardeman, Hon. Tina Lumley

- Michael Palma

1. Launching a new website (WHAANYC.org)

- a. Includes a calendar of events
- b. Artist list (The A List) - where anyone looking for a certain artist can find artists who have joined the list

2. In anticipation of a grant from the WHDC, the WHAA in collaboration with NoMAA will provide opportunities to learn and mingle with other

attendees

- a. Workshop: 5:30-6:15 pm – RIO Gallery 3, 898 St. Nicholas Avenue @ 155th Street
- b. 5:30-6:15 pm ~ The Art of Grant Writing for Artists ~ Juanita Lara, Development Director for BronxNet TV.
- c. Mixer: 6:30-8:00 pm – Tsion Café 763 St. Nicholas Avenue (a short walk away!)

e. Harlem Arts Alliance - Liaison: Hon. Daria Hardeman

- Will be having its next town hall meeting, its second open house since the pandemic in March 16 from 4-6 PM

F. Borough President's state of the borough address

- Jazz Power Initiative and Dance for Variable Population performed

VII. Community Updates (3 mins or less)

a. Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance - Martin Collins

- In the process of the Poster Contest, ending April 4th. Submit in the NOMAA website
- New "Women in the Heights" Exhibition at the NOMAA
- Artists in Community Board 9 & 12 are invited to submit for Uptown Treasures, an exhibit opening Friday, May 31st at NoMAAs Gallery, the same night the Uptown Arts Stroll opens. See NoMAAs website for details.
- And, NoMAA has four studios priced with artists in mind. Please see nomaanyc.org for information on the studios and more.



VIII. Presentations:

a. West Harlem Art Fund (WestHarlem.Art) - Savona Bailey-McClain, Executive Director and Chief Curator

- Discussion about the Art ecosystem in NYC
- Artists out of graduate school generally work with smaller exhibitions and other artists in order to get gallery representation
- However, artists often never get to a gallery because they might not understand the process.
- Additional problem because of lack of affordable gallery space
- Spirited discussion about how to improve

a. T.A.G. The Community Initiatives of NY, Teens Against Gun Violence (TCIONY.org) - Nicole York, Program Director | Board Member | Instagram: @TCIONY

- Connecting youth, ages 14-24 with the arts and conversation in order to support them in artistic and social engagement.
- Additionally teaches youth essential, more general life skills.
- All programs are free.
- Question: Ilana
 - Where are you located? - Office at 135th and Adam Clayton Powell, and have connections with many schools in Harlem
 - Hosts meetings at Salem United Methodist Church, every Thursday

e. Maysles Documentary Center (<http://www.maysles.org>) - Kazembe Balagun, Writer/Curator/Cultural Historian/Activist

- Founded by documentarian Maysles in 2005 to provide low/no cost training in documentarian training
- Has evolved into a documentary viewing venue as well
- Located at 343 Lenox Ave, where new and old documentaries about the history of the community's mental health are being shown.

f. Broadway Mall Association - Anne Strauss and Kate Wodell

- Nonprofit: Stewards of the of the green mediums along Broadway in collaboration with NYC Parks
- Has an upcoming art exhibition entitled Shaun Stoney Art Shuffle, running for the next several months in partnership with NYC Parks. In CB9 the sculpture will be at 117th Street between Columbia and Barnard
- Includes sculptures by renowned artists
- Q by Daria: How do you choose artists and how can artists get involved
 - Artists in network get chosen and out of network can express interest on the website
 - To join the Broadway Mall Association

g. Stefanie Nelson - Stefanie Nelson Dancegroup (www.sndancegroup.org) snelson@sndancegroup

- Has a space for 15 weeks open in Italy, mostly for movement based artists, and a young artist program for dancers from ages 15, 16, and 17
- Based in Morningside Heights and has a Partnership with Presbyterian at 114th
- Moving memory project:
 - Provides free movement based courses for youth to seniors.
- Upcoming performances at April 5th and June 14th at Broadway Presbyterian Church
- info@danceitalia.com for young dancers ages 15-17 interested in dancing with us for 15 days in Lucca, IT (www.danceitalia.com); and snelson@sndancegroup for any questions about anything I said tonight.

h. Youth Justice Network youthjustice.org - Messiah Ramkissoon, Anthony DeJesus, and Jack Powers

- Founded 34 years ago to support 16 and up coming out of incarceration, serving as a bridge between the youth and their next steps
- Implementing a new arts initiative called Hear Us See Us - a photography program for youths that helps them connect and get gigs in Harlem, create art by providing gallery space and allowing them to sell their works.
- Also has a music portion that complements the photography, will allow them to develop musically and will end with a music video.
- Works all across the boroughs in a mobile team alongside a team at Rikers and in the courts.

i. Harlem Late Night Jazz - Dakota Pippins - harlemlatenightjazz.org and jazzhistorytree.com

- Dedicated to preserving Harlem's cultural and musical legacy, alongside making Harlem the destination for music
- Founded in 2016, Harlem Late Night Jazz is a non-profit 501(c)(3) dedicated to maintaining and growing a vibrant jazz scene in Harlem. Our mission is to "keep the music alive" in its mecca.... Harlem, NY.
- To see upcoming events go to the website <https://harlemlatenightjazz.org/>
- Committed to returning music to the historic Minton's Playhouse
- Will be curating music for the Uptown Night Market, with 8 events starting in April
- Additionally Supports the New Amsterdam Music association

j. Tidiani Ouane - USA Mali Charitable Association

- Focuses on introducing West African culture to New Yorkers
- Partners with public schools to teach African dance classes and how to sing certain songs.
- Alongside the city's Department of Cultural Affairs the association also promotes cultural inclusivity and diversities in public schools

k. Yuein Chin - Harlem One Stop

- Wishes to promote and request a letter of support for A 25 63 A,
 - The bill will develop guidelines and criteria for designation of arts and culture districts in New York, opening opportunities for funding from state sources for grants and marketing and tourist initiatives
 - Introduced and passed in the Senate in 2016 but has languished and has been not introduced for many sessions, leading to it having to constantly start over
- So Harlem One Stop and other familiar organizations have started to gather support for the bill
- Daria pledges to work with Yuen and the

IX. Old Business

X. New Business

a. Arts and Culture and Cannabis Taskforce Collaboration

- Daria introduced the committee's newest initiative and move towards collaboration with the Community Board's Cannabis Taskforce and YEL Committee

XI. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn moved by Walter, second by Tina.

Meetings adjourned at 8:36

Next meeting will be held Monday, April 1, 2024 at 6:30 pm.