

“Art Creates Community and Community Creates Change!”

Founded in 1986 and located in Gowanus, Groundswell is New York City’s leading community public art organization, bringing together young people, teaching artists, and community organizations to facilitate community-building, personal growth, and social change through mural-making. Social and racial justice are central to what they care about, as their organization “amplifies the voices of young people of color, and artists of color, through public art to reflect the brilliance of communities of color.” To date, Groundswell has produced over 500 murals throughout New York City and has assured our place on the list of the best U.S. cities in which to see wonderful public art: Philadelphia, New York, Los Angeles, Miami, San Francisco, Chicago, and Portland.

Groundswell runs seven after school programs during the year: Teen Empowerment Mural Apprenticeship, Portfolio Development, Voices Her’d, Making History, Artivism, TurnStyle, and Segue. Groundswell’s flagship Summer Leadership Institute employs teams of young apprentice artists who create large-scale public art throughout the city. Each team researches, designs, and fabricates their mural with the help of teaching artists and the involvement of community organizations and city agencies. Amelia Calsi, Manager of Mural Operations at Groundswell, explains, “For summer, specifically, we get to partner with groups that give us a little more autonomy in what we get to talk about, which is exciting for us because then the youth that we work with really get a lot of voice in the



“Justice at the Crossroads,” produced by Gowanus-based Groundswell neighborhood youth, is a striking example of public art and social justice messaging on view at 138 5th Avenue.

Photo courtesy of Groundswell

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Presidents’ Letter

In this issue of the Civic News, we celebrate art and the many neighbors who are our permanent artists-in-residence. See our feature above about Groundswell, NYC’s leading public art organization, responsible for the production of over 500 murals throughout the city. “Creativity Blooms in Park Slope” is a guide to the wide array of venues in our community where you can find dance, music, theater, visual arts and more. “Opera on Tap” is an organization born at Freddy’s Bar and Backroom in Park Slope and now a national organization, bringing opera out of the opera house to local bars and other venues. And of course, we feature the Brooklyn Museum and call out the stunning sculptures in Prospect Park from local artist Fitzhugh Karol. In “A View from the Street,” Amy Williams, a local art director, highlights her recommendations for things to do this fall.

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October 17th Food for Thought Gala Four Scholarships, Fantastic Food, Fun For All

On Wednesday, October 17th, the Park Slope Civic Council, with support from neighborhood businesses and local restaurants and bars, is hosting the 7th Annual Food for Thought Tasting Gala. This is our largest fundraiser and a really great fall event!

Neighborhood restaurants, bars and beverage purveyors (see page 9) generously donate all of the food tastings, crafted cocktails and wine for the evening. Proceeds are awarded to four graduating seniors from each of the John Jay campus high schools. Scholarship recipients are selected for demonstrating exceptional commitment to community service.

Please join us - Wednesday, October 17th at the Picnic House in Prospect Park from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. To purchase tickets go to <https://pscfft2018.eventbrite.com>.



Our annual tasting event supporting student scholarships at the John Jay Campus

~ PARK SLOPE CIVIC COUNCIL ~

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Being Neighborly! Construction & Renovation Notification Bill Signed Into Law

In a recent press release, Senator Montgomery's Office announced the passage of the Construction Notification Bill. Thanks to this bill, the New York City Department of Buildings (NYC DOB) will now be required to provide written notification to adjoining property owners when an application for construction approval is submitted to NYC DOB. This legislation also requires NYC DOB to provide proof of insurance and a copy of the permit to owners of adjoining properties thirty days before construction or demolition work begins (except in the event emergency work is authorized).

This bill was introduced after a building collapse in the community several years ago. The engineers and contractors were unaware of a severe crack in the facade, although it was visible to tenants. As a result, the appropriate precautions were not followed, and the building collapsed, leaving several injured and fourteen homeless.

Additionally, for brownstone homeowners and property owners of older buildings, a neighboring construction or renovation project can cause substantial and expensive property damage. For working and middle class homeowners, this can easily mean displacement or financial ruin. This legislation will empower them with information necessary to pursue damages and get needed repairs done.

As this new law begins to be enforced, it will depend heavily on community monitoring to ensure that it is properly administered. Should you not receive the notifications described above to any adjoining property construction, please report the incident to the office of your local elected official.

A New & Improved Ennis Playground in 2019

Gowanus' Ennis Playground is finally getting some much-needed improvements. Working together with community advocates Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, the NYC Parks Department and Councilmember Brad Lander have funded and broken ground on the \$2.7 million overhaul of Gowanus' Ennis Playground. The groundbreaking took place on August 22nd.

Improvements include improved basketball courts, planting beds, water fountains, increased seating options, an added play unit for kids aged 2-5 and much more. The upgraded Ennis Playground will better serve the community, and is a part of the "Gowanus Greenscape" plan proposed in the Gowanus framework.



Photo courtesy of Councilmember Lander's Office

Pictured left to right CB6 District Manager Mike Racioppo, Councilmember Brad Lander, Borough President Eric Adams, NYC Parks Commissioner, Mitchell Silver, and NYC Parks Brooklyn Borough Commissioner Marty Maher at last month's groundbreaking event

#ClearTheCrosswalks Program Expansion

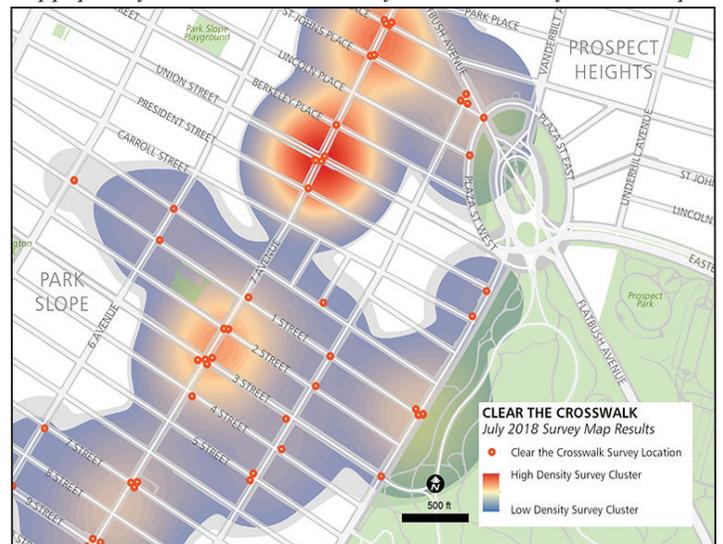
When, with the assistance of Councilmember Lander, the PSCC received "Age Friendly New York" grant funding from the NYC Department for the Aging (DFTA), a portion of that funding was used to develop and support an online survey, #ClearTheCrosswalks, in which Park Slope residents were asked to identify crosswalks that were frequently obstructed, especially by flooding after storms. Such intersections pose hazards to all residents, especially those with mobility problems such as those experienced by older Slope residents. Monitored by the PSCC Ad Hoc Committee on Aging, between 2/23/18 and 6/30/18 (the end of the grant period), 110 reports of flooded locations were received. Not surprisingly, given PSCC's demographic, the majority of locations were in the upper Park Slope area.

As the end of the grant period approached, the Ad Hoc committee looked at options for continuing a focus on problematic crosswalks. Committee members who were also part of the Council's Forth on Fourth Avenue (FOFA) committee were aware of work by the Gowanus Canal Conservancy (GCC) to explore ways of mitigating combined sewer overflow in the Gowanus watershed. Discussions with GCC confirmed their interest in identifying flooding prone locations and their desire to expand such research throughout the Gowanus watershed.

Because the GCC uses a Global Information System (GIS) program to analyze and convert geographic data to maps (see map below of PSCC

Map prepared by Gowanus Canal Conservancy

Story continued on p. 7



Presidents Letter, continued from page 1

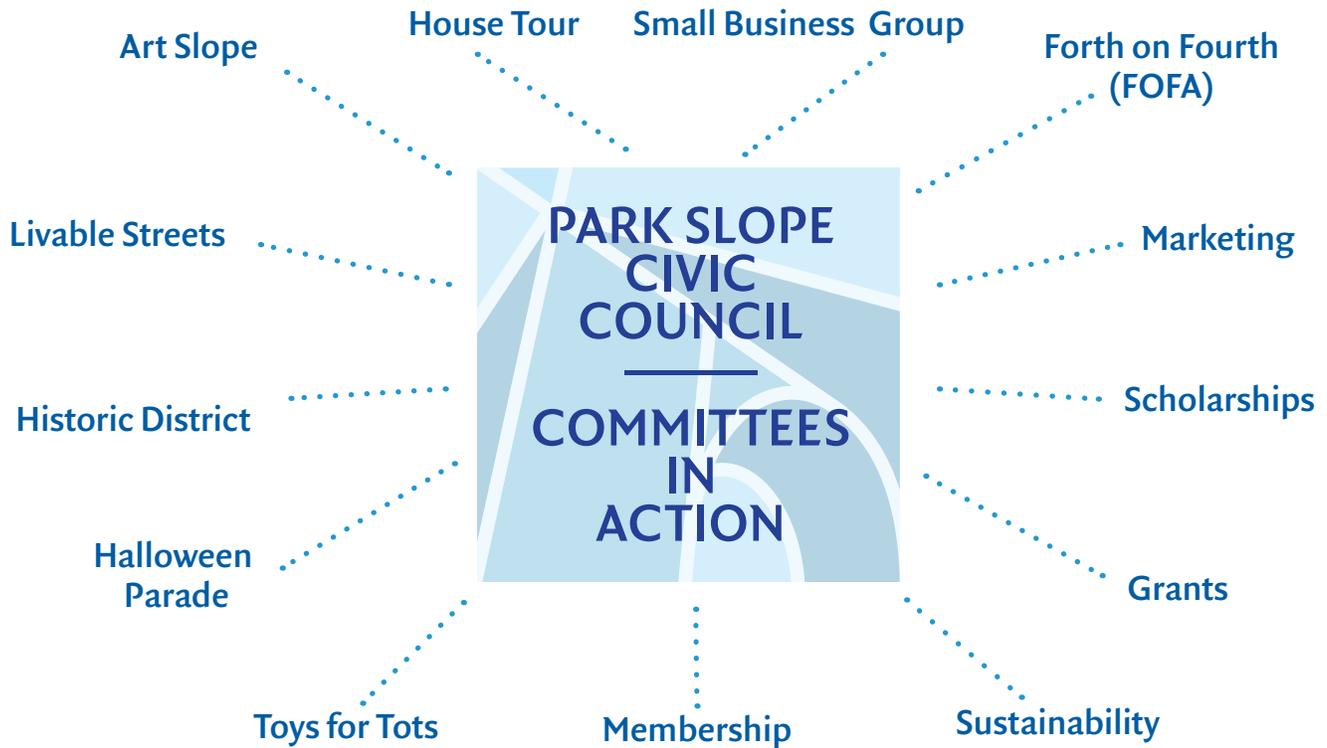
The Civic Council is also jumping into the arts scene once again. Launched in the fall of 2016, the PSCC's "ArtSlope" was a community-wide installation of local talent. Painters, sculptors, and performance artists all found a home in the neighborhood, and inside small businesses, for a week-long public exhibition.

In 2017, PSCC added "Shorts in the Slope," a three-day film festival screened with the support of The Berkeley Carroll School theater. Shorts in the Slope will return in Spring 2019 (April 5th-6th), and our Arts Committee is currently soliciting submissions from filmmakers. But as a preview on October 13th, ArtSlope will be screening an encore performance of the award-winning film, "Little Fugitive."

Fall also brings the Civic Council's Food for Thought, a fun food, wine and drink tasting event and our largest fundraiser of the year, supporting student scholarships.

Buy your tickets to these events now, and embrace the art in our community!

The Park Slope Civic Council Supporting a Lively, Safe, Green and Beautiful Park Slope!



Our Mission Statement

The Park Slope Civic Council promotes the health, vitality and character of the Park Slope neighborhood and advocates for the interests of residents, businesses and others with a stake in the community.

Support Your PSCC

help us to

Sustain the Relevance, Viability and History of This Community We Call Home.

Make your check payable to The Park Slope Civic Council and mail with this form to:
Box 172, 123 Seventh Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11215, or sign up online at www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org

Enclosed is my check for:

- Household: \$40
- Business/Professional: \$100
- Benefactor: \$250
- Non-Profit/Organization Partner: \$50
- Student/Elder Community (65+): \$25
- Other: Contribution of \$_____

Primary Contact (and company name if applicable) Email

Other Adult Member of Household (if applicable) Email

Street Address

City State Zip Phone

LEARN MORE! at parkslopeciviccouncil.org

Like us on Facebook: Park Slope Civic Council and follow us on Twitter: @PkSlCivCouncil

Arts in the Slope



Art Slope '19 - Shorts in the Slope Film Festival

Friday and Saturday April 6th & 7th, 2019

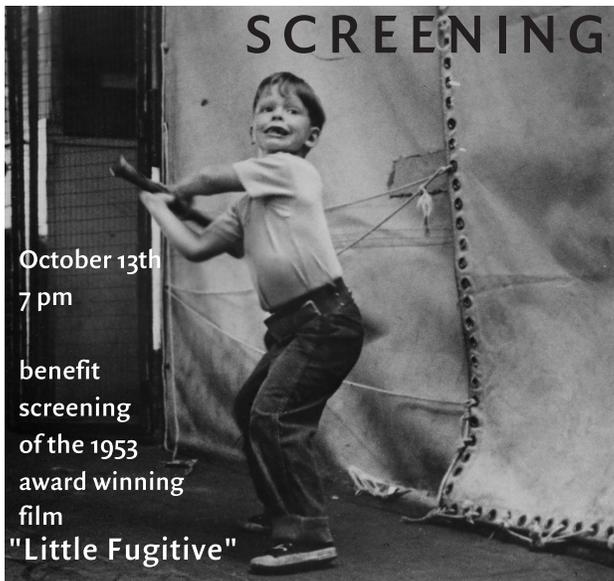
Berkeley Carroll School Marlene Clary Performance Space
152 Sterling Place between Flatbush Ave. and 7th Ave.

FOR MORE FESTIVAL INFORMATION & FILM SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS GO TO

www.artslope.nyc

10.13.2018
ArtSlope

SPECIAL SCREENING



October 13th
7 pm

benefit
screening
of the 1953
award winning
film

"Little Fugitive"

With comments on 1950s Bensonhurst and Coney Island by
Architectural Historian - Francis Morrone

Berkeley Carroll School

& Songs from '53 by Opera on Tap

152 Sterling Place



artslope.nyc

<https://littlefugitive.eventbrite.com>

Shorts In The Slope Returning to the Big Screen Park Slope Film Festival Opens Submissions For 2019



Meeting the filmmakers last Fall at ArtSlope '17 "Shorts in the Slope" film festival, held at the new state-of-the art 315 seat Marlene Clary Performance Space.

Shorts in the Slope, our own home-grown film festival, is returning in 2019. The festival is open for submissions and organizing has begun for one of the most successful crowd-sourced features of the Civic Council's 2016 ArtSlope.

ArtSlope was launched two years ago by PSCC and a crowd of volunteers. The event started as a multi-disciplinary, neighborhood-wide arts festival showcasing 150 artists in 50 Park Slope businesses, public space and Prospect Park. The festival and celebration of the arts brought visitors citywide to Park Slope for 9 days of exhibitions and performances, including the 90-minute, 12 film program of locally produced short films curated by Brooklyn filmmaker Bill Schaumburg.

Last fall the showcase grew into a festival screening 30 unique films submitted across an expanded five curated sections during two days last October. Continuing the program, ArtSlope 2019 is scheduled for April 6-7, 2019 and is now open for competitive submissions.

Category awards of \$500 last year included "Best Documentary Short" and "Best Narrative Short." Also a special award of \$1,500 for post-production services donated by Nice Shoes was won by noted photographer Duane Michals.

Instructions for how to make submissions can be found at ArtSlope.nyc. Submissions are open to filmmakers from Park Slope and around the world. New this year are special categories and prizes for young filmmakers and local students. Please ask any filmmaker friends to check it out!

Shorts In The Slope Fundraiser Benefit Screening of "Little Fugitive" October 13, 2018

This October the Arts Committee of the Park Slope Civic Council will be screening "Little Fugitive," the award winning (1953) short by Ray Ashley, Morris Engel and Ruth Orkin. Featured at last year's Shorts in the Slope Festival, "Little Fugitive" was introduced by the filmmakers' daughter and Gowanus resident, Mary Engel.

Engle, in support of the upcoming 2019 Shorts in the Slope Film Festival is making possible a special encore performance of the "Little Fugitive" on October 13th, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Berkeley Carroll School performance space located at 152 Sterling Place between 7th and Flatbush Avenues. Along with the film showing, there will be a talk given by noted architectural historian and author Francis Morrone, on the two Brooklyn neighborhoods appearing in the "Little Fugitive," Bensonhurst and Coney Island. Musical entertainment, featuring hit songs from 1953, the year "Little Fugitive" was released, will be provided by artists from Opera on Tap, a national non-profit which provides opportunities for opera singers to perform in non-traditional venues.

The Brooklyn Museum A World-Class Treasure for All

Founded in 1895 and designed by McKim, Mead and White, the Brooklyn Museum sits on the edge of Prospect Heights, Crown Heights, and Park Slope, and has been providing access to world-class artwork to both local and international visitors for generations.

After undergoing major renovations within the last 25 years, it is the perfect place to view Egyptian artwork from over 3,000 years ago, as well as cutting-edge exhibitions such as Kehinde Wiley, Jean Michel Basquiat, Georgia O'Keeffe, and David Bowie.

For twenty years, Target First Saturdays have been the most artistic place to kick off each month (except September), thanks to their innovative programming that highlights how the museum has evolved to delight the diverse cultural needs of the larger community. Each First Saturday begins at 5:00 PM, and guests must enter via the Museum's front entrance. Since the museum might have to limit entry when they reach maximum capacity, get there early. These engaging and eclectic free art and entertainment events run from 5:00 PM-11:00 PM, and are fun for all ages!

For many years, the Brooklyn Museum has offered a wide variety of appealing art classes that cater to children, teens, and adults. Class participants are taught by professional teaching artists, experience museum collections in new ways, and create their own art with new and traditional materials. As always, all levels of experience are welcome. There are a limited number of scholarships available for all youth and teen classes, so be sure to take advantage of those opportunities.



Photo credit: Eugene Werninger

Pictured above is a view of Eastern Parkway looking towards the Brooklyn Museum ca.1903-1910.

So many of us travel far and wide and try to see as many museums as possible. At the same time, visitors from around the world travel great distances to experience all the Brooklyn Museum has to offer! Take a few minutes to reacquaint yourself with their current and upcoming exhibitions, peruse their course offerings, plan to attend a Target First Saturday, and fall in love again with this artistic powerhouse!

Creativity Blooms in Park Slope

By Nancy Lunsford, Co-Founder of 440 Gallery

Park Slope boasts landmarked architecture, public sculptures by eminent American artists (e.g. MacMonnies and Thomas Eakins in the Grand Army Plaza Arch) and venerable institutions like the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, the Brooklyn Museum and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. In addition to this rich cultural history, the local art scene has revived and thrived over the past few decades as galleries, music venues, theaters and other storefront spaces have popped up, rooted and flourished.

All arts organizations generally operate on a shoestring, but even in the face of escalating rents, creative survival strategies and sheer determination, have kept doors open for dancers, artists, writers and more. The neighborhood pioneers, Spoke the Hub, Brooklyn Arts Exchange, The Gallery Players and Puppetworks, focus on dance and performance, but over the past decade galleries, music and comedy venues have multiplied.

Trestle Projects, Textile Arts Center, Bklyn Clay and the Gowanus Darkroom offer classes. Open Source, 440 Gallery and Site Brooklyn have open calls for artists and like many other spaces, host community events, music, poetry and lectures.

If you haven't visited the Brooklyn Superhero Supply Co., go now, and buy a can of Chutzpah. It's a real store but also a front for a tutoring program in the back.

The Stained Glass Store has created or repaired the neighborhood's iconic glass for 40 years and they also teach workshops. Bell House books well-known artists and comedians and hosts a fun monthly lecture by the Secret Science Club.

Barbès has great music every night—from hot French jazz guitarists to Klezmer and bluegrass. ShapeShifter Lab is a jazz listening club that also hosts art exhibitions and the Old Stone House teaches local history and provides a range of cultural activities.

Check them all out for yourself!

DANCE

Brooklyn Arts Exchange
(421 5th Avenue)
Dancewave (45 4th Avenue)
Spoke the Hub (748 Union Street)

FILM

Nitehawk Cinema (188 PPW)

MUSIC

Barbès (376 9th Street)
Bell House (149 7th Street)
Brooklyn Conservatory of Music
(58 7th Avenue)
Colony 274 (274 4th Avenue)
Freddy's Bar (627 5th Avenue)
ShapeShifter Lab
(18 Whitwell Place)
Union Hall (702 Union Street)

THEATER

Brooklyn Arts Exchange
(421 5th Avenue)
Brooklyn Children's Theater
(135 Prospect Park Southwest)
Gallery Players (199 14th Street)
Piper Theater (336 3rd Street)
Puppet Works (338 6th Avenue)

VISUAL ARTS

440 Gallery (440 6th Avenue)
BKLYN Clay
(535 Carlton Avenue)
Ethan Pettit Gallery
(10 8th Avenue #3)

VISUAL ARTS cont'd

Five Myles
(558 St. Johns Place)
The Gallery at 1 GAP
(1 Grand Army Plaza)
Gowanus Darkroom
(119 8th Street)
Gowanus Souvenir Shop
(567 Union Street)
Ground Floor Gallery
(343 5th Street)
Jonathan Blum Portraits
(285 5th Avenue)
Old Stone House Second Floor
(5th Avenue & 3rd Street)
Open Source Gallery (306 17th Street)
OSSAM Gallery (302 7th Street)
Phyllis Stigliano Gallery
(62 8th Avenue)
Site: Brooklyn Gallery
(165 7th Street)
Stained Glass Store (300 5th Avenue)
Textile Arts Center
(505 Carroll Street)
Trestle Projects (400 3rd Avenue)

WRITERS

Brooklyn Writers Space
(185 1st Street)
Writopia Lab (438 6th Avenue)

WRITING FOR KIDS

Brooklyn Superhero Supply Company (372 5th Avenue)

Arts in the Slope



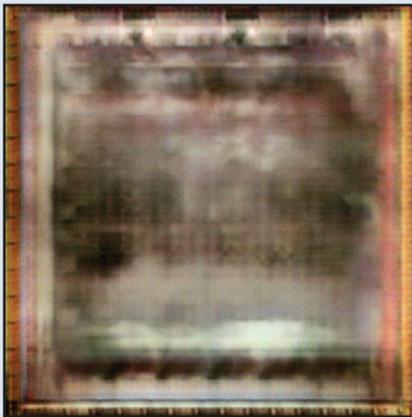
Opera on Tap (OOT) was born in 2005 at Freddy's Bar and Backroom in Park Slope (627 5th Avenue), with a mission to promote opera as a viable, living and progressive art form and to support the developing artists who continue to keep the art form alive. What began as a small monthly gathering of ambitious, classically-trained professional singers looking for more performance opportunities, has grown into a producing organization that has gained loyal audiences and national recognition as an innovative force on the classical music scene. Through its Chapter Program, with over twenty vibrant national (and international!) chapters, OOT has created the largest network of operatic performing artists in the country, and takes a local, grassroots, and VERY fun approach to community outreach in the name of their art form.

OOT is a not-for-profit corporation with 501(c)3 status that brings opera out of the opera house and into local bars and other venues, introducing opera to many who have never been exposed to its beauty as a transcendent art form where music drives drama and character. Programs include the bi-monthly "Home Brewed Opera" series at Freddy's: funny, engaging, immersive operatic concerts in a casual setting; "New Brew"

performances at Barbès (376 9th Street), a collective of OOT performers presenting original, irreverent, curated concerts of new music, with a focus on local composers; and the "Roadworks Series," an annual commissioning series which produces modern, immersive, and affecting new operas, supporting up-and-coming local composers, and presented in intimate, alternative spaces. In 2017, OOT produced the first virtual reality opera, "The Parkville Murders," which was featured at the Future of Storytelling and the Topanga Film Festival and won Best Virtual Reality Video at the NYC Independent Film Festival. "The Playground Operas" immerses 3rd and 4th grade students in the creation, production and performance of an opera. With the support of the NYC Council for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts, this inclusive school-day program engages students in all aspects of creating a show, and prepares them as singing actors for their grand debut alongside professional singers, with a chamber orchestra and conductor. The stage? Their own schoolyard playground. To see the trailer for this year's wonderful performance of "Hansel and Gretel" check out <https://www.playground.operaontap.org/>.

A View from the Street

By Amy Williams, Deputy Director of Arts Gowanus

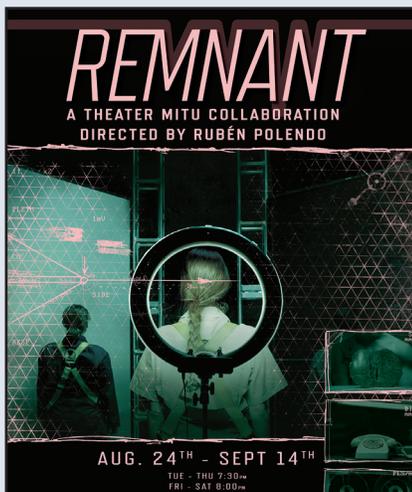


As the Director of 440 Gallery and Deputy Director of Arts Gowanus, I am privy to lots of amazing cultural happenings in the neighborhood. There are so many cool art events happening this fall in our beautiful borough of Brooklyn, I can't possibly list them all but here are a few that I'm personally looking forward to attending.

The fall season at 440 Gallery kicked off with "And Now I See," a solo exhibition of digital images by Leigh Blanchard. This is Blanchard's first solo show at the gallery and is a showcase of work that she has been developing since early 2017. Blanchard has always been interested in nontraditional sources of visual inspiration and pattern creation. "And Now I See" is an exploration into alternative ways of creating digital imagery, specifically by examining technological flaws. Blanchard's work is innovative and technically challenging while being visually pleasing to the eye. The show opened September 6th and runs through October 7th. Janet Pedersen's exhibit "Real People I've Never Met" opens October 11 and runs through November 11. You can get a preview at www.440gallery.com.

On the Arts Gowanus front, we are in the full throes of organizing the 22nd annual Gowanus Open Studios (GOS), to be held on the weekend of October 20th-21st from Noon-6 pm on both days. This event is free and open to the public and this year we expect more than 350 artists to open their studios to crowds reaching upwards of 7,000. It is a massive event with a kickoff party on Friday night, 6-9 pm, at Gowanus Loft, featuring artwork by Dale Williams, and a closing party at Threes Brewing on Sunday, October 21st at 6:30 pm. You can find out more by visiting www.artsgowanus.org. At press time, the Bell House will have just celebrated their 10-year anniversary by hosting a Gowanus Block party on September 8th, from Noon-9 pm on 7th Street between 2nd and 3rd Avenues. The Arts Gowanus community will be participating by providing creative vendor tables, live demonstrations, and other fun activities. Live music, good food, great people are all part of a not-your-average block party!

Theater Mitu recently opened their doors in Gowanus and is a creative hub for live theater. Theater Mitu is dedicated to the transliteration of global performance and ritual traditions towards training for the contemporary theater-maker. The goal of this training and the training itself is what they call Whole Theater. Whole Theater is a Theatrical Experience that is rigorously visual, aural, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual all in the same moment. Theater Mitu's inaugural performance, "Remnant," opened August 24th and ran through September 14th, and the theater is located at 580 Sackett Street (www.theatermitu.org).



Sterling Windows

Local Artist Installation Graces 2nd “Greenest Block in Brooklyn”

Brooklyn’s friendliest competition is “The Greenest Block in Brooklyn Contest,” sponsored by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams, and the Brooklyn Community Foundation. The Sterling Place Block Association (between Flatbush & Seventh Avenues) is a particularly verdant block that has competed for this honor before, and this year kicked it up a notch by sponsoring “Sterling Windows,” an art installation by artist Ryan Frank that would add to the block’s lushness.

Ryan has lived in New York City exactly as long he had in his native California, and now his photographic juxtapositions act as a luminous bridge between the two locales. He uses photos taken in both central and Northern California, prints them onto transparency film which he then mounts onto plexiglass and installs above doorways (and even inside an iron gate) on the south side of the block. These photos of trees, ferns, and pathways engage with the limestone and iron scrolls that contain them, and because Ryan took these photos while hiking, pedestrians will experience them in very similar ways as they go about their days and evenings. He chose windows because they are at once internal and external, public and private, and both expose and protect us. His previous work creating light boxes and his longtime love of stained glass windows propelled Ryan to create these visual vacations using images shot on the edge of the continental United States, which can now be viewed on a block resting on the edge of Park Slope.

Ryan believes that art removes urban anonymity, and because he likes to work with what he considers “unconsidered spaces,” we all benefit from these unexpected and beautiful images that now adorn this block. There are currently seven buildings with installations, with more planned in the near future. Ryan hosts weekly walking tours, and has created a podcast audio tour as well. For more information on this exhibit, go to <http://ryanmfrank.com/Sterling-Windows>, and follow the Instagram accounts of Ryan (@ryanmfrank) and The Sterling Place Block Association (@sterlingplaceblock) for more green goodness!



Photo credit: copyright Ryan Frank

A photo of the Marin Headlands sits above the doorway of 176 Sterling Place, the first of seven “Sterling Windows” installations by artist Ryan Frank.

Art In Our Backyard



Photo credit: William Hacker

“Searches” (pictured left, at Grand Army Plaza) and “Reaches” (pictured right, at Bartell Pritchard Square) sculptures by Park Slope artist Fitzhugh Karol, interplay with the beauty of Prospect Park.

Art and nature is a beautiful combination! And the Prospect Park Alliance has a long history of partnering with NYC Parks to present art to the public, as it engages the community and enhances landscapes with the play of an art form and the beauty and serenity of nature. It’s just really cool to come into the Prospect Park, find a piece of art right in front of you, and then gaze at it from different angles and in different seasons of the year. Fitzhugh Karol is a local artist who has lived in Park Slope for 12 years, and his work is a perfect match for the park. Continuing through November, you can find two large sculptural works at the Grand Army Plaza and Bartel-Pritchard entrances.

We spoke with Fitzhugh Karol, and he explained that he uses certain visual themes in his work – the shape of stairs and stair steps, and the saddle shape, which he describes as two curves joining in the middle and inspired by the rolling mountains of New Hampshire where he grew up. As a child, he often found himself drawing stairs into landscapes, and there are endless variations to that combination.

The sculptures were two years in-the-making, thinking first in miniature and then imaging in the larger outdoor space. Fitzhugh works in cardboard to model-out his ideas, and then builds larger models in wood and metal to a human-size scale. He also works with engineers to make sure his work is stable and can handle wind loads, and to determine where concrete footings need to be placed. An interaction between design and engineering. All of this work was done in Brooklyn – very much a local project.

At the Grand Army Plaza entrance, you will find “Searches” – searching to realize something, and the word “arches” in “searches.” At Bartel-Pritchard, there is “Reaches” – reaching out. But what Fitzhugh loves most about large-scale outdoor work is that everyone can find their own interpretation. The sculptures are interactive; you can walk under them, over them and in them. A saxophonist wrote Fitzhugh to say that he had a great time playing his sax and listening how the sound changed from different spots in the sculpture. Go see them!!



#ClearTheCrosswalks, continued from p.2

reported sites) and is in fairly routine discussions with NYC agencies about infrastructure needs related to the Gowanus rezoning project, it makes sense to work together to identify a transition and sustainability plan for the Crosswalks Survey and database. For the time being, the GCC has direct access to survey data and the PSCC will continue to maintain and host the survey instrument; however as other community organizations are invited to participate in survey activity, there are likely to be modifications to the questionnaire, area surveyed, the survey data portals and the hosting of the survey.

We are very pleased that our initial survey is proving to be both an initiative for collaboration with adjacent neighborhood organizations as well as a potentially useful instrument for shaping infrastructure need discussions related to the proposed Gowanus rezoning.

Celebrating our Community

Our Women of Distinction!



Women of Distinction Honors were awarded to Civic Council trustees pictured from left: Candace Woodward (2017), and SJ Avery and Kim Maier (2018)

For the past eight years, the Courier News Life media company heralds the accomplishments of 25 women who live and work in Brooklyn with their "Women of Distinction" awards. These women are all deeply-rooted in their community, their places of business, the companies they work for, and their places of worship. This honor culminates with a festive gala for 300+ guests at a local Brooklyn catering hall. Please find an edited version of what appeared in the Park Slope Courier, and join us as we salute our three Trustees who have been honored!

Ask 2017 award winner Candace Woodward what motivated her to become such a community service dynamo in her Park Slope neighborhood, and she'll answer in two words: A layoff. "I had been laid off from my job at Chase and even though I was re-hired at another firm, I felt that I needed something additional to do." For more than 15 years, that "something additional" has been "making a contribution to the neighborhood I love because it has so much to offer." She has served as a past vice president and current recording secretary of the Park Slope Civic Council, and the chairwoman of its Sustainability Committee. She organizes the annual Prospect Park "mulchfest," as well as their "Civic Sweep". Woodward is also a member of the Executive committee and the Community committee of the Prospect Park Alliance. Finally, she also runs the Civic Council's wildly-popular House Tour, which showcases restored brownstones of the late 19th- and early 20th-centuries. This fundraiser provides money for community projects in the arts and education, as well as for civic improvement.

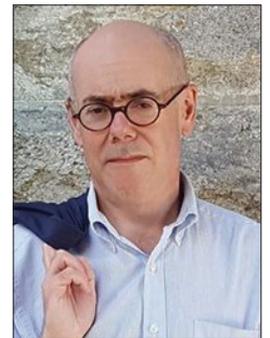
2018 award winner SJ Avery is the co-chairwoman of the Park Slope Civic Council's Forth on Fourth Avenue Committee and worked closely with the MTA to improve the 4th Avenue & 9th Street subway station to get better lighting, signage, and street-level amenities. Avery also had 60 new trees planted along Fourth Avenue, helped to save the Pacific Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library from demolition, and helped to secure the promise of a full-service supermarket on 5th Avenue. Avery, a Park Slope resident for more than 45 years, is quick to point out that she didn't achieve success alone, and credits the Park Slope Civic Council's volunteers with preserving, protecting, and nurturing the neighborhood, as well as organizations like the Gowanus Canal Conservancy, The Boerum Hill Association, and the Fifth Avenue Committee. "When we improve safety, work toward a greener, cleaner streetscape, and promote a more vibrant pedestrian experience along Fourth Avenue, we enhance that sense of place," says the Woman of Distinction. "It's hard to have a community without it."

2018 award winner Kim Maier can be found leading tours about the Revolutionary War, corralling costumed children during the Halloween Parade (which she has chaired for years), or throwing together a last-minute event. As the Executive Director of The Old Stone House, Maier has been key in transforming the reconstructed Vechte-Courtelyou House into a space where Brooklynites and out-of-towners alike can learn about the community's role in the Battle of Brooklyn during the Revolutionary War. She still remembers receiving a call 14 years ago from administrators asking her to help drive its educational programming, a role which

Lovgren Awards Honor Outstanding Service to the Community

Each year since 1979, the Park Slope Civic Council has honored two people or organizations for their outstanding service to the community. The awards, one for a local volunteer, the other for professional service, are named for George Lovgren, the Park Slope activist who in the 1960s worked tirelessly to save the Union Street firehouse (today, Squad 1) from closure. The awards epitomize the Civic Council's philosophy – that it's people who care about their community who make Park Slope a great place to live (in fact, one of the 10 best places to live in the United States, according to the American Planning Association). This year those awards were given to Francis Morrone and the Gowanus Canal Conservancy.

Francis Morrone is an architectural historian and 37-year Park Slope resident who was named by *Travel + Leisure* as one of the 13 best tour guides in the world. He is the author of 11 books and over 600 articles on art, architecture and landscape architecture. Francis has taught architectural and urban history for the last 20 years at New York University's School of Professional Studies and is the recipient of the University's Excellence in Teaching Award. Francis received the 2018 Lovgren Award for outstanding service in the Volunteer category for his wonderful lectures following every Park Slope House Tour since 2009.



The Gowanus Canal Conservancy (GCC) is a non-profit conservancy founded in 2009 and serves as a community-based environmental steward of the Gowanus Canal. Partnering with groups ranging from State, Federal and City agencies to community organizations to elementary schools to universities, it seeks to improve the canal's water quality while promoting local green spaces and building habitats for the fauna that live in or



near the waterway. GCC recruits over 1000 volunteers each year to work on projects as varied as urban forestry, composting, bioswale stewardship, local clean ups, and a nursery project. GCC has frequently

provided the PSCC FOFA and Livable Streets Committees with both volunteers and materials for committee projects. The visionary development of a "Gowanus Lowlands Master Plan" (described in the Fall/Winter 2017-18 newsletter at <https://parkslopeciviccouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/newsletter-fall-winter-2017-18-update5-13.pdf>) is but one of the reasons the Civic Council is proud of our partnership with Gowanus Canal Conservancy and pleased to honor that partnership with a Lovgren Award. Accepting the award on behalf of the Conservancy at this year's awards ceremony was Executive Director, Andrea Parker.



then blossomed into her position as head of the House. Since then, she has helped revamp the House into a museum commemorating the historic battle, community meeting space, and event space. It hosts hundreds of events each year, along with its permanent exhibition that opened in August 2016 exploring the Revolution in Brooklyn. Maier, a Park Slope resident for more than 35 years, approaches tasks such as parades, fundraisers, vigils, or clothing drives with a determination to get them done, no matter the time frame.

PSCC Food For Thought Fundraiser Celebrates High School Seniors

Emotions ran high and gratitude was abundant as Volunteer and Community Service Scholarships were presented by the Park Slope Civic Council to four outstanding students at the final trustee meeting at the Old Stone House on Thursday evening, June 7th, 2018. The recipients were all graduating seniors attending high schools at the John Jay Educational Complex and exemplified a remarkable level of volunteer and community service. Each student received a \$2,500 scholarship to assist them with their higher education.

The Volunteer and Community Service Scholarship is funded from the proceeds of the Civic Council's annual food and drink tasting event, Food for Thought. Food for Thought 2018 will be held at the Picnic House in Prospect Park on Wednesday, October 17th, 2018 from 6:30-9:00 PM. Please save the date! It is truly a wonderful event and benefits our hard-working and deserving local students.



Photo credit: Jonathan Lief

Scholarships were awarded to *Andy Tlatelpa from the Secondary School for Journalism (attending St. John's University)*, *Ashley Hart from Millennium Brooklyn High School (attending New York University)*, *Zenita Davis from the Secondary School for Law (attending CUNY's City College)*, and *Emerson Gonzalez from Park Slope Collegiate (attending CUNY's Brooklyn College)*.

Ortner Awards December 15th Deadline! Now Accepting Nominations for 2018 Honors

Applications are now being accepted for the Park Slope Civic Council's 2018 Evelyn and Everett Ortner Park Slope Preservation Awards. The Awards recognize projects compatible with the historic architecture of Park Slope, reclamations/rehabilitations of neighborhood buildings, and interventions by individuals or groups to protect the neighborhood's historic character.

Begun in 2012 to honor long-time Park Slope residents Everett and Evelyn Ortner for their work preserving and transforming Park Slope into the vibrant community it is today, this year's honorees included the The Old First Church on 7th & Carroll and Public Bath House #7 on Union and 4th Avenue. Nominations for qualifying projects can be sent to: ortner-preservationawards@gmail.com. Further details can be had at <https://parkslopeciviccouncil.org>.

The awards, which are sponsored by Tarzian Hardware, will be presented at the March 7, 2019 meeting of the Park Slope Civic Council.

In Memoriam Evadene (Eva) Marie Lovell ~ 1922 - 2018

A dedicated military civilian "Rosie the Riveter," a detonator specialist for the Navy in Washington D.C. and an officer's medical aide at Walter Reade Hospital during World War II, Eva married Calvin Lovell in 1951 and moved to Park Slope with their daughter Deirdre in 1961. As an active member of the PSCC and joined by Evelyn Ortner, Judy Bush, and others, Eva became part of the movement that turned Park Slope into a landmark preservation district. She is survived by her daughter, Deirdre Denise Lovell, her granddaughter Zoe Lovell-Othen, five nieces, and seven nephews.



Cocktails, tastings, music & mingling.
All proceeds support the Park Slope Civic Council's college scholarships.

**October 17th, 2018
6:30-9:00 PM
Picnic House**

Our Food & Drink Partners

7th Avenue Wine & Liquor Company
al di la Trattoria * Bartleby & Sage
Benchmark Restaurant * Blueprint
Bricolage * Camperdown Elm * Da Nonna Rosa
Dirty Precious * Fausto * Gristmill * Kos Kaffe
Loki * Luke's Lobster * Negril BK * Palo Santo
Rose Water * Scottadito Osteria Toscana
Shawn Fine Wine & Spirits * Slope Cellars
Stone Park Cafe & more to come!

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<https://pscfft2018.eventbrite.com>

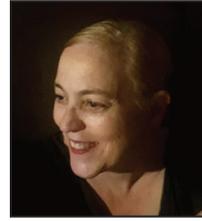
Celebrating our Community

NEW! Civic Council Trustees Join Our Ranks



Charles Alexander

Charles is an Assistant V.P./Branch Manager of Dime Bank at Union Street and 5th Avenue. Charles has been a member of the Civic Council since he became the Branch Manager about a year ago, and helped with the 2017 Food for Thought fundraiser by securing sponsorship funds from Dime Bank, attended meetings of the Civic Council's Small Business Committee, and has worked with Mark Caserta on numerous projects for the Fifth Avenue BID. Recently, Charles chaired the annual CHiPS spring gala, where his eyes were opened to the difficulties of constantly nudging people to come through with their donations and volunteer commitments. In addition to continuing his work with the Small Business Committee, Charles is interested in helping us to grow the Civic Council's membership and fundraising.



Lee Boyes

Lee is the Director of Facilities Management at the NYC Department for the Aging and is responsible for the facilities at over 250 senior centers around the city. She worked tirelessly on ArtSlope 2016 as well as on the Fall 2017 short film festival. Lee agrees with the philosophy that, whenever possible, everything the Civic Council does should have an artistic quality to it. In addition to her involvement with ArtSlope, she is also interested in improving membership, soliciting sponsorship to support events, and would like to increase networking opportunities for seniors and to address loneliness. Lee believes that she can help the Civic Council's overall outreach to the senior community and other efforts that are not linked to the department.



Donna Epstein

Donna is a former attorney who has worked both in private practice and in-house at JP Morgan Chase. She has been living in Park Slope with her family since 2000, and before that lived in Tribeca, where she founded the Downtown Little League and the Downtown Soccer League. Now that she is retired, Donna has more time to give back to the community, and currently volunteers on the mother/baby floor at Methodist Hospital and sings with, and sits on the Board of, the Grace Chorale of Brooklyn. Donna is also a member/Board member of Opera on Tap (see article p. 6). Donna is interested in "aging in place" initiatives and programs, healthcare, and sustainability. She is also passionate about voter registration and would like to spearhead ways in which the Civic Council can be involved with that.



Judith Lief

Judith is a real estate broker with Corcoran Real Estate, previously with Warren Lewis/Sotheby. Before beginning her professional career in real estate, Judith was the editor and art director for Traditional Building and Period Homes magazines. She has lived in Park Slope since 1984. Judith has been a member of the Civic Council for many years, and was our immediate co-president/president. She is also a member of the Historic District Council. Judith has participated in City Council Land Use meetings, and spoken in favor of expanding the Park Slope Historic District, which is now the largest in the City. She also attends lectures at the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, and loves bumping into preservation architects and tradespeople who were readers and advertisers in her magazines.



Peter Saghier

Peter is an attorney in private practice, and he and his wife have lived in the Park Slope area (now in Windsor Terrace) for 13 years. Before becoming an attorney, Peter ran a homeless shelter in Manhattan, and was responsible for recruiting volunteers to staff the shelter 365 nights a year. Peter says that he enjoyed recruiting and motivating volunteers, and would be happy to do that again as a Civic Council trustee. Peter has continued to volunteer extensively for the homeless and to support local nonprofits by attending events and spreading the word. He regularly participates in Park Slope traditions, such as the Halloween Parade, cleaning Prospect Park, and participating in the House Tours. Peter, his wife, and their two children regularly volunteer at Sean Casey Animal Rescue.



Tammy Shaw

Tammy is a real estate broker with Halstead and president of the Park Slope Chamber of Commerce. She has been connected to Park Slope through her professional life and as a resident since 1986. Tammy began her career in real estate with Brenton Realty, and then founded TB Shaw Realty Associates, which she sold to Halstead in 2016. As president of the Park Slope Chamber of Commerce, Tammy has worked with others on several initiatives to develop a 7th Avenue BID. She is most interested in the areas of membership and outreach, and believes that it's critical to increase the participation of Millennials and Gen-Xers to ensure continuation of the Civic Council in population and relevancy. Tammy would love to develop a Park Slope Civic Kids offshoot and develop deeper ties with local schools.

“Art Creates Community...” continued from page 1

project and in the visuals — as in every project that they do — but we get to tackle just a little more controversial topics.”

Groundswell is also involved with larger initiatives that take local healing and beautification even further, such as those in Hunts Point, Brownsville, various public housing locations, and in communities affected by Hurricane Sandy. They also created a livable streets program with the Department of Transportation and a youth restorative justice

program with Rikers Island. Groundswell's motto is “Art creates community and community creates change!” and our city continues to benefit from the many ways in which they inspire us all. Groundswell is located at 540 President Street, Suite 1A. They can be contacted by phone at 718-254-9782 and by email at info@groundswell.nyc. Visit <https://www.groundswell.nyc> to learn more about their mission and to see their interactive map of murals.



Stephen Copek

Stephen is a portfolio manager for the Natural Resources Defense Council and before that, oversaw \$10M+ portfolio of philanthropic projects and grant-making funds at Arabella Advisors. After college, Stephen joined the Peace Corps, and lived in Nicaragua doing agricultural work. Stephen and his wife moved to Park Slope two years ago. They

previously lived in Chicago, where he worked with Rotary International/The Rotary Foundation, and when they lived in the DC/Baltimore area, he became involved with the DC Rotary Club there as well. Stephen is highly-experienced in working for non-profits through his professional life and volunteer activities, committed to social good and community outreach, and will help the Civic Council as we increase our efforts to build a stronger membership, raise funds, obtain grants, and launch new initiatives.



Amanda McAvena

Amanda is a Corcoran real estate agent and she and her husband recently purchased a co-op in Park Slope, where she is the treasurer of their Board. She has more than eight years of experience in advertising and marketing (both in Chicago and New York) and recently switched to real estate for the autonomy and the sense of ownership

in her own success it gave her. Last year, Amanda volunteered on Food for Thought and has recently helped us improve and maintain the PSCC Facebook page. She is a member of the Prospect Park Track Club, and has volunteered with the nonprofit Charity: Water. Amanda would like to continue contributing to our ongoing social media efforts, as well as help us implement strategies for expanding the Civic Council's audience/reach and recruit new members.



Ronald Weiss

Ron is an attorney/partner at Skadden, focusing on trusts and estates, and tax exempt non-profit organizations. Ron and his wife have two sons and have been living in Park Slope for 32 years. He is very interested in decorative arts, particularly early 20th century art and antiques, and is a big fan of the Old Stone House and Revolution-

ary War history in Brooklyn. Ron is a member of the Board of Trustees for Mobilization for Justice (formerly MFY Legal Services), and co-chair of its Development Committee. He is also a member, secretary, and assistant treasurer of the Joseph H. Flom Foundation, which is focused on early child education. Ron is open to what he can get involved in with the Civic Council, and could help us with development and finances, arts, and the House Tour.

Community Partnerships Foster Wins for Slope's Small Business

Following two forums hosted by our Small Business Committee in the Fall of 2017, committee members got to work implementing some of the top priorities and recommendations that were discussed. First, to respond to the need for more small business courses and assistance, the Park Slope Fifth Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) hosted a community meeting with Yelp in June to give attendees the tools they need in order to use this often controversial app to their advantage.

In the spirit of the forum, which brings small businesses from all over the neighborhood together, the BID teamed up with the Park Slope Chamber of Commerce and the North Flatbush BID to partner with eMain on a unique online small business trial. Over 50 small businesses in Park Slope have joined the trial, which was set to launch in September. Once launched, it will give unique local deals at small businesses in the community and will even offer local next day delivery in Park Slope by the Post Office for FREE!

In addition, the three business organizations launched "Dine In Park Slope," which ran from August 20th-30th. Over 30 local eateries gave specials, deals or prix fixe dinners for 10 days as a way to bring more foot traffic and business to the community during the slowest time of the year. This special initiative encouraged Park Slope residents to revisit their own neighborhood, try a restaurant they'd never tried before, and to discover shops, bars, coffee spots, bakeries, and more!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 31	Park Slope Civic Council Halloween Parade	5th Ave
Wednesday, 6:30pm	The parade kicks off at 14th St and 7th Avenue and makes it way to 3rd where it turns and comes down to #theother5th	
November 24	Small Business Saturday	5th Ave
Saturday, All Day	Start your holiday shopping off on #theother5th #shopsmall	Dean to 18th Streets
November 24	Holiday Tree Lighting	5th Ave
Saturday, 6:00pm	Come enjoy some entertainment finishing with the lighting of the tree at 6pm	5th Ave and 4th Street
December	Santa Claus	5th Ave
	Santa visits #theother5th— stay tuned for details	
December	Menorah Lighting	5th Ave
	Celebrate Hannukah with the lighting of the Menorah and entertainment	5th Ave and 4th Street



SAVE THE DATE, SUNDAY, OCT 28TH

5th Avenue between 3rd and 4th Street
10 AM to 2 PM

Free Daffodils, Free Refreshments & Fun for All

Help clean up and beautify our neighborhood!



For Event Details Go To
parkslopefifthavenuebid.com

#theother5th





Box 172, 123 Seventh Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215

**Join!
Renew!
Donate!
Volunteer!**

www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org

Upcoming Events

October 4th & the 1st Thursday of every month (except July & August)
- **Park Slope Civic Council Board Meeting:** Old Stone House in Washington Park (check website beforehand to confirm location), 7 - 9:00 PM. All are welcome!

October 13th - ArtSlope benefit featuring the classic 1953 film "Little Fugitive:" introduced by Mary Engel, daughter of filmmakers Morris Engel and Ruth Orkin, and a lecture on the Brooklyn neighborhoods featured in the film by noted architectural historian Francis Morrone. Songs of the era by "Opera on Tap," 7:00 PM - Berkeley Carroll School performance space, 152 Sterling Place, between Flatbush and 7th Avenue. Tickets are available online at <https://littlefugitive.eventbrite.com>.

October 17th - 7th Annual Food for Thought Tasting Fundraiser: Prospect Park Picnic House, 6:30 - 9:00 PM, sample the best food and drinks around, meet the chefs and foodies from top local restaurants, and help raise money to support PSCC's student scholarships. Tickets are available online at <https://pscfft2018.eventbrite.com> or at the door. Check the PSCC website for more details.

October 23rd & the 3rd Tuesday every month forward (except July & August) "Office Hours" - A Casual PSCC Hangout: at The Commissioner, 247 5th Avenue (between Garfield and Carroll Street) at 7:00 PM. Members and neighbors are welcome! Visit the PSCC website for meeting information at www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org.

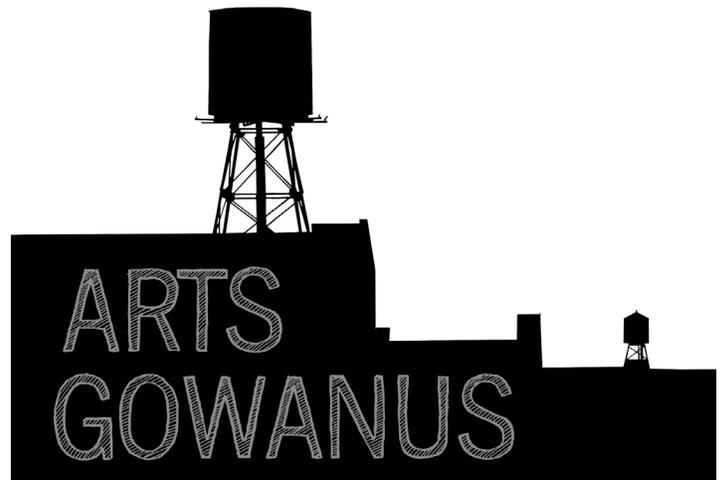
October 28th - Fall Civic Sweep: 5th Avenue between 3rd & 4th Streets in front of the Old Stone House & JJ Byrne Playground, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Free daffodil bulbs will be distributed, tools and refreshments will be provided. Volunteers will wear T-shirts publicizing the event and leave wearing "I Made Park Slope Cleaner Today" stickers. FREE and open to all.

October 28th - OSH & Park Slope Parents' Costume Contest & Mini Parade: Old Stone House & JJ Byrne Playground, 5th Avenue between 3rd & 4th Streets, Costume Contest at 2 - 3:00 PM; Mini Parade at 3:30 PM.

October 31st - Brooklyn Con-Spook-Atory of Music: Explore the haunted garden, a spooky musical performance, candy, and other goodies, Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, 58 7th Avenue at Lincoln Place, 4 - 6:00 PM.

October 31st - Park Slope Civic Council Halloween Parade - Superheroes: this family fun event kicks off at 7th Avenue & 14th Street at 6:30 PM sharp, finale at the Old Stone House & JJ Byrne Playground, sponsored by the Park Slope Chamber of Commerce and the Park Slope 5th Avenue BID.

December thru January Holiday Events - Jingle Bell Jamboree, Park Slope Civic Council Holiday Party, Toys for Tots, Mulchfest and more, all season long. Check our website for a fun-filled lineup of festivities.



22nd Annual Gowanus Open Studios, Saturday & Sunday, October 20-21 from 12-6:00 PM: Over 350+ area artists invite the public to visit their Gowanus studios, see their work and talk about their creative process. Visit the Arts Gowanus website (www.artsgowanus.org), featuring an online directory of artists and their work, and create your own self-guided tour and/or pick up a printed map available throughout the neighborhood during the GOS 2018 weekend. This is a FREE event and everyone is welcome!



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The Park Slope Civic Council is a 501(c)3 organization