

# **Manhattan Community Board 9 Youth, Education & Libraries**

March 12, 2024 YEL AGENDA

In Attendance:

Hon. Deirdre McIntosh-Brown

Hon. Shaneeka Wilson

Lydia Gerson

Tiago Kiel

Elisa Yoo

Sharon De La Cruz (Online)

Francine Wearing (Online)

## **New Business**

1. CB9 Community Health Forum
2. HEAF's Community Resource Fair & Family Day! March 23<sup>rd</sup> (see flyer via email)

## **Community Presentation/Discussions:**

### 1. **Reading Partners** – Pilar Zullo (& Thara Nugues)

Provides reading support to the neighborhood. In business for 13 years and aligns with NYS testing standards. FREE tutoring for children grades K – 4<sup>th</sup>. 45 minute sessions, 2 times/week. Students are selected by teachers who visit the “Reading Center” (an area set up inside participating schools) and tutored by trained volunteers. Currently participating at PS 123 Mahalia Jackson (CB10) and looking for schools in CB9 to join.

### 2. **Harlem Business Alliance** – Monique Hector

Harlem Business Alliance assists Entrepreneurs all over NYC (not just Harlem). Using WHDC grant to provide entrepreneurial skills to teens and young adults, HBA will initiate a program called “Young Bosses of Harlem” Where young people ages 16 – 24 will learn to create a business plan, record a podcast, participate in ‘Shark Tank’ style pitching and more.

### 3. **Riverside Hawks** – Coach Hargraves & Chris Snell & Alicia Barksdale

The **ABCs** of Riverside Hawks!

Academics

Basketball

Community

Riverside Hawks enrolls approximately 700 kids annually from elementary school to High School. They currently have 12 female teams! And 15 male teams! In 2023, Their HS students reached 100% graduation rate as well as 100% college acceptance rate! They have given out \$22K in scholarships as well.

### 4. **Doing Art Together** - Electra Askitopoulos-Friedman & Sade Powell

Based in Harlem. Visual Arts and Hands On Workshops taking place in schools across the boroughs. Serving ages 4 -22. Children who take art in school are 2x likely to graduate. Also serving Public and Alternative schools! Provides Parent & Child classes, as well as hosted Family Day with Art workshops and resources. Classes are led by teaching artists who identify as Women, Queer, Immigrants. Budget Cuts have hurt the program. Currently at PS 125, PS 161 and PS 36

5. **Broadway Presbyterian Church Nursery School - Jaya Misra- Director**  
In operation since 1991. Now is non-denomination. Provides hands on learning, developmentally appropriate education. Teachers have Masters Degrees and serve a max of 37 students per year. Annual tuition is approx. \$30K; WHDC grant allows for financial aid for more families to attend and promote diversity and inclusion.
  
6. **IBREA Harlem Brain – Isabel Guzman**  
**Consultants with the United Nations.** Working in A. Philip Randolph since 2015. Leads workshops through Somatic Work (Physical movement + meditation). These workshops help to promote decision making and emotional regulation. Resilience, power of choice and mental strength. There are FREE drop in classes in Harlem once a month for all ages. \*Participating in Public Health Forum\*
  
7. **CUNY X The Brotherhood-Sister Sol - Logan Lyons & Brennan Meagher & Dominique Perkins**  
In order to understand the food insecurity and collect the demographics of our neighborhood, several students from CUNY are working on a survey to better serve the CB9 area and to promote the Brotherhood Sister Sol Farmer's Market expected to open May 14<sup>th</sup>. Survey will be sent to CB members via email if you wish to participate...
  
8. **Columbia Community Impact – Satrina Boyce**  
This started with 2 columbia students who looked at their surrounding neighborhood and determined they could help. Thus began a food pantry and developed into 20 programs that serve the Harlem community. The programs fit into 1 or 3 divisions: Youth Mentoring, Tutoring, or Cultural Enrichment. Working in PS 36, PS 125 and Graham Wyndham. Collaborates with America Reads (literacy program). Columbia Youth Adventures – a programs for children who live in Grant Housing to explore the city including an annual trip to the Columbia Campus. Columbia University provides SPACE ONLY. Funds to operate fall to the students to raise. These students are volunteers and do not earn college credits. Food insecurity is an issue, Food Pantry served over 30K people in 2023. April 19 they will host a Community Fundraiser – details to follow via email!
  
9. **Education Through Music – Nick LaFleur**  
Education Through Music presented at the March 12 th meeting to talk about the 2-day per week (12.5 hours per week) music program it is providing at P.S. 192 Jacob H. Schiff for all K through 5th grade students. Each K through 5th grade class has music once per week as a regular weekly special. This is ETMs 3rd year of partnership with P.S. 192. Although they had planned to continue this year, principal Abreu contacted ETM on August 31st saying that she had an insurmountable budget deficit and would have to withdraw. (ETM Partner schools contribute 33% of the cost of their music programs.) However, thanks to this \$12,500 grant from West Harlem Development Corp. which we received initial notification of on September 25th, ETM has been able restart P.S. 192's music program by covering the school's contribution to services with these funds.