

Resistance & Community Building 1,500 People Celebrate at #GO-BK Civic Festival



Councilmember Brad Lander is joined by PSCC Trustee Myra Kooy holding up one of 3 panels of the "Community," "Environment" and "Joy" mobile mural displayed at the #Get Organized BK Civic Festival

The summer's #Get Organized BK Civic Festival brought a long list of elected officials and community leaders to the Prospect Park Bandshell in recognition of community building and civic engagement. More than 1,500 people were on hand to meet with, and hear from nearly 50 different volunteer groups and local non-profits.

#GOBK is a civic organization founded by Councilmember Brad Lander and Rabbi Rachel Timoner of Congregation Beth Elohim. The Civic Festival was co-organized by Councilmember Brad Lander and Assemblymember Bobby Carroll.

Inspiring speeches, live music and an outpouring of support for local and national causes punctuated the evening. Participating organizations included New York Immigration Coalition, 350 Brooklyn, PEN America, Fifth Avenue Committee, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Common Cause and Arts & Democracy, Planned Parenthood, Gowanus Canal Conservancy, and the Park Slope Civic Council (PSCC).

For the Civic Council's installation, PSCC Trustee Myra Kooy created a 3-panel hand-painting mural. Each panel represented a different theme: "Community," "Environment" and "Joy." Kids and adults left their colorful hand prints and shared messages with us, such as "everyone is welcome here," "love is joy and joy is love," "no hate" and "honor life - be green." The Civic Council partnered with Gowanus Canal Conservancy (GCC) to give away plants from the nearby GCC Nursery.

Welcome new members who joined the Civic Council that night!

Civic Council Elects New Co-Presidents A Message from Ron Daignault and Kedin Kilgore

We are excited! As the new co-presidents of the Park Slope Civic Council we are excited to be stepping into new roles and continuing to build upon the work of our predecessors.

Following in the footsteps of PSCC's co-presidents, Judith Lief and Gilly Youner, is going to be a challenge. PSCC's growth and accomplishments under Judith and Gilly's leadership have been nothing short of remarkable. Kudos and congratulations. Thanks for setting the bar so high.

Over the course of their term, the Civic Council gave away nearly \$35,000 to community groups. Volunteers and Trustees delivered thousands of hours of free labor to schools, non-profits, local causes and community events. In 2016 alone, Civic Council endorsed New York's Sanctuary City designation, sponsored EXPO Gowanus, mulched more than 1,000 Christmas trees and hosted thousands of Halloween revelers at our annual Halloween Parade.

Now the challenge falls to us. Growing membership, expanding our advocacy work, and increasing funding provided to a wide variety of community organizations are but a few of the goals we are setting for ourselves.

continued on p.2

Fantastic Food! 4 Scholarships! Fun for All!

October 18th Food for Thought - Raising Money for Scholarships

On Wednesday, October 18th, the Park Slope Civic Council, with support from Assemblymember Bobby Carroll, neighborhood businesses and local restaurants and bars, is hosting **Food for Thought**. FFT is one of our biggest annual parties and our largest fundraiser. What makes the event so much fun is that all of the money raised goes to fund college scholarships.

Neighborhood restaurants, bars and wine and beverage shops (latest list on page 7) generously donate all of the food and drink for the evening, offering samplings from their menus and secrets from their kitchens.

Proceeds from FFT are awarded to four graduating seniors from each of the John Jay Campus high schools. Awardees are selected for demonstrating exceptional commitment to community service.

To buy tickets go to www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3043933.



Also in this Issue

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- Awards & Grants Recognize Excellence & Service pages 6 -7
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A Message from Ron Daignault and Kedin Kilgore continued . . .

Grassroots organizing has never been more important than it is now. And helping locally-grown civil society groups like #Get Organized BK will be a priority, as will reaching out to our surrounding neighborhoods and recognizing the work of community organizers, arts, education and environmental groups.

Fall is an exceptionally busy time. On **September 27th**, FOFA and Gowanus Canal Conservancy host a community forum with Old Stone House to discuss the Lowlands Study, GCC's plan for a bio-diversity and mixed-use park along the Gowanus Canal. **October 13-14th** ArtSlope returns as a juried program of short films. Selected features will be shown over two days in the new Berkeley Carroll School Theater. Join us on Sunday, **October 15th** at the PSCC Fall Civic Sweep in Washington Park. And you are heartily, and hungrily invited to the Picnic House the evening of **October 18th** at Food for Thought to raise money for college scholarships. On **October 25th**, together with the 5th Avenue BID, we are hosting a networking event for local merchants and small businesses at the Old Stone House. October wraps up with Trustee Kim Maier and the Old Stone House team anchoring the Civic Council's Family Halloween Parade on **October 31st**. Come celebrate with your neighbors and local elected officials. Tip – it's always fun to hop in behind Senator Charles Schumer. The parade runs along 7th Avenue, starting at 14th Street and down 3rd Street, wrapping up in Washington Park.

PSCC Awarded \$20,000 Grant for Age-Friendly Work

New programs in development include an age-friendly project for which the Civic Council was just awarded a \$20,000 grant from Councilmember Brad Lander's office. More details to come, but the grant will allow PSCC to support programming and outreach for our older neighbors.

Please come join us. We need neighbors now, and always, to step up, get involved and make a difference.

-Ron Daignault and Kedin Kilgore

PSCC Annual Events & Fundraisers

Each year Civic Council Trustees and volunteer members launch and support new initiatives

- 58th Annual House Tour, funding community grants
- Brooklyn Kids Walkathon, funding CHiPS
- Food for Thought Gala, funding 4 college scholarships
- Civic Sweep cleanup, beautification and recycling
- PSCC Halloween Parade along 7th Avenue
- Holiday Toys-for-Tots Program

Recent PSCC Special Initiatives

Member Initiatives

- Launched Park Slope Civic Council ArtSlope
- Expanded mission to surrounding neighborhoods
- Sponsored Expo Gowanus
- Supported New York City's designation as a sanctuary city
- Launched emergency preparedness training programs

PSCC Annual Awards

Civic Council provides grants to schools, charities, cultural groups and local community groups

- Ortnet Awards to distinguished architectural projects
- Lovgren Awards for community service
- Civic Council college scholarships
- Sponsorship of two youth baseball teams

PSCC Advocacy

Civic Council advocacy helps mobilize neighbors organizing for community action and change

- Worked with 14th Street Block Association for the preservation of the Pavilion Theatre
- Worked with community groups to protect deeply affordable housing and retain 22,000 square feet of grocery store space displaced by redevelopment of the Key Food site on 5th Avenue



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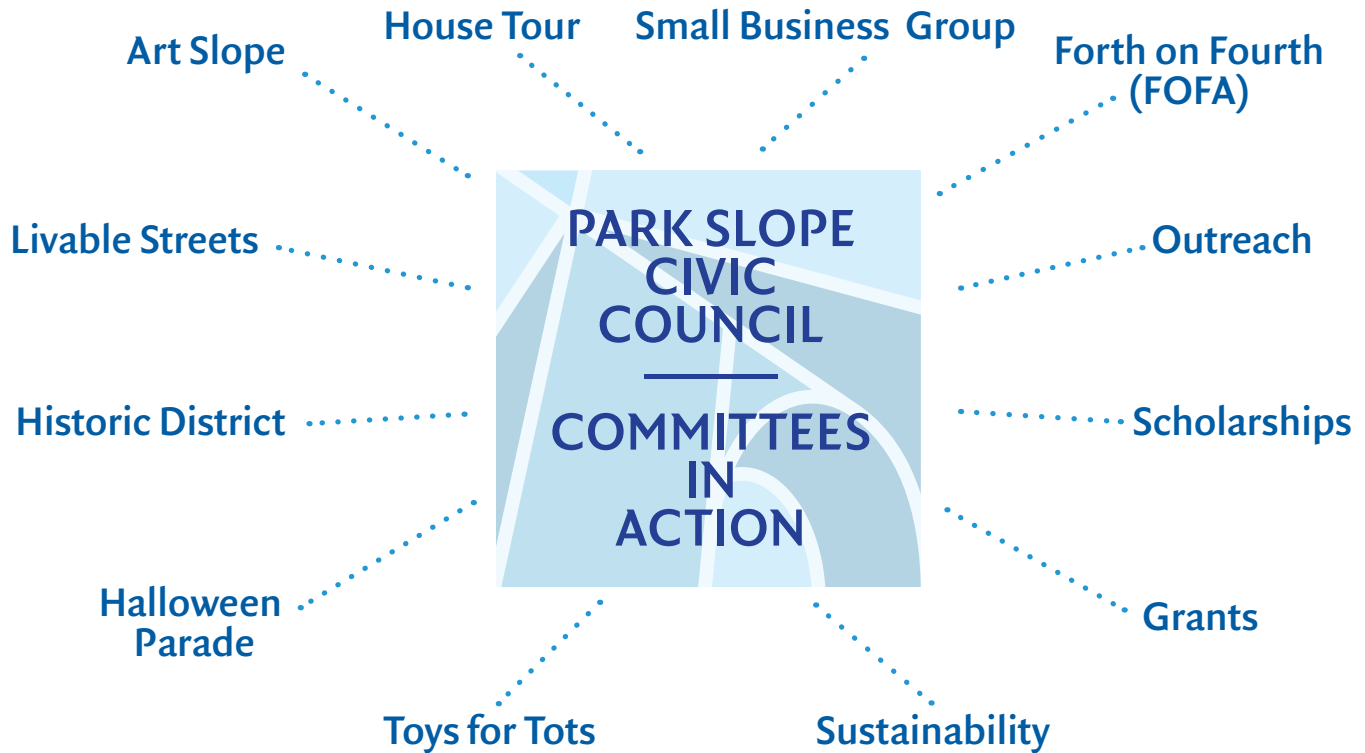
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Our Most Important Goal this Year - Increase Membership by 25%
Become a Member, Stay a Member and Support your Community
A Strong Membership Makes Us a Strong Organization!



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.

Join or renew now and help us nurture, defend, celebrate and invigorate 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

Primary Contact (and company name if applicable) Email

Other Adult Member of Household (if applicable) Email

Street Address

City State Zip Phone

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 \$_____

LEARN MORE! at parkslopeciviccouncil.org

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



Sustainability & Preservation

Gowanus Lowlands

A Blueprint for NYC's Next Great Park

Plans to transform the heavily polluted 1.8 mile long Gowanus Canal took shape over the summer with the release of *Gowanus Lowlands: A Blueprint for NYC's Next Great Park*.

Commissioned by the non-profit Gowanus Canal Conservancy (GCC), Lowlands Study envisions a community green space on the banks of the canal knitting together the neighborhoods of Park Slope, Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Red Hook and Gowanus. Working with SCAPE Landscape Architecture, the GCC master plan calls for an interconnected ecosystem of community space, performance venues and parks stretched along the length of the canal and connected to the surrounding watershed.

GCC & Scape Landscape Architecture



GCC & Scape Landscape Architecture



Gowanus Canal is considered one of the dirtiest waterways in America. Designated an EPA Superfund Site in 2012, a federally-mandated cleanup of Gowanus will seed GCC's Master Plan. Gowanus Lowlands would see the canal once again become a clean and thriving waterway.

In addition to the waterfront esplanade, foot bridges, safe and connected streets, performance areas and green hills, the park will integrate storm water and runoff management reducing the strain on the city's sewer and wastewater system. The plan will incorporate bio swales, storm water mitigation basins and sponge gardens to filter runoff and provide habitats for returning wildlife.

For the next six to nine months the Conservancy will seek community input into the plan to identify priorities for the park's development.

Forth on Fourth and the Old Stone House will host a community presentation and discussion of the GCC Lowlands Study on September 27th (details in our calendar on the back page). For more information go to www.gowanuscanalconservancy.org

A VIEW FROM THE STREET

Ban the Bag Storefront Campaign is Under Way

By Barbara Kancelbaum, #GOBK volunteer and participant

Bag Graphic Designed by Jeff Yas

BROOKLYN: LET'S BAG THE BAG



**PLEASE
BRING YOUR
OWN BAG**

PLASTIC BAGS HURT OUR ENVIRONMENT

One TRILLION plastic grocery bags are used each year — NEARLY 2 MILLION A MINUTE —
using up valuable energy resources and polluting the land and oceans.

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 New York City Council Member Stephen Levin, stephenlevin.nyc
 New York State Assembly Member Robert Carroll, nyassembly.gov/mem/Robert-C-Carroll

#GetOrganizedBK
 DESIGN BY YAS GRAPHICS

Plastic bag pollution is all around us. Between 500,000,000 and one trillion single-use bags are thrown away every day, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Billions of pounds of plastic are floating in the ocean, where they kill millions of sea birds and mammals each year. These bags will never go away.

Many countries and municipalities have found ways to combat the plastic preponderance: Bangladesh and Rwanda have banned them, soon to be joined by France. San Francisco bans them, too. In early 2017, New York City seemed poised to follow Chicago and Washington, D.C., in implementing a bag tax intended to discourage their use.

But earlier this year, the New York State Legislature and Governor Cuomo nullified NYC's Bring Your Own Bag law — a policy that would have reduced the over nine billion single-use bags that New Yorkers use each year by 60 to 90 percent, according to New York City Councilmember Brad Lander.

A group of Brooklynites who have been attending Get Organized Brooklyn meetings at Congregation Beth Elohim, decided to take matters into their own hands and encourage our neighbors to do what's right for the environment: bring your own bag. With help from environmentally minded City Council Members Lander and Stephen Levy and from New York State Assemblyman Bobby Carroll, we've printed up hundreds of fliers, which you may have seen around the neighborhood.

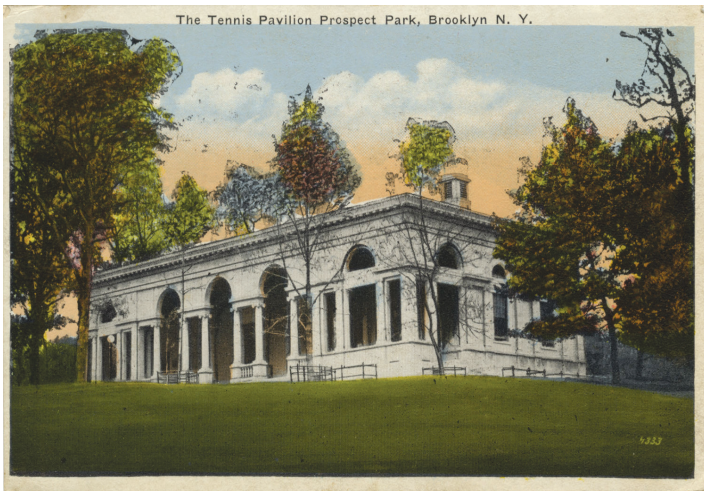
"While I'm deeply disappointed in the State Legislature and Governor Cuomo's decision to nullify NYC's effective policy, I am proud to work alongside this group of Brooklynites who are proving that New Yorkers are ready and willing to take the simple step of bringing their own bags when they shop—to reduce a stubborn and toxic form of solid waste that pollutes our trees, oceans and landfills forever," Councilmember Lander says.

Together we can bag the bag. Signs are available at the Brooklyn offices of Brad Lander (456 Fifth Avenue) and Assemblymember Carroll (416 Seventh Avenue). If you'd like to help put them up around the neighborhood, please pick some up or contact bkancelbaum@gmail.com.

City Gives \$5.1 Million to Renovate Historic Tennis House

107-Year-Old Tennis House to Get a Makeover

c. Prospect Park Archives



The Prospect Park Tennis House, built at the turn of the 19th century as a facility for lawn tennis players, is slated to receive a \$5.1 million renovation. The funding is part of a funding package granted to the park by the City Council and The Mayor's Office to finance projects throughout the park.

Parkside Avenue Perimeter improvements are also receiving \$1 million from Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams to restore and "green" along the Parkside Avenue side of the Park. Councilmember Lander's Office is adding \$750,000 for improvements to the baseball diamonds and the Parade Grounds.

c. Prospect Park Archives



c. Prospect Park Archives

The Tennis House, located on the Long Meadow near 9th Street, has been closed to the public for the last ten years. Before closing the building was home to the much beloved, but now dissolved, Brooklyn Center for The Urban Environment. For more than 30 years, BCUE was one of the City's leading environmental education providers.

Shuttered in 2009, BCUE served nearly 100,000 New Yorkers every year, including running a summer camp out of the Tennis House for kids across the city. BCUE summer youth programs taught kids biodiversity, conservation, and introduced them to the living environment all around them.

Founded by urban conservationist (and local super hero) John Muir, BCUE's legacy lives on in the work being done by the Gowanus Canal Conservancy (see more about the GCC on page 4).

Once renovated, the Tennis House could be an ideal home for another environmental justice, education and advocacy organization.

Remembrances . . . The Sustainers of Park Slope

by Maryann McHugh Feeney

For over six decades, I had the good fortune to live on Polhemus Place in Park Slope while growing up and also in later years raising my own son, Michael. Changes were many over the years, but it is those who remained in Park Slope when many were moving to the suburbs after WWII that I wish to remember.

Descendants of some of the original Dutch settlers such as Mrs. Brinkerhoff and Mrs. Van Hooven. Children of those who bought the first houses on Polhemus, such as Miss Alice B. Plumb. Helen & Joe DeSimone and Mary & Michael McHugh who went against the trend and bought their homes when others abandoned Brooklyn. I call them and hundreds more the Sustainers of Park Slope who kept the community together for future generations.

But it is the Cullie sisters I remember with a smile. They were elderly single ladies when I was a child. When their grandnieces came to visit, I was summoned to come over to play. They had a charming playroom established on the third floor. Years later when walking with my own son, I would hear a knock on their window on Sunday afternoons. A small, frail hand beckoned us to come in. A key would be given to Michael that opened a door in the antique credenza in the front parlor. He would find toys inside. Miss Cullie said the child would be occupied while we adults had a chat. As we would be leaving, I was asked to post her correspondence. Remnants of a gentler era in Park Slope.

I am truly blessed to have lived most of my life in Park Slope, and to share this legacy with my children and grandchildren.

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Awards & Grants Recognize Excellence & Service

PSCC Food for Thought Fundraiser Celebrates High School Seniors



Photo by Colin Mixson

Pictured above left to right: Makajah Marks, Millennium Brooklyn High School, will be attending St. John's University; Renée Octave, Park Slope Collegiate, will be attending the New York City College of Technology; Ezra Pean, Secondary School for Law, will be attending the College of Staten Island; Louric Rankine, Secondary School for Journalism, will be attending Lawrence University

Each year the Park Slope Civic Council is delighted and honored to award a Volunteer and Community Service Scholarship to a deserving student from each of the four high schools located at the John Jay Educational Campus. The scholarship fund is primarily subsidized by the annual "Food for Thought" food and drink tasting event, which is sponsored and organized by the Civic Council.

This year, scholarships in the amount of \$2,250 each, were presented to four outstanding students by Scholarship Committee Chair Joe Rydell, at the Civic Council Trustee meeting on June 8, 2017 at the Old Stone House.

Lovgren Winners Recognized at PSCC's June Meeting

The Park Slope Civic Council honors exceptional organizations and members of the community for their outstanding service to Park Slope. The awards are named for Park Slope activist, George Lovgren, whose tireless efforts helped to save the "Squad 1" Union Street Firehouse from closure in the 1960s. Dating back to 1979, the awards are given in two categories -- one for professional service and one for volunteerism.



This year's professional service award went to long-time Assemblymember Jim Brennan, who served Park Slope and neighboring communities since 1984. Retiring in 2016, Jim has always been a staunch supporter of PSCC and our advocacy efforts over the years. Jim chaired four committees during his career and won three national awards as a State legislator. He worked tirelessly on

projects and legislation involving affordable housing, tenant and senior citizen education programs, initiatives for the mentally ill and public health, and recently teamed up with the MTA to develop a budgetary framework that can support much-needed infrastructure repairs and upgrades.

The volunteer award was given to FIDO (Fellowship for the Interests of Dogs & their Owners), whose mission is to ensure that Prospect Park is a safe and friendly place for dogs, dog owners and non-dog owners alike. For the past 13 years, FIDO has promoted the responsible supervision of dogs, and through its charitable activities, programs, and website, FIDO enhances public education and respect regarding the benefits and responsibilities of dog ownership. Check out FIDOBrooklyn.org to learn more and join them for a monthly "Coffee Bark," usually the first Saturday of the month behind the Picnic House in Prospect Park.



Enriching Our Community Cash Grants to Neighborhood Non-Profits

Each year, the Park Slope Civic Council provides grants to non-profit organizations and community groups. Applications are evaluated on: (i) community impact of the organization, (ii) the communities served, and (iii) the overall quality of the application. Six outstanding community groups were recognized with cash grants.

Brooklyn Arts Exchange (BAX) - Headquartered in Park Slope, and founded in 1991 as a small performance, rehearsal and educational venue that, in its own words, "encouraged artistic risk-taking and stimulated dialogue among diverse constituencies," BAX today offers more than 45 youth arts education classes per week in theater, dance and tumbling for tots through teens. BAX's grant will support its TALL (Teen Artist Learners & Leaders) Council, a free and youth-led leadership group of ambitious and motivated teen artists eager to deepen their engagement with performing arts.

BRIC - Headquartered in Fort Greene and founded in 1979, is a leading provider of free cultural programming in Brooklyn (and one of the largest in NYC). BRIC programming includes contemporary arts, performing arts, and community media programs that reflect Brooklyn's creativity and diversity. BRIC's grant supported this summer's BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn! Festival Family Concert.

Heights & Hills - operates the Park Slope Center for Successful Aging which is housed in the Greenwood Baptist Church on 7th Avenue at 6th Street. The grant helped fund the cost of supplies for an art program conducted by a volunteer art therapist.

Park Slope Collegiate - PSCC funding supported "*Separate Will Never Be Equal: The Case for School Integration Now*," the second installment of "Integration Matters" a speaking series organized by the Park Slope Collegiate Parents Association. Collegiate is a public school for grades 6-12, and one of four schools co-located at the John Jay Campus on 7th Avenue.

Piper Theatre Productions - is a Brooklyn-based education company committed to providing performance experience for kids, free outdoor theater at the Old Stone House, and opportunities for emerging artists. PSCC funding supported the "Piper Theater Workshop," a theater production and performance workshop offered in July to young people ages 7-17.

Friends of the Washington Park Dog Run - operating under the umbrella of the Old Stone House, "Friends" is an unincorporated organization maintaining the Washington Park dog run. Established in 2015 to "create a sense of community" among users and "raise awareness that NYC Parks Dog Runs are managed and maintained by volunteers," the dog run will be refurbished with K9 grass, install seating for owners and create a message board to increase awareness and visibility of the dog park.

Annual Ortner Preservation Awards: Accepting Nominations Through November 10th

Since 2014, the Ortner Award has recognized individuals and organizations for exemplary work preserving the historic architecture of Park Slope. "It is hoped that these examples of excellence in preservation will be emulated by others" according to Awards' Chairperson, John Casson.

The Ortner honors Evelyn (1924-2006) and Everett Ortner (1919-2012), long-time residents and community advocates who, beginning in the 1960s, played a pivotal role in transforming Park Slope into the vibrant community it is today. Detailed information about the application process/eligibility requirements can be found on the PSCC website at www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org.

The Ortners are sponsored by Tarzian Hardware and will be presented at the January 4, 2018 meeting of the PSCC. Nominations for qualifying projects can be sent to: ortnerpreservationawards@gmail.com.

Past honorees have included the 2014 Ortner Award Winner for Exterior Restoration - PS 39, the Henry Bristow Elementary School on 8th Avenue. Built in 1877, it is one of the oldest, continuously-operating schools in the U.S. and one of the oldest buildings in Park Slope. Brice Architecture was selected by the NYC School Construction Authority to repair and restore PS 39, returning the 140 year-old building to its original Victorian charm.



Restoration of PS 39 included reconstructing the school's slate tiled mansard roof, fabricating decorative copper work and restoring the original stone masonry.

Derrick McGlashen 1948 – 2017



*"Don't Forget
to Read a Book"*

For more years than many of us can remember, Derrick McGlashen stationed himself outside 7th Avenue's Key Food. Many knew his name, and those that did not, knew him anyway. He was the nice man looking for help and reminding kids, "Don't forget to read a book!"

Derrick passed away earlier this summer of cancer. He is remembered as a Vietnam veteran who saw terrible combat and came back, like so many, to struggle with drugs and fighting to overcome the horrors of war. Derrick had the strength and

presence of mind to work through his troubles while living on the streets and in shelters. Derrick connected with folks in our neighborhood through his warmth, happiness and enthusiasm.

Neighbors and friends collected funds, including a donation from the Civic Council, for a memorial plaque that was installed near Key Food the first week of September.

Drawing by Brian Sheppard



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

**October 18th, 2017
6:30-9:00 PM
Picnic House**

Our Food & Drink Partners

- 7th Avenue Wine & Liquor Company
- al di la Trattoria * Bartleby & Sage
- Benchmark Restaurant * Bogota Latin Bistro
- Bricolage * Blueprint * Buttermilk Bakeshop
- Camperdown Elm * The Commissioner
- Cooks & Captains * Dirty Precious
- Freddy's Bar & Backroom * Gristmill
- Hey Hey Canteen * Kos Kaffe * Loki
- Luke's Lobster * Miti Miti Modern Mexican
- Palo Santo * Rose Water
- Runner & Stone * Scottadito Osteria Toscana
- Shawn Fine Wine & Spirits * Slope Cellars

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PSCC Through the Years . . .



Civic Council's 40-Year Campaign for Brooklyn's Historic Districts

- Peter Bray, Chairperson Historic Districts Committee

Park Slope in the 1960's was an abandoned neighborhood of decaying buildings, commercial avenues with empty storefronts, and its iconic brownstones being used as rooming houses. The refusal of banks to lend to families in blighted neighborhoods, a practice known as bank "redlining," discouraged families from moving into the neighborhood. Coupled with a declining city population and decreasing tax revenues that reduced municipal services, Park Slope was a neglected corner of the city.

But also a cherished corner. Community activists within the Park Slope Civic Council began working with the Landmarks Preservation Commission to designate Park Slope as a Historic District. In 1973, Park Slope received its first Historic District designation.

Establishing Park Slope as a historic district plays an important part in safeguarding the neighborhood's future. Preserving the history of the built environment was something the community rallied around. Built in the mid-to-late 1800s, Park Slope brownstones have come to define the character of the community. Community residents and the diversity of those residents are obviously the primary drivers of a community's character. But the places where those residents live, the stores, the services and the streets and trees all contribute to livability.

Ironically, Park Slope's growing popularity throughout the 1990s began to threaten the historic heritage of the neighborhood. In the late 1990s, the Park Slope Civic Council took the initiative to expand the historic district from the blocks closest to the Park to deeper into the neighborhood. The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) however, took no action and those efforts languished until 2006 when PSCC member Peter Bray together with then PSCC President Terry Ash and Trustee David Alquist came together to revive that effort.

The group's first challenge was finding a way for the resource-strapped LPC to evaluate the proposed 5,000 buildings outside the original historic district. LPC demanded a written proposal consisting of discrete expansion phases that it would evaluate individually over time, turning what could have been a project lasting a few years into a campaign that would extend to over 15-20 years.

Though discouraging, LPC's position forged and galvanized a systematic approach which began with the formation of the Civic Council's "Historic District Expansion Committee." Meeting monthly, the committee brought together architects, experts and preservationists in a highly coordinated effort to phase in Landmark Designation over time.

Years earlier, not all Trustees supported expansion of the historic district. But by the 2000's, development activity was tearing down or altering the Slope's historic fabric, particularly at its edges. In response PSCC volunteers coordinated a door-to-door campaign to speak with homeowners and document the widespread support for Landmarks Designation. Letter writing campaigns and petition drives played a strong role in moving the LPC's process forward and ensuring the support of our local elected officials.

Committed to the long term, the Civic Council's Historic District Committee continues to advocate for the protection of another 1,000 buildings in the Center Slope, and has plans to include more blocks south of 9th Street. But because LPC requires expansions to be contiguous with the existing historic district, the Committee is forced to proceed from east to west, or moving down the Slope, rather than hopscotching to particular blocks.



FORTH ON FOURTH AVENUE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FOURTH AVENUE

Community Action Timeline

- S.J. Avery, Chairperson Forth on Fourth Committee

2010

Civic Council Future of Fourth Avenue Forum launches FOFA.

2011

At the urging of PSCC and FOFA, DCP revises zoning regulations to mandate street level fenestration and a commercial presence in new buildings on north 4th Avenue.

2012

MillionTreesNYC awards FOFA a grant to plant 36 new trees on 4th Avenue. Marks the beginning of an ongoing partnership with the Gowanus Canal Conservancy to green 4th Avenue.

2013

FOFA and the Historic District Committee work to save The Pacific Branch library from a NYC decision to sell, and relocate, two Brooklyn branch libraries. PSCC unanimously passes a resolution urging the preservation of the Pacific Street branch, calling for landmark status and continuation of services at this underserved location.

Department of Transportation #Vision Zero safety plan for 4th Avenue is initially rejected by CB6. FOFA works with local transportation advocates to reverse decision.

FOFA selected by CITYBENCH to install 7 new benches and Parks Dept. for 23 new trees and additional tree guards.

2014

FOFA hosts forum at the Old Stone House - "A New Look at 4th Avenue: Action Planning for A New Administration" - to identify a list of community concerns. Councilmembers Lander and Levin participate and respond to a survey of issues and concerns. Street safety/transportation and an "inviting streetscape" become key goals.

"Fix This Public Space"¹ organized by FOFA and nine community groups² work to reimagine the 4th Ave/9th Street Transit Hub. FOFA Sponsors mock storefronts, way-finding signs, public art, and interactive media. Achieves installation of additional signage, minor station repairs and mural installations.

2015

FOFA's Yarn Bomb celebrates 4th Avenue and Gowanus Open Studios 2015. With Arts Gowanus, The Textile Arts Center, and the Old Stone House, "Yarn Bomb" installs local art created by residents along the 4th Avenue fence of Washington Park.

2017

FOFA works with community groups to preserve affordable grocery and housing on 5th Avenue slated to be lost during the redevelopment of the Key Food Site. FOFA/PSCC help lead effort, with the support of elected officials, negotiating agreement with developers to keep 22,000 sq.ft. of supermarket and deeply affordable housing.

FOFA partnering with GCC to present and discuss Lowland's Study, Conservancy's proposed Gowanus Canal park plan.

¹ Cost of Visioning Campaign made possible with an *ioby* online fundraiser.

² (Arts Gowanus, Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled, the Fifth Avenue Committee, Gowanus Canal Conservancy, Make Brooklyn Safer, the Old Stone House & Washington Park, Park Slope Neighbors, and Transportation Alternatives)

Celebrating Nearly 60 Years The Park Slope House Tour

- Candace Woodward, Chairperson House Tour Committee

While looking through the old House Tour Brochures from the 1990s, I am reminded of all the former Civic Council Trustees who have worked on the House Tour in the past – Barbara McTiernan, Leslie Beller, Carl Kaiserman, Mort Fleischer, Richard Ferrera and others. They all left their mark on this event, which began in 1959 when Bob Makla organized a tour of ten Park Slope gardens. In fact, it was Bob Makla who reactivated the South Brooklyn Board of Trade and turned it into the Park Slope Civic Council. The garden tour became a house and garden tour, then a house tour. According to local historian-architect Francis Morrone, Everett and Evelyn Ortner, early pioneers of civic spirit and engagement in our community, first attended the Park Slope House Tour in the early 60's.

Park Slope House Tours have included both traditional and contemporary interiors, loft-like residences, environmentally-friendly homes as well as co-ops, apartments and gardens. Artwork of all kinds has been on display, including work by Brooklyn artists. Also on display have been collections of Ansonia clocks made at the Ansonia Clock Factory, now Ansonia Court on 12th Street, collections of Victorian napkin rings, and collections of children's banks dating from the late 19th century.



Brochures courtesy of Bob Levine

Funds raised by the Park Slope House Tour, the oldest house tour in New York City, are returned to our community by the Grants Committee as awards supporting programs in a variety of creative, non-profit, non-commercial local organizations benefitting Park Slope.

If you would like to donate your home for this year's 2018 House Tour, please contact Candace Woodward at the Park Slope Civic Council.

The Halloween Parade The Best Party of the Year!

- Kimberly Maier, Chairperson Halloween Committee

What's the best party of the year? The Park Slope Civic Council Halloween Parade, of course! Founded in 1986 as the first children's Halloween parade in the nation, the evening attracts neighbors from all over the city to spectate and participate in this popular annual family event.

Trick or treating along 7th and 5th Avenues is always packed. Park Slope's small business owners provide thousands of pounds of treats every year. It's a packed celebration of Brooklyn community and generosity. And along the side streets, families continue their own traditions, ranging from greeting ghouls with bowls of candy, inviting them onto their haunted stoops, showcasing carved pumpkins or staging a case-ment window puppet performance.



With more than 3,000 visitors lining 7th Avenue from 14th to 3rd Streets, and more along the route from 3rd Street to JJ Byrne Playground, the parade is a great excuse for a stoop party. It's also a creative outlet—from the skaters who mystically lead the parade each year, to themed family costumes, to giant puppets, Park Slope's reputation as an artistic community is reinforced, particularly when the parade falls on a Saturday night.

Becoming a member of the Park Slope Civic Council helps support this great unifying event that creates some of the most magical memories shared by Park Slopers, young and old. This year's theme is Super Heroes, which around here ranges from Charles Blow to David Bowie to Wonder Woman, and everything in-between. Join up and keep the Halloween beat marching along!

Read more about our pre-Halloween Parade events on the back page for an evening of spooky fun!

Arts In The Neighborhood

2017 ArtSlope to Showcase Short Films & Documentaries October 13-14

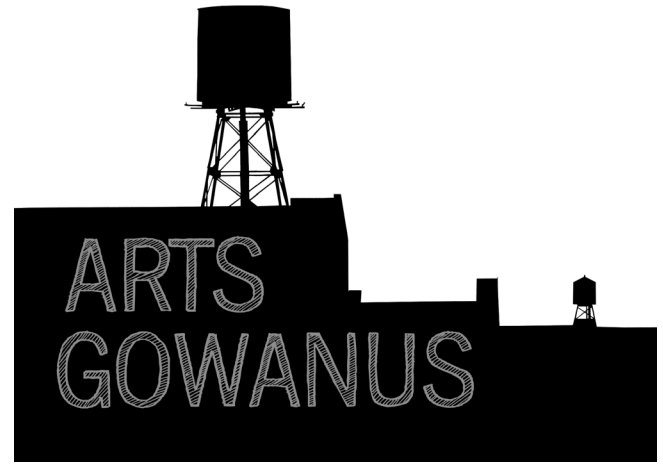


**PARK
SLOPE**
CIVIC
COUNCIL

Building on last year's nine-day, mixed media arts festival **ArtSlope 2016**, **ArtSlope '17** will highlight documentaries and short films during a two-day film festival. **Shorts in the Slope** will take place on the weekend of October 13-14, when selected films will be shown at three screenings in Berkeley Carroll School's new, state-of-the-art theater at 152 Sterling Place, just off Flatbush Avenue.

Last year ArtSlope presented works from over 150 artists, including 9 large art installations in Prospect Park. This year's **Shorts in the Slope** is expected to be just as groundbreaking and exciting – as it will be the first film festival held in Park Slope. The juried festival will finish with an awards ceremony and celebration hosted by Shapeshifter's Lab in nearby Gowanus.

For updates on ArtSlope '17, and information on how to get tickets, please go to www.artslope.nyc and for more information on Shapeshifters Lab go to www.shapeshifterlab.com.



Art Blooms along Gowanus Canal Arts Gowanus Open Studios 2017 October 21-22

The 21st Annual Gowanus Open Studios will feature more than 200 local artists. Organized each year by Arts Gowanus, the Open Studio tour stretches from Bergen to 8th Street and Court Street to 5th Avenue.

Participating artists will open their studios from noon to 6:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday, October 21st and 22nd.

Come meet the artists, support their work and learn more about the creative professionals and artists calling Gowanus home.

Registration and tickets are required. Go to www.artsgowanus.org/gos-2017/

Brooklyn's Dancewave Breaks Ground on New Studios \$5.2M Capital Campaign Launched to Renovate Former Industrial Space

Construction on Dancewave Center, a new arts and cultural community space on 4th Avenue, kicked off in August with a well-attended groundbreaking ceremony.



Dancewave Center will be the new permanent home to Dancewave, a dance education non-profit with over 20 years experience in the Park Slope community.

On Thursday, August 3rd, the groundbreaking ceremony at 182 4th Avenue was attended by invited elected officials, staff from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and other community leaders to celebrate breaking ground of the new Center.

A \$5.2 million Capital Campaign will transform 3,600 sq. ft. of former industrial space into an LEED-certified arts facility to serve youth and the community. The expanded facility will feature two dance studios that open into a flexible performance space with 100-seat capacity and it promises to be a cultural anchor for the Park Slope/Gowanus neighborhood.

Due to generous support from the New York City Council, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and the Brooklyn Borough President's Office, \$4.8 million has been allocated to the project to date. A \$400,000 campaign to raise funds for needed items like a sprung dance floor, sound system, lighting and an endowed scholarship fund was announced at the event.

Dancewave welcomes community members to help in this effort. More details are available at www.dancewave.org/NewDancewaveCenter or contact Grace Freedman, FOFA Co-Chair and Dancewave Board Chair (grace@5freedmans.com).

Meet the NEW Trustees



Rory Dineen

Rory has lived in Park Slope since 1993. Rory is interested in the challenges associated with growing urban density and has been involved in organizations addressing traffic-related issues we have encountered in our community. He took part in “Develop Don’t Destroy Brooklyn” and, more recently, “Preserve Park Slope,” where he was a member of the Traffic Task Force that resulted in the selection of a traffic management company to design solutions to alleviate traffic concerns associated with the expansion of Methodist Hospital. Rory is a logistics expert and his skill set will be a real asset for the Civic

Council’s continued public advocacy initiatives, as we balance urban development and modernization with the preservation of our historic roots.

Rory is also a musician and played at the Old Stone house during the days when JJ Byrne Park was being renovated. His wife, Dr. Karen Kietzman, and he are the proud parents of their daughter who attended PS 261 and the Berkeley Carroll School where he was active in the Parents Association. These experiences were valuable in developing his awareness of the value and impact of community activism.

Rory is a firm believer in supporting local business and is interested in joining the Civic Council’s sustainability committee. And fortunately for us, Rory is also jumping on board as Assistant Treasurer.

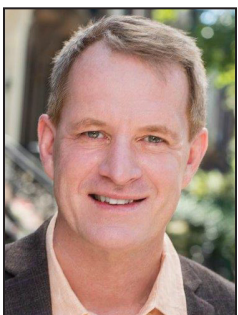


Myra Kooy

Myra is a lifelong multi-media artist. After participating last year in the creation of the Civic Council’s ArtSlope, Myra realized how much both the local artists and people in the community enjoy sharing in the arts. Myra has been aware of the longstanding 440 Gallery and Ground Floor Gallery, but she would like to see art beyond gallery walls and art shows. Although she has lived and worked in Brooklyn for many years, Myra is relatively new to Park Slope (5 years), but she is “here to stay and not going anywhere.” Myra wants to make the community she lives in something special and is looking

for ways to bring art into the community’s day-to-day lives and promote diversity in the cultural and visual elements around us.

Myra has worked at the Brooklyn Children’s Museum in setting up art-teaching programs and learning tools for kids—the programs she designed have endured for 5+ years. Myra now works with Brooklyn Arts Space, Arts Gowanus, and is in the process of creating a group called “Myra’s Artists Support.”



John Mazurek

As a longtime 20-year resident of Park Slope, John has enjoyed the benefits of the balance struck between the brownstones, the architecture, and the deep history of the area coupled with the progressive vision of new shops, arts, development and community spirit that made him plant roots here. John wants to continue the work of those who made this possible. Like many of us, John is disturbed by the number of stores closing and commercial vacancies. John is a firm believer in creating outreach and marketing opportunities for small businesses, and developing campaigns encouraging community members to buy local.

John was an ArtSlope Festival Theater Chair, participated in Far Rockaway Rebuild (Hurricane Sandy damage) and in PSCC’s Civic Sweeps. As a local real estate broker, John brings new people into our neighborhood all the time, and will help us expand the Civic Council’s membership! Marketing, outreach and canvassing, event organizing and speaking – these are all things that John will bring to the PSCC board.



Leslie Gallager

Leslie is fresh from ending her 9-year tenure as a member of her co-op’s board and looking for something new to jump into and is excited to be “moving outward again.” Leslie is a librarian at the Brooklyn Prospect Charter School, and using her expertise, has four years of volunteer experience at the PS 321 school library and six years of experience with its Scholastic Book Fair. She also has volunteered as a literacy tutor at the Brooklyn Public Library and the Fortune Soci-

ety, an organization focused on helping convicted felons re-enter the community.

By her own words, Leslie is a very detailed-oriented person (librarian skills!) and is happy to get involved in any capacity necessary with the Civic Council. Bringing her experience running Brooklyn Prospect’s auction several years ago, Leslie stepped up with this year’s “Food for Thought” – coming up on October 18, 2017 at the Picnic House in Prospect Park (buy tickets now!!).

Leslie is interested in community affairs and ideas such as sponsoring book readings and hosting talks, as well as initiating programs and events for teens and community youth. “Getting information out and connecting people” is what Leslie does every day – we’re excited to have her on board.

THE NEW DANCEWAVE CENTER

Goal: \$5.2M
Raised to date: \$4.8M

The new Dancewave Center is located in the heart of Brooklyn, bringing a hub for the arts to our neighborhood. Construction has just begun and we need community support to make this vision a reality!

Join us!
Our Capital Campaign Committee is looking for community members to participate.

CONTACT development@dancewave.org
718.552.4696 | www.dancewave.org



Box 172, 123 Seventh Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Join!
Renew!
Donate!
Volunteer!

www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org

Upcoming Events

September 27– Gowanus Canal Lowlands Study - “Gowanus Lowlands: A Blueprint for NYC’s Next Great Park:” Old Stone House in Washington Park, 7:00 PM, join FOFA and Old Stone House for a presentation of the Study. All are welcome!

October 5th and 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), 7-9:00 PM. All are welcome!

October 13-14 - ArtSlope ‘17 “Shorts in the Slope” film festival: includes 3 film screenings at Berkeley Carroll School Marlene Clary Performance Space, 152 Sterling Place between Flatbush and 7th Avenue, including a special showing of the seminal, award winning film “The Little Fugitive,” with an awards ceremony/closing party to follow at Shapeshifter’s Lab, 18 Whitwell Place in Gowanus, go to www.artslope.nyc for more details

October 15th – Fall Civic Sweep: 5th Avenue between 3rd and 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; join us and help make Park Slope cleaner and greener, free and open to all

October 17th & 3rd Tuesday of every month (except July & August) - Office Hours-A Casual PSCC Hangout: at **The Commissioner**, 247 5th Avenue (between Garfield and Carroll Streets) at 7:00 PM, Members and Neighbors welcome! Visit the PSCC website for meeting information

October 18th – 6th Annual PSCC 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 www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3043933 or at the door! (See the PSCC website for more details)



PARK SLOPE CIVIC COUNCIL

**ARTSLOPE ‘17 - SHORTS IN THE SLOPE
OCT 13-14 2017**

October 21st–22nd - Gowanus Open Studios 2017: art exhibit and tour of 200+ local Artist Studios, noon – 6 PM, free and open to the public, for more information and special events listings go to www.artsgowanus.org

October 25th - the PSCC Small Business Forum: Old Stone House in Washington Park, 6:30 PM, an opportunity for small business owners and business community leaders to find ways to work together for the betterment of Park Slope

October 29th - OSH and Park Slope Parents’ Costume Contest and Mini Parade: Old Stone House & JJ Byrne Playground, 5th Avenue between 3rd and 4th Streets, 3-5:00 PM

October 31st - Brooklyn Con-Spook-Atory of Music: Explore the haunted garden, a spooky musical performance, candy, stickers and more, 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 and 14th St. 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/January Holiday Events – Jingle Bell Jamboree, Park Slope Civic Council Holiday Party, Toys for Tots, Mulchfest and more all season long, details on our website for a fun-filled lineup of festivities

For more information visit our website at www.parkslopeciviccouncil.org



Established 1896 as the South Brooklyn Board of Trade.
Incorporated 1938.

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Joe Rydell, Vice-President
Erica Stauffer, Treasurer
Candace Woodward, Corresponding & Recording Secretary
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The Park Slope Civic Council is a 501(c)3 organization