

The Forum Opens in Manhattanville

Frank Oudeman, Columbia University



On September 26, Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger joined Pritzker Prize-winning architect Renzo Piano, founder and principal of Renzo Piano Building Workshop, to inaugurate The Forum, a new 56,000-square-foot, three-story facility that completes the first ensemble of new buildings on Columbia's Manhattanville campus in West Harlem. The Forum adds much-needed space for academic conferences, meetings, and public discussions to the campus and joins the recently constructed Lenfest Center for the Arts and Jerome L. Greene Science Center, as well as the rehabilitated Prentiss, Studebaker, and Nash buildings. The facility will serve the entire University community

and will provide a welcoming, transparent gateway to the 17-acre campus for students, faculty, guest scholars, and members of the community.

Triangular in plan, to match its distinctive site at West 125th Street and Broadway, The Forum is visually transparent at street level like its RPBW-designed neighbors, the Lenfest and Jerome L. Greene Centers. Anyone may pass freely from the sidewalk into The Forum's 4,200-square-foot ground-floor café that offers a casual place for snacks and light meals, lingering for conversation over coffee, reading a book, or connecting to free Wi-Fi. The ground-floor space also features an information center and space where Columbia's schools and divisions will offer programming.

On the upper floors, The Forum houses a 430-seat auditorium, a variety of meeting rooms, and offices that will house two related University initiatives working to address a range of public challenges facing our society—Columbia World Projects and the Obama Foundation Scholars. Columbia World Projects is a new initiative that aims to bring University research systematically out into the world in the form of projects that will have a significant and lasting positive impact on people's lives, while enriching research and scholarship. This effort includes the Obama Foundation Scholars at Columbia, which just welcomed its inaugural class of 12 rising change-makers from Asia, Africa, South America, South

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The CBA at Work: West Harlem Development Corporation Uses In-Kind Benefit to Fund Space at Columbia for Local Nonprofit Groups

By Phoebe-Sade Arnold

One afternoon last spring, America SCORES, a nonprofit dedicated to providing underresourced communities with opportunities to excel in soccer, literacy, and service learning, convened more than 750 of their poet-athletes from participating New York City public schools at their annual Jamboree at Columbia's Baker Athletic Field. The Jamboree was a day filled with fun, soccer, and literacy building. In previous years, America SCORES Executive Director Shannon Schneeman had struggled to find a suitable location for this culminating event, particularly one within their budget.

The plight of finding adequate programming space is one common to most nonprofits. The West Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC), the primary vehicle through which commitments of the West Harlem Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) are carried out, recognized this dilemma and came up with a solution. The WHDC opted to employ part of the CBA's In-Kind Facilities and Services benefit to request the use of Columbia University (CU) space on behalf of local community groups. CU's Office of Government and Community Affairs (GCA) coordinates with the WHDC to facilitate the requests. Since the start of this process in fall 2016, there have been more than 25 in-kind events at Columbia.

The WHDC receives the requests directly from organizations located in Manhattan Community District 9 via a twice-yearly application process. To increase the likelihood of CU availability, requests are solicited a semester in advance of the desired date. For example, a request for January–June 2019 would be submitted in November 2018.

Schneeman remarked, "Our ability to serve over 750 poet-athletes is only possible because of organizations like WHDC and CU, who demonstrate the kind of dedication and enthusiasm that we seek to instill in our poet-athletes every day!" Her remarks



America SCORES

America SCORES Jamboree at Columbia's Baker Athletic Field

underscore exactly what the CBA was designed to create: opportunities that directly benefit the fabric of the West Harlem community. For more information about the in-kind space process, contact communityaffairs@columbia.edu.

In the Know

Columbia University



Arthur Mitchell

Remembering Arthur Mitchell

By April Maldonado-Brazil

Arthur Mitchell, the man who rewrote ballet history one dance move at a time, passed away from heart complications at 84 on September 19, 2018. Harlem born and bred, Arthur Mitchell was born on March 27, 1934. After attending New York's High School of Performing Arts, Mitchell received a scholarship to the School of American Ballet. In 1955, Mitchell captured the attention of George Balanchine, who invited him to become the first permanent African American principal dancer in the New York City Ballet; Mitchell's

heart-stopping performances transcended racial disparities in the world of dance.

Galvanized by the civil rights movement and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Mitchell wished to create opportunities for children in Harlem to study the art of dance and founded the Dance Theatre of Harlem in 1968. He remained its artistic director until 2004. Arthur Mitchell was iconic in his ability to diversify the realm of ballet, paving the way for young people of color to shine in an industry not historically fashioned for them. The archives of Arthur Mitchell can be found at Columbia University's Rare Book and Manuscript Library, which acquired the collection in 2015. Before Mitchell's passing, Columbia University's Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery honored him with an exhibition—Arthur Mitchell: Harlem's Ballet Trailblazer.

HARLEM RENAISSANCE 100: A Community Celebration

By Bashar Makhay

Harlem Renaissance 100



HARLEM RENAISSANCE 100: A Community Celebration 2018–2020 is a community-wide celebration marking the landmark 100th anniversary of the Harlem Renaissance. Columbia is joining over 13 Harlem cultural institutions in spearheading the celebration and the launching of an extended series of programs, events, and cultural activities. The celebratory community collaborative commenced October 2018 and concludes June 2020. Along with opening programs for *Posing Modernity*, additional University programming and scholarship will be included to honor the artistic explosion that took place in the Harlem Renaissance and celebrate the diverse, dynamic arts communities that have long defined Harlem's cultural legacy. The planning committee includes representatives from the Studio Museum in Harlem, the Apollo Theater, and City College of New York; and two (former and current) Columbia Community Scholars, John Reddick and Debra Ann Byrd. This initiative is being featured in Carnegie Hall's festival *Migrations: The Making of America* and has received financial support from the office of Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Council Member Bill Perkins, Council Member Mark Levine, and the West Harlem Development Corporation. Learn more about the celebration at <https://HarlemRenaissance.org>.

Dean of Columbia Business School Steps Down

By Maggie Barrows

Columbia Business School



Glenn Hubbard will step down as dean of Columbia Business School at the end of the 2018–2019 academic year; he will return to the faculty as the Russell L. Carson Professor of Finance and Economics. Hubbard served as dean for 15 years, during which time he led the school to focus on entrepreneurship and interdisciplinary programs. This focus led to the creation of the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise and the Columbia Startup Lab, among others.

Under Dean Hubbard's leadership, the Columbia Business School raised \$1 billion, including \$500 million for the school's upcoming move to the University's Manhattanville campus. His other

accomplishments include leading initiatives to revamp the core curriculum, expanding the school's degree offerings, and expanding financial aid by 600 percent.

Prior to joining Columbia as dean of the Business School, Hubbard received a Ph.D. from Harvard University in economics; held positions at Northwestern, Harvard, and the University of Chicago; and served as chairman of the U.S. Council of Economic Advisers under President George W. Bush.

Welcoming the Sixth Cohort of Columbia Community Scholars

By Bashar Makhay

April Maldonado-Brazil



The Columbia Community Scholars Program was developed to enable independent scholars from the local community to pursue their lifelong learning aspirations, whether it be completing an independent project or attaining skills in a particular area. The program allows scholars in Upper Manhattan a formal opportunity to access University resources and participate in the intellectual life of Columbia through interaction with faculty, students, and other visiting scholars. This year we welcomed five new Community Scholars.

Debra Ann Byrd is a fifth-generation Harlem resident with a background in the performing arts as an actor, producer, arts manager, and business leader. Her project is developing and producing "Becoming Othello: A Black Girl's Journey," an exploration of her journey while taking on the role of Othello, which will include a memoir, a published script, and a one-woman touring show. **Karioki Crosby** is an educator with a STEAM focus who works in New York City museums and public schools, as well as a practicing artist, a robotics coach, and a coding mentor. His project is developing a "Harlem Maker Expo," consisting of an annual exhibition of creative coding and physical computing projects from after-school and weekend workshops. **Melanie Edwards** worked in education for forty years, primarily at The Modern School, where she was a teacher as well as the director of curriculum development, among other roles. Her project is writing a biography of her grandfather J. Rosamond Johnson, who was an actor, composer, musicologist, and author. **Debbie Meyer** is a nonprofit fundraising and strategic planning professional and an active volunteer. Her project is the creation of an organization to address the systemic issues and policies that allow dyslexic students and struggling readers to fail, including to urge universities to address these issues in their teaching programs. **Chris Pellettieri**, professional stone carver and native of Morningside Heights, is the founder and executive director of Pellettieri Stone Carvers' Academy, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting stone carving and which offers training in the traditional methods. His project is developing skills and knowledge in support of the Academy, with the goal of being able to expand the training offerings.

Interested in becoming a Community Scholar? The application window for the cohort beginning in fall 2019 will open in March 2019. Learn more at <https://gca.columbia.edu/content/community-scholars>.

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To receive a copy of *The Columbia Newsletter*,
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Columbia and NYU COSMOS Researchers Work with 10 Teachers on Designing Lab Experiments

By Robert Florida

Diana Hernandez



Five of the 10 New York City science and math teachers, pictured alongside researchers and staff from Columbia University, Columbia's Data Science Institute, and NYU

Ten New York City math, science, robotics, and art and technology teachers spent the summer learning how to master the most advanced techniques in wireless technology with help from researchers at Columbia University, Columbia's Data Science Institute, and NYU. The middle and high school teachers teamed up with researchers on both campuses to design web-based lab experiments that illustrate the theory and practice of wireless networking. The teachers, four of whom are from Harlem schools, will begin using the lab experiments in their classrooms this fall, giving students hands-on experience with the next wave of mobile technology.

"We want to share the cutting-edge technologies we are developing with teachers, school students, and the broader community in Harlem and throughout NYC," says Zoran Kostić, associate professor of electrical engineering and member of the Data Science Institute, who led the Columbia effort along with Columbia Engineering Outreach. "When we received the grant, one of our top priorities was to craft COSMOS as an educational platform to improve K-12 STEM education in city schools." The selected teachers spent the first part of their summer learning about the program. Then the teachers were divided between Columbia and NYU labs. Kostić described the summer program for the teachers as "successfully intense," with the faculty, postdocs, students, and teachers working together to develop 35 lab experiments.

At the end of the summer, the teachers were given COSMOS educational toolkits composed of PCs, wireless devices, sensors, and software-defined radios. Their students will use the toolkits in their experiments, which eventually will be connected through the web to the COSMOS testbed, allowing them to follow the experiments done by the researchers in real time. As the teachers begin implementing the lab experiments, Columbia and NYU researchers will visit their classrooms and continue to mentor them. The teachers will also present this innovative curriculum at upcoming conferences.

Harry Title, an art and technology teacher, designed a lab project that will teach students about sound waves and sound modulation through the use of GarageBand, the software program for creating music or podcasts. "All kids listen to music on their cell phones," says Title, "so connecting how sound waves travel to their use of GarageBand will help me get the attention of my students."

Melissa Sanchez, a math teacher and colleague of Title's

at the Urban Assembly Academy for Future Leaders, learned that the COSMOS network will tap unused radio spectrum bands and integrate optical fibers underground while installing radio antennas on city rooftops and light poles. The high-bandwidth network, she further learned, will transmit data at rates above one gigabit per second, improving performance tenfold over current wireless networks. Sanchez was impressed by the technology, but the question for her was how to translate these innovations into algebra experiments for her students.

Working with her Columbia mentor, she designed a lab in which students can calculate the unit price for bandwidth, which helps her teach proportional relationships—one of her themes in algebra. As part of the lab she designed, her students have to collect data and compare internet providers, as well as analyze variables such as the price and upload speeds of the different companies. "The summer program was definitely intense," she adds, "but in the end the experiments we designed will make abstract concepts more concrete for my students. And that will help them better understand and enjoy their math classes."

The Research Experience for Teachers activity took place with the recently funded \$22.5 million National Science Foundation (NSF) project called Cloud Enhanced Open Software Defined Mobile Wireless Testbed for City-Scale Deployment, or COSMOS. COSMOS is an advanced wireless testbed covering a square mile, mostly in Harlem, which is being developed and deployed in West Harlem by Rutgers, Columbia, and NYU. More details about the COSMOS project are available via the COSMOS project website.

A version of this article originally appeared on the Columbia University Data Science Institute website.

We would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations for their leadership in this effort: Columbia Engineering Outreach, led by Emily Ford; NYU Center of K-12 Education, led by Ben Esner and Dr. Sheila Borges; the Columbia Office of Government and Community Affairs; Silicon Harlem; Zoran Kostić, associate professor of electrical engineering and member of the Data Science Institute; Thanasis Korakis, NYU associate professor of electrical and computer engineering; Dr. Jonathan Ostrometzky, Dr. Hazel Yüksel, and Tony Zheng, Columbia University electrical engineering professors; and Data Science Institute members Harish Krishnaswamy and Gil Zussman.

A Letter from Executive Vice President Shailagh Murray to the Community



Dear Neighbors,

Warm greetings from your newest neighbor. I'm not the most obvious person to step into this role: I'm a former foreign correspondent who was raised in the South, worked in government at the federal level, and has never lived in New York City.

Needless to say, I have much to learn about Morningside Heights, Harlem, and the Manhattanville campus and from the countless individuals who contribute to "the ongoing creation of a great university," as President Lee Bollinger said at the Forum opening in September.

I hope you will find me an enthusiastic partner. My only preconceived notion is a deep belief that all of us play a role in making our communities stronger and our society more just. Great institutions like universities can and should play central roles in connecting people of different backgrounds and interests but shared aspirations. To me, this sort of collaborative energy is essential to making big things happen, whether for our neighborhood, our city, our country, or the world.

My role as Executive Vice President for Public Affairs will combine two disciplines that are essential to the University: communications and community relations. And as the Manhattanville story transitions from architectural renderings and construction pits to an open, bustling modern campus, we must not only fulfill our promises to you, but open up new channels of communicating and working together.

Eight years ago, I said goodbye to a 20-year career in journalism to accept the offer of a lifetime: a chance to work for President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden. Among the many lessons I learned in my six years at the White House is that change really does start with individuals, on city blocks, in neighborhoods and communities, where people are most likely to be invested in each other.

I look forward to working with all of you, and encourage you to reach out to me with any ideas, concerns, or other feedback.

Shailagh Murray

The Forum *continued from page 1*

Asia, and Europe. This year-long academic and civic leadership program is designed to strengthen the expertise and knowledge of individuals with a demonstrated ability to be transformative leaders in their communities, nations, and the world.

"Sixteen years in the conceiving and making, the new campus in Manhattanville provides Columbia with the opportunity to do research and teach better in the present and also to have the freedom to imagine its future," said Bollinger. "The Forum completes the spectacular triad of the first buildings on this new kind of urban campus, which reflects not only modern design, but modern values about how we can mutually benefit our local communities—defined by a visual openness and civic

function that welcomes everyone in to participate in what only a truly great university can do."

"In designing the master plan for the campus and its first three buildings, we wanted to help Columbia as a global university in the city and for the city," said Piano. "So New York's streets and sidewalks are woven into the fabric of the campus. This is not like the campus of earlier centuries. All the buildings are transparent, open to the public, and have amenities for the local community at street level, including plazas and green spaces for everyone to share. The architecture draws on the neighborhood's industrial vocabulary, as you see, for example, with the exposed structural elements inside The Forum."

The Forum will gradually become the site for a variety of

academic and public programs from across the University. It is a vital part of the vision of the Manhattanville campus becoming an innovative academic space that will keep Columbia and New York City as a center of the world's research universities. The long-term plan will eventually create 6.8 million square feet of new academic space, as well as more than an acre of publicly accessible green space, landscaped paths, and street-level commercial and civic facilities open to the public. The open, sustainable campus is designed to deepen the connections between Columbia and its local community, so that the city and the University can engage and strengthen each other.

A version of this article originally appeared on the Columbia News website.

Freedom and Citizenship: A Call to Civic Engagement

By April Maldonado-Brazil

Freedom and Citizenship



Citizenship successfully created a program accessible to high school students in low-income communities, introducing them to college-level work in the humanities. Students are paired with undergraduate mentors to guide them through the college application process; they are also given the opportunity to get a real feel for campus living through attending a free four-week residential summer intensive seminar course in political philosophy at Columbia.

The Freedom and Citizenship college seminar and academic enrichment program is a hidden gem here at Columbia University. The program has raised the bar in developing our next generation of high school students to become “informed, responsible citizens.” Founded in 2009, in partnership with Columbia’s Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center and the Center for American Studies, Freedom and

After completing the summer intensive, they continue their studies during the school year. Students work on civic leadership projects that require them not only to bring their awareness to political problems, but to become active in seeking solutions to them. These high school students research present-day political issues

and organize advocacy initiatives with the guidance of Columbia undergraduate teaching assistants. Their projects address a broad range of concerns, including but not limited to domestic violence, human trafficking, immigration, refugees, gentrification, gender equality, and the “school to prison pipeline”; this is where they have begun their initiatives for change.

With an initial grant from the Teagle Foundation, in the first summer of Freedom and Citizenship the program was able to accommodate 15 students. It has since surpassed that number and now serves 45 students per cohort today. Many of the program’s alumni are students and graduates of Columbia University. The Freedom and Citizenship program has successfully formed a Consortium Partnership with Carthage College, Newberry College, and Yale University and continues to encourage other colleges and universities to establish similar programs throughout the United States. If you are interested in supporting the Freedom and Citizenship program at Columbia University, you can learn more at <https://freedomandcitizenship.columbia.edu/>.

Obama Foundation Scholars Begin Inaugural Year at Columbia University

By Bashar Makhay

Barbara Alpert



Pictured, beginning at upper left-hand corner: Omezzine Khelifa, TUNISIA; Oluseun Onigbinde, NIGERIA; Ndansi Elvis Nukam, CAMEROON; Pavel Kunchev, BULGARIA; Trisha Shetty, INDIA; Rumbidzai Chisenga, SOUTH AFRICA and ZIMBABWE; Peter Ndayihereje, BURUNDI; Alice Barbe, FRANCE; Vanessa Paranjothy, SINGAPORE; Gabriela Galilea, PARAGUAY; Hong Hoang, VIETNAM; Ana Maria Gonzalez-Forero, COLOMBIA

The Obama Foundation Scholars Program at Columbia University is a new program from the Obama Foundation, the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy, and Columbia. The program brings together rising leaders from around the world who have demonstrated a commitment to finding solutions to challenges in their communities, countries, and regions. Over the course of an academic year, the Obama Foundation Scholars will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and skills and to build new capacities and networks that will accelerate their impact in their home countries.

The inaugural cohort is comprised of twelve accomplished leaders who are participating in an immersive program that brings together academic, skills-based, and experiential learning, designed by Columbia University in consultation with the Obama Foundation. The program takes advantage of the unique opportunities for engagement that come with being at one of the world’s most important centers of research and with being in the City of New York. The current group is extraordinarily diverse—following is a sample of their work:

Rumbidzai Chisenga is a program manager at the Mandela Institute for Development Studies (MINDS), a pan-African think tank that seeks to address short- and long-term development challenges in Africa. At MINDS, she manages the Youth Program in Elections and Governance, which provides African youth with relevant knowledge and skills required for meaningful participation in elections and governance. Under Rumbidzai’s leadership, the program has a growing network of about 430 alumni based in 53 countries, including alumni who have run for parliament.

Pavel Kounchev is the founder and director of Time

Heroes, the largest volunteering platform in Bulgaria, matching people with organizations who need support. The technology platform currently has over 43,000 registered volunteers. Pavel also cofounded the Fine Acts Foundation, which bridges human rights and art to foster social change by curating, commissioning, and promoting contemporary art with purpose. He trains the NGO sector to work effectively with volunteers, engages in storytelling and campaigning to promote the concept of volunteering, and fosters the inclusion of underrepresented and marginalized groups in volunteering initiatives.

Oluseun Onigbinde is cofounder and lead partner at BudGIT, an organization focused on data transparency and increasing access to public finance information to strengthen the capacity of citizens to hold governments accountable. He believes that in a democracy, every responsible citizen has the right to know how resources are being expended to develop and deliver public infrastructure and services.

For more than 25 years, Ana Maria Gonzalez-Forero has worked in Colombia organizing and advocating for the rights of Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities. Through her work with FEM, Ana helps rural ethnic communities secure the land ownership, self-governance, and resources guaranteed in Colombia’s National Development Plan.

Obama Foundation Scholars at Columbia are part of Columbia World Projects, a new initiative that aims to systematically bring university research out into the world in the form of projects that will have a significant and lasting positive impact on people’s lives and will help guide the way to solutions to intractable problems, while additionally enriching research and scholarship. Learn more about the program at <https://president.columbia.edu/obama-scholars-program>.

The Counts of Monte Cristo

By Maggie Barrows

Wikimedia Commons



The Office of Government and Community Affairs (GCA) is working in partnership with the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise ReEntry Acceleration Program (REAP) Business Association to provide support for formerly incarcerated

people. One part of the program’s marketing strategy is the Counts of Monte Cristo Project, which aims to identify and explore the lives of the 30 percent of formerly incarcerated people who do not reoffend or become reincarcerated.

The ultimate goal of the REAP Business Association and the Counts of Monte Cristo Project is to recruit 200 employers to hire 2,000 formerly incarcerated people for professional or career-track positions by 2020. With this, they hope to bring about a reduction in the stigma associated with hiring formerly incarcerated people and help lower one of the highest barriers to reentry after incarceration: the ability to find stable employment. In order to achieve this ambitious goal, they are working with filmmaker Jamal Joseph from the Columbia School of the Arts to create a documentary profiling 30–50 highly successful formerly incarcerated people.

With funding from the Tamer Center, GCA, and the M&T Bank Charitable Foundation, Joseph is putting together a short documentary that profiles a handful of formerly incarcerated people. This shorter version, which will run between 10 and 20 minutes, will be screened at festivals to raise awareness of the issue and the project’s goals, as well as funds for the longer documentary. Among the people featured in the documentary are GCA Associate Vice President for Strategic Policy and Program Implementation Flores Forbes and former Community Scholar and College and Community Fellowship Executive Director Vivian Nixon, as well as Joseph himself.

In the short documentary, Jamal explores not just the experiences of the formerly incarcerated, but also their perspectives on community and reentry, and their thoughts on prisons and how the system can be reformed. With this broad approach, Joseph hopes to convey the ways and paths through which people were helped to achieve a position from which to succeed; he mentions that common themes that emerged through his first interviews were the importance of education and “having someone believe in them enough to give them a job.” Calling the project “a story of humanity,” he also hopes it can shed light on the ways in which structural poverty, racism, and sexism can lead to overprosecution and overpunishment of crimes.

In the Mix



1

Regina Fleming Photography



2

Regina Fleming Photography



3

Barbara Alpert



4

Barbara Alpert



5



6

Junior Benjamin C.



7

National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC



8

1 & 2: Monsters and Men Film Screening

A first-run feature film, *Monsters and Men*, was screened in the Katharina at the Lenfest Center for the Arts. This special screening for youth in Upper Manhattan was hosted by Columbia University in collaboration with the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), The Bridge Lab, Neon Films, and Boys and Girls Club of Harlem. Following the film, youth attendees joined an exploratory workshop with department heads from the film to learn more about careers in film and media. This was the Lenfest Center's first time screening a first-run nationwide theatrical release.

3 & 4: Economic Development Day

As part of Harlem Week, the NYC Economic Development Day conference took place on Thursday, August 9, hosted by the Greater Harlem Chamber of Commerce and Columbia University. The themes for this year were "Women Transforming Our World—Past, Present, and Future" and "The Community Within the Community—Saluting the LGBTQ Community." President of the Social Science Research Council and Columbia University Professor of Sociology Alondra Nelson extended greetings on behalf of the University community. Awardees include Cheryl Wills (pictured right), April Ryan (pictured left), Ernest Green, and the Greater New York Chapter of The Links.

5: Zuckerman Saturday Science

Families and community groups are invited to explore the workings of the brain through hands-on activities and unique scientific resources. Saturday Science activities and demonstrations are designed to be engaging and informative and as launching points for further exploration, reflection, and discovery. Saturday Science events are held monthly during the school year. Themes and materials change monthly to incorporate the wide-ranging topics in neuroscience and the latest discoveries coming from Zuckerman Institute labs. Learn more at <https://zuckermaninstitute.columbia.edu/saturday-science>.

6: World Marrow Donor Day

World (Bone) Marrow Donor Day is observed every September to raise awareness about being a stem cell donor and to celebrate the impact of blood stem cell transplantation on patients' lives. Columbia University observed the celebration on Friday, September 14, across both the Morningside and Medical Center campuses. Pictured: Phoebe-Sade Arnold of the Office of Government and Community Affairs with Gabrielle Morales from the Icla da Silva Foundation.

7: Posing Modernity

The Wallach Art Gallery at Columbia University and the Musée d'Orsay partner to present an exhibition entitled *Posing Modernity: The Black Model from Manet and Matisse to Today* in New York and *Le Modèle noir, de Géricault à Matisse* in Paris. The exhibition will be on view at the Wallach until February 10, 2019, and will then be expanded at the Musée d'Orsay, from March 26 to July 14, 2019. Pictured: Frédéric Bazille, *Young Woman with Peonies*, 1870.

8: Columbia Community Scholars Dialogue on Wellness

Columbia Community Scholars Lil Nickelson and Vivian Williams-Kurutz discuss issues surrounding health and wellness in the Harlem community and beyond. Lil Nickelson is a food, dining, and culture writer focused on "Healthy Living for People of Color," a multifaceted approach to promoting healthy living habits for residents of Upper Manhattan. Vivian Williams-Kurutz is founder and executive director of the Harlem Wellness Center (HWC), which combats health inequity by targeting populations most vulnerable to adult onset diseases that are preventable through lifestyle choices.

Community Services

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to the local community, Columbia has dedicated a portion of the Manhattanville website to communicate some of the University's commitments for project-related programs and services that are currently available. For a comprehensive listing of programs and services, and participant eligibility, please visit manhattanville.columbia.edu/community.

Outreach to Disconnected Youth

The Connecting Youth Initiative (CYI) at Columbia University offers resources and supportive services to out-of-school and out-of-work youth ages 16-24 in the local community to help them reengage with educational institutions, obtain a high school equivalency degree, and/or seek training for career readiness and job placement. Through strategic, targeted outreach activities, CYI staff provide case management to local youth and young adults to match them with appropriate service providers and referrals for skills training, internships, work-based learning, and job placement opportunities with community-based organizations and Columbia University. For more information, please contact 212-854-4822.

Columbia Employment Information Center

The Columbia Employment Information Center (CEIC) (the "Center") serves as the central community-based resource for local residents to apply for open positions at Columbia University.

The Center provides a wide range of services to the local community including in-person and online job readiness training programs, one-on-one job-search counseling and assistance, and access to online job opportunities at Columbia.

You are welcome to call our 24-hour hotline at 212-851-1551; it provides general information about the Center, information on Columbia University job opportunities, information on construction activities and information on construction-related job opportunities.

Course Auditing

Columbia University funds up to 50 courses per year through Columbia's Professional Studies Auditing Program for residents (25 residents from NYCHA Manhattanville Houses and Grant Houses and 25 residents from the local community). The Auditing Program provides adults not currently enrolled in college with the opportunity to attend up to two selected lectures drawn from Columbia University's offerings in the Arts and Sciences during the academic year.

For more information about the program, please call 212-854-9666.

Dental Health Screenings for Senior Citizens

Columbia University offers free dental health screenings for senior citizens throughout Northern Manhattan via the ElderSmile Program. As part of Columbia University's College of Dental Medicine Community DentCare Network, the ElderSmile Program offers free dental screenings and referrals for further dental treatment at senior centers throughout Washington Heights/Inwood and Harlem, including New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) residents in Manhattanville Houses and General Grant Houses.

Dental Services for Preschool Children

Columbia University offers free dental care for preschool-age children from the Manhattanville in West Harlem area through the Mobile Dental Center. The Mobile Dental Center is a program of Columbia University's College of Dental Medicine Community DentCare Network, which aims to reduce dental decay and improve the oral health of Northern Manhattan's underserved children, through comprehensive dental treatment and oral health education.

Scholarships for Lifelong Learners

Columbia University provides scholarships for 50 residents of Manhattanville Houses, Grant Houses, and the local community who are 65 years of age and older to audit up to two courses per year. Administered through Columbia's School of Professional Studies, the Lifelong Learners Program is designed for individuals committed to the principles of lifelong education.

For more information about the program, please call 212-854-9666.

Summer Sports Little Lions Camp Scholarships for Children

Columbia University offers 25 need-based scholarships for children ages 6-12 from the Manhattanville area to attend Columbia's Little Lions Camp. One scholarship is equal to one week of camp. All scholarship applications must come to Columbia University through the West Harlem Development Corporation (WHDC). For more information, please contact the WHDC at 646-476-3394.

Space Provisions for Non-Columbia-Affiliated Local Artists and Cultural Organizations

Columbia University, consistent with current practice, makes good faith efforts to accommodate requests by local artists and cultural organizations not affiliated with Columbia for access to its indoor or outdoor spaces for programming that may include, but is not limited to, information sessions, performances, special events or presentations. Payment for such space will be in accordance with then current University protocols. Columbia University space is generally awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, with priority given to Columbia and student activities, followed by local community activities.

Columbia Community Scholars Program

Columbia University offers independent, community-based scholars from Northern Manhattan access to a range of University services and resources not usually afforded to non-affiliated residents. Services and resources shall be provided at no cost to participants and shall include access to all of University libraries — including online access, course auditing privileges, dialogue with scholars in their field of study, and the ability to participate in seminars and social events developed specifically for the group.

For more information, please direct inquiries about the Community Scholars Program to 212-854-5710 or communityaffairs@columbia.edu.

Athletics Clinics

Columbia University's varsity sports programs and coaches of football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, swimming, track and field, and tennis sponsor and participate in seasonal sports clinics for local community children in University facilities and throughout Harlem and Washington Heights.

Housing Legal Assistance

For the period from January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2030, Columbia University provides funding for two attorneys at a legal assistance provider acceptable to NYCHPD serving the Manhattanville area, to provide anti-eviction/anti-harassment legal assistance for residents of the Manhattanville area. Funding will not exceed \$4 million through December 31, 2030.

Contact Legal Services NYC directly and ask a representative if you are eligible for the benefit described above. Phone: (212) 348-7449; Fax: (212) 348-4093. Legal Services NYC can also be found online: www.legalservicesnyc.org.

Shuttle Bus Service for the Elderly and Disabled

Columbia University provides a shuttle bus service free of charge to members of the local community who are disabled or who are senior citizens (including their attendants) via the ADA-accessible Inter-campus Shuttle. The shuttle bus service complies with ADA specifications to connect the Project Site to subway stations at:

- 96th Street and Broadway
- 116th Street and Broadway (Morningside campus)
- 125th Street and Broadway
- Harlem Hospital Center (135th Street and Lenox Avenue)
- Columbia University Medical Center (168th Street and Broadway)

The shuttle bus service runs on a regular schedule throughout the day on every weekday, except on state and federal public holidays.

Senior citizens and disabled passengers must show their Access-A-Ride, Reduced-Fare MetroCards, or Medicare cards, in order to access the service.

Undergraduate Scholarships for Aid-Eligible Students From the Local Community

Columbia University has established the Thompson-Muñoz Scholarship Fund to serve up to 40 aid-eligible undergraduate students per year who are admitted to Columbia College and/or the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science, with funding made available to meet their fully demonstrated financial need. Eligible students must undergo Columbia's undergraduate admissions process. For more information, contact Columbia's Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (212) 854-2522.

Our Elected Officials and Community Boards

FEDERAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Sen. Charles E. Schumer
757 Third Ave., Ste. 17-02
New York, NY 10017
Phone: 212-486-4430
TDD: 212-486-7803
Fax: 212-486-7693
<https://schumer.senate.gov>

Sen. Kirsten E. Gillibrand
780 Third Ave., Ste. 2601
New York, New York 10017
Phone: 212-688-6262
Fax: 212-688-7444
<https://gillibrand.senate.gov>

Rep. Jerrold Nadler (District 10)
201 Varick St., Ste. 669
New York, NY 10014
Phone: 212-367-7350
Fax: 212-367-7356
<https://nadler.house.gov>

Rep. Adriano Espaillat (District 13)
Harlem State Office Building
163 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-663-3900
<https://espaillat.house.gov>

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224
Phone: 518-474-8390
Fax: 518-474-1513
<https://governor.ny.gov>

State Sen. Brian Benjamin (District 30)
163 West 125th Street
Harlem State Office Bldg., Suite 912
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-222-7315
<https://nysenate.gov/senators/brian-benjamin>

State Sen. Marisol Alcantara (District 31)*
5030 Broadway
Suites 701 & 702
New York, NY 10034
Phone: 212-544-0173
<https://nysenate.gov/senators/marisol-alcantara>

Assembly Member Daniel J. O'Donnell (District 69)
245 W. 104th St.
New York, NY 10025
Phone: 212-866-3970
<http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Daniel-J-O'Donnell>

Assembly Member Inez E. Dickens (District 70)
163 West 125th Street
Suite 911
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-866-5809
<http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Inez-E-Dickens>

Assembly Member Al Taylor (District 71)
2541-55 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd.
New York, NY 10039
Phone: 212-234-1430
<http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Al-Taylor/>

Assembly Member Carmen De La Rosa (District 72)
210 Sherman Avenue
Ste A&C
New York, NY 10034
Phone: 212-544-2278
<http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/Carmen-N-De-La-Rosa>

LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007
Phone: 212-788-3000
Fax: 212-788-2460
<https://nyc.gov/mayor>

Public Advocate Letitia James*
1 Centre St., 15th Flr.
New York, NY 10007
Phone: 212-669-7200 (General)
Phone: 212-669-7250 (Ombudsman)
Fax: 212-669-4701
<https://pubadvocate.nyc.gov>

Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer
431 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-531-1609
<https://mbpo.org>

Comptroller Scott Stringer
1 Centre St.
New York, NY 10007
Phone: (212) 669-3916
TTY: 212-669-3450
Fax: 212-669-2707
<https://comptroller.nyc.gov>

City Council Speaker Corey Johnson (District 3)
224 West 30th St, Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001
Phone: 212-564-7757
<https://council.nyc.gov/district-3/>

*On January 1, 2019, Letitia James will become New York State Attorney General. A special election will be held in early 2019 to select NYC's next Public Advocate. Also on January 1, 2019, Robert Jackson, who formerly served in the New York City Council, representing District 7, will become New York State Senator for the 31st Senate District.

City Council Member Helen Rosenthal (District 6)
563 Columbus Ave.
New York, NY 10024
Phone: 212-873-0282
Fax: 212-873-0279
<https://council.nyc.gov/district-6>

City Council Member Mark Levine (District 7)
500 W. 141st St.
New York, NY 10031
Phone: 212-928-6814
Fax: 646-582-1408
<https://council.nyc.gov/district-7>

City Council Member Diana Ayala (District 8)
105 East 116th Street
New York NY 10029
Phone: 212-828-9800
<https://council.nyc.gov/district-8/>

City Council Member Bill Perkins (District 9)
Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building
163 West 125th Street, Room 729
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-678-4505
Fax: 212-864-4379
<https://council.nyc.gov/district-9>

City Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez (District 10)
618 W. 177th St., Ground Flr.
New York, NY 10033
Phone: 917-521-2616
Fax: 917-521-1293
<https://council.nyc.gov/district-10>

COMMUNITY BOARDS



Community Board 7
Represents the community between the Hudson River and Central Park West from 59th Street to 110th Street.

250 West 87th Street
New York, NY 10024
Phone: 212-362-4008
office@cb7.org
Board Chair: Roberta Semer
District Manager: Penny Ryan
<https://nyc.gov/html/mancb7>

Community Board 9
Represents the community between the Hudson River and Morningside/Edgecombe avenues from 110th Street to 155th Street.

16 Old Broadway
(Between 125th and 126th Streets)
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-864-6200
info@cb9m.org
Board Chair: Padmore John
District Manager: Eutha Prince
<https://cb9m.org>

Community Board 10
Represents the community between Fifth Avenue and Morningside/Edgecombe avenues from 110th Street to 159th Street.

215 W. 125th St., 4th Flr.
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-749-3105
mn10cb@cb.nyc.gov
Board Chair: Cicely Harris
District Manager: Andrew Lassalle
<https://nyc.gov/html/mancb10>

Community Board 11
Represents the community between 96th Street and 142nd Street, Fifth Avenue and the East and Harlem Rivers, and includes Randall's and Ward's Islands.

1664 Park Avenue, Ground Floor
New York, NY 10035
Phone: 212-831-8929
mn11@cb.nyc.gov
Board Chair: Nilsa Orama
District Manager: Angel D. Mescain
www.cb11m.org

Community Board 12
Represents the community between the Hudson River and the Harlem River from 155th Street to 220th Street.

530 W. 166th St., 6th Flr.
New York, NY 10032
Phone: 212-568-8500
ebsmith@cb.nyc.gov
Board Chair: Shahabuddeen A. Ally, Esq.
District Manager: Ebenezer Smith
<https://nyc.gov/html/mancb12>

He Represents You ...

New York State Senator Brian A. Benjamin



Wikimedia Commons

Brian A. Benjamin is the senator for the 30th District of the New York State Senate. He is a Democrat. The district includes parts of the neighborhoods of East Harlem, Hamilton Heights, Harlem, Morningside Heights, the Upper East Side, the Upper West Side, Washington Heights, and Yorkville, in Manhattan.

He was born in Harlem to Caribbean immigrants who came to this country seeking new opportunities.

Though they didn't have a college education, his parents were fortunate enough to find well-paying union jobs, which allowed them to provide Brian and his siblings with a middle-class upbringing. After graduating from high school in New York City, Brian sought the quality education his parents had dreamed of providing him with, earning his undergraduate degree in public policy from Brown University and his MBA from Harvard Business School. Brian returned to Harlem to build affordable housing, creating over a thousand units of environmentally sustainable, affordable housing while helping young people develop work skills and secure good construction jobs through community youth programs.

Brian is heavily involved in his community, having served as chair of Community Board 10 and the Land Use Committee. He has long been active in progressive politics, serving as a 2012 delegate for President Barack Obama and as a member of President Obama's National Finance Committee. In the New York State Senate, Brian distinguished himself as a leader in criminal justice reform and affordable housing, sponsoring bills to close Rikers Island and keep rent-controlled apartments affordable. He serves as ranking member of the Civil Service & Pensions Committee.

Free Course Auditing Available to Members of Upper Manhattan Community

By Maggie Barrows



Marlene Taber



Ernest Hernandez

One of the Columbia programs available to members of the community as part of the benefits associated with the Manhattanville campus is free course auditing through the Columbia University School of Professional Studies. Providing access to lecture courses in a broad range of academic disciplines, auditing is an opportunity to be present in a classroom setting and engage intellectually with readings without being required to complete assignments, take examinations, or receive a grade.

Through the Manhattanville Course Auditing and Lifelong Learners Program, interested applicants pay no fees for the application or courses and can audit up to two courses per academic year. In order to participate, interested parties must fill out the online application and

provide proof of residence such as a state-issued ID or a current utility bill. This program is open to residents of specific zip codes in Upper Manhattan and the Bronx who are not currently enrolled in higher education, with 50 spaces reserved specifically for residents of Grant and Manhattanville Houses. Because there are a limited number of spaces available and seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as courses are posted.

Current Lifelong Learning auditor Marlene Taber was born in 1939 and lives in Inwood. She got involved with the program after hearing about it from a friend and has audited classes in English and music. She says the program has helped her become “more aware of the importance of technology in our lives,” as well as provided her with updates on the social and political values of the country. It has also allowed her to get involved with the Roma People’s Project, which is based at Columbia and works to expand Roma studies.

Another current Manhattanville auditor is Ernest Hernandez, who got involved with the program after discovering it on the School of Professional Studies website. Ernest is using the program to become involved with the campus community and get used to business school classes, prior to applying to the Columbia Business School in a few years. He is also auditing classes that he can apply to his current career in hotel management.

More information on Manhattanville Course Auditing is available through the School of Professional Studies website, or by contacting auditing@sps.columbia.edu or 212-854-9666.

Community Health Workers Graduation

By Bashar Makhay

Eileen Barroso



The Community Health Worker Stroke Prevention program empowers communities to combat stroke. The program consists of an eight-week training course, held throughout the year at the Columbia Wellness Center on the Manhattanville campus, that gives local residents the tools they need to become community health workers. Volunteers learn about various cardiovascular health topics, including motivational interviewing with a special emphasis on stroke and related risk factors. In June, the Institute for Training Outreach and Community Health (InTOuCH) celebrated its inaugural class of 38 graduates. Based at the Wellness Center, the institute worked with the health ministries at 31 churches to train community health workers. Alumni of the program serve as health advocates in their communities and at faith-based organizations, with the overall goal of improving stroke outcomes and lowering the prevalence of stroke and related risk factors. Learn more at the Wellness Center website: <https://communitywellness.manhattanville.columbia.edu>.

Connect with the Office of Government and Community Affairs Online! <https://gca.columbia.edu/> [f@ColumbiaGCA](#) [t@ColumbiaGCA](#) [i@ColumbiaGCA](#)

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