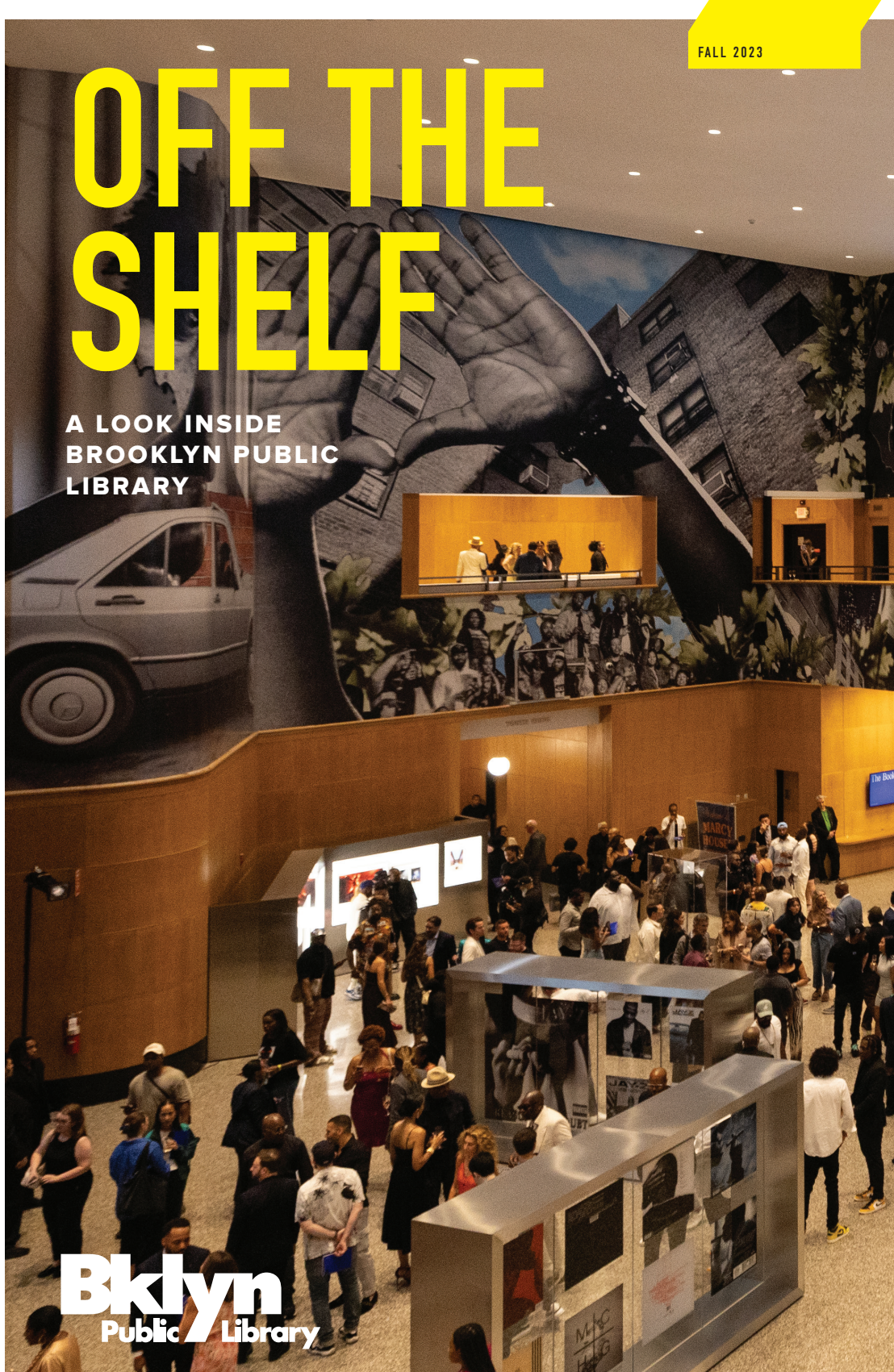


FALL 2023

OFF THE SHELF

A LOOK INSIDE
BROOKLYN PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Bklyn
Public Library



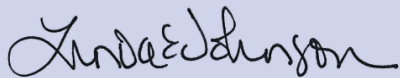
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This summer was one for the books: historic increases in library card membership, a handful of branch reopenings, and lively commemorations of hip-hop's 50th anniversary across our branches. At Central Library, we opened *The Book of HOV*, an exhibit created by Roc Nation to celebrate the life and work of Shawn "JAY-Z" Carter. Thousands of new patrons visited the library to see this free, immersive installation; now, they are getting to discover *all* that BPL has to offer.

In July, we worked to combat summer slide and encourage critical thinking all year round by partnering with the New York Public Library and Queens Public Library to give away 15,000 books to children across the city. Our librarians also continued to provide book recommendations to patrons of all ages via BookMatch. They've even curated a list for Hispanic Heritage Month, featured in this issue.

This summer we unveiled newly renovated libraries in East Flatbush and Brower Park. We also opened the Center for Brooklyn History with our new Chief Historian, Dr. Dominique Jean-Louis, and a new exhibit about the diversity of our borough, *Brooklyn Is...* We also hosted the 2023 New York City History Day contest, which is back in person and as fiercely competitive and educational as ever.

Here's to another year of learning, growing and reimagining how our libraries can best serve the Brooklyn community.



Linda E. Johnson
President & CEO

In this issue

Summer Book Giveaways	01
Branch Openings.	02
NYC History Day	04
The Book of HOV.	06
Center for Brooklyn History.	08
Staff Profile	10
BookMatch	11
Brooklynology	12
BPL Presents	14

All photos, unless indicated, by Gregg Richards.

Cover: *The Book of HOV* exhibition currently installed on the first and second floors of Central Library.

Inside front cover: Teens using new computers at the reopened East Flatbush Library.



"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
—Dr. Seuss

This past summer, BPL partnered with the New York Public Library, Queens Public Library and the New York Life Foundation on a major book giveaway initiative, providing children with 15,000 proverbial tickets to new worlds and ideas through literature. The giveaway was offered in conjunction with the annual citywide Summer Reading program, which encourages youth to develop and maintain critical thinking and reading skills during the summer months. Branch staff reported that attendees were delighted by the variety of books—from board books for babies to graphic novels for teens—including the bilingual titles on offer in English, Spanish and Chinese, helping families build their own home libraries.

Marlyn Torres, the New York Life Foundation's Senior Program Officer noted, **"Summer Reading programs promote children's literacy and academic skills and help prevent learning loss during the summer months. This is especially important for underserved families that have limited access to affordable and quality summer programs."**



Families attending East Flatbush Library's Summer Reading book giveaway.

BPL book giveaways were held at six neighborhood branches this summer: Kensington, Crown Heights, Saratoga, Park Slope, McKinley Park and East Flatbush Libraries. The events attracted over 1,800 attendees, with nearly 6,000 books distributed. Noted Linda Johnson, President and CEO of BPL, "We are grateful to the New York Life Foundation for their continued and generous support of New York City's young readers. Summer is the perfect time to escape with a good book, and reading at home prepares children for a successful school year."

Major support provided by the New York Life Foundation, the 2023 citywide sponsor for Summer Reading and Learning Programs. Lead support for Brooklyn Public Library's Summer Reading 2023 program is provided by the National Grid Foundation. The program is supported by Con Edison. CBS2/WLNY is the official media partner for Summer Reading 2023.

SUMMER BOOK GIVEAWAYS

East Flatbush Library

A community anchor, modernized and transformed

An integral part of its neighborhood for 70 years, East Flatbush Library celebrated its reopening following a comprehensive renovation with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 7, 2023.

The renovations include a new façade with floor-to-ceiling windows that stream natural light into the building. Multiple skylights installed on the new roof also make the inviting space significantly brighter. The revised layout includes separate areas for adults, teens and toddlers, including three meeting rooms, a large multipurpose room and a dedicated storytime room for little ones. Furthermore, the building was environmentally designed to achieve LEED Silver certification.

Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso noted, “Our public libraries provide essential services that go beyond free access to literature, and we have to nurture these spaces, updating them so they’re welcoming, modern and comfortable for everyone.”

Also in attendance were New York City Council Member Charles Barron; former Council Member Inez Barron; Council Member and Chair of the New York City



Top: A view of the newly redesigned building exterior. Bottom: Children celebrate the new branch with Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso.

Council Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup Relations, Chi Ossè; NYC Department of Design and Construction Commissioner Thomas Foley; Senator Roxanne J. Persaud; and Assembly Member Monique Chandler-Waterman, along with Renee McClure, National Grid Director, NYC Community and Customer Management. National Grid provided a Neighborhood Investment Program Grant for the renovation.

BPL expresses its gratitude to Mayor Eric Adams, Speaker Adrienne Adams, Council Member Charles Barron, former Council Member Inez Barron and National Grid for their support of East Flatbush Library's renovation.

Brower Park Library

A fresh, new space for wonder and imagination

BPL and Brooklyn Children's Museum (BCM) celebrated the opening of Brower Park Library at BCM with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on July 20, 2023. The new, unique partnership—which combines the resources of two beloved Brooklyn institutions—offers an exceptional cultural and educational experience for families in Crown Heights and throughout the borough.

Occupying a portion of the museum's ground floor, visitors will enter Brower Park Library's main reading room from Brooklyn Avenue. Just beyond, through a colorful threshold, lies the children's room which features multiple ceiling heights, lowered book stacks, group tables and nooks for reading and researching. A theater proscenium for impromptu storytelling and play sits in front of a 12-foot window overlooking museum exhibit space.

The library also features a set of three colorful murals by New York-based artist Jasu Hu. Titled *There Is a Land*, the murals offer a three-part story about the manifold ways that books and literature transport us and inspire imagination.

Noted Linda Johnson, President and CEO of BPL, “We are delighted to open Brower Park Library on the first floor of the Museum, providing the next generation the opportunity to read, learn and explore the world around them.”



Top: Local residents participating in Brower Park Library's ribbon cutting. Bottom: A view of the new children's area.

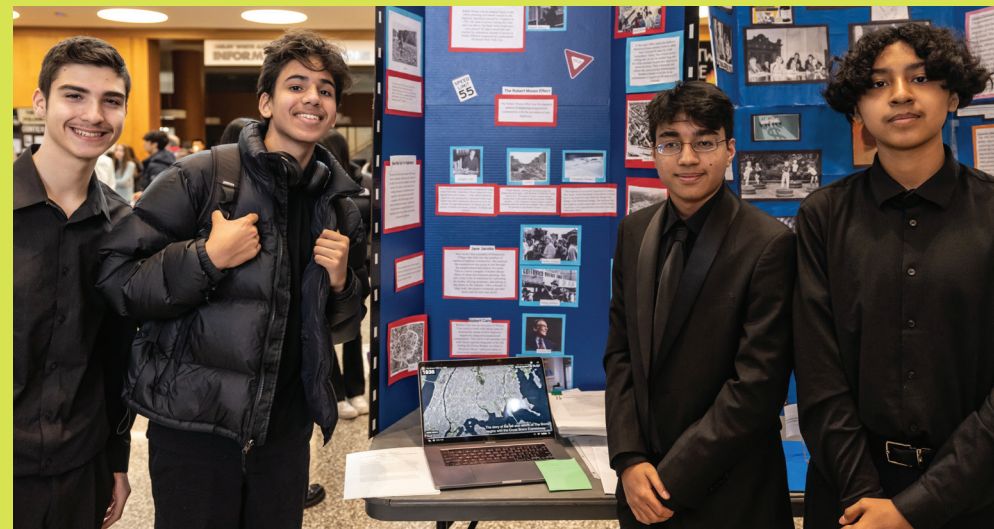
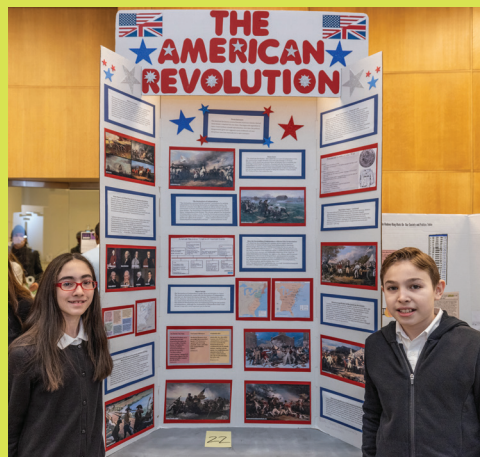
In attendance and providing additional remarks were former BCM president and CEO Stephanie Hill Wilchfort; Council Member and Chair of the New York City Council Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries, and International Intergroup Relations, Chi Ossè; New York State Senator Zellnor Myrie; Assembly Member Brian Cunningham; and New York City Council Member Shahana Hanif along with Lawrence Blumberg, whose family provided a generous grant to the branch in memory of Rhoda Blumberg.

With gratitude for funding this project: Office of the New York City Mayor, The New York City Council, Office of the Brooklyn Borough President, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Assembly, The Blumberg Family, in memory of Rhoda Blumberg, The Charles H. Revson Foundation and The Estate of Margaret DeWolf Tullock.



Top and bottom left: NYC History Day competitors from Academy of American Studies in Long Island City with their project displays on transgender activists and Black female empowerment, respectively. Bottom right: Students from PS/IS 104 in Fort Hamilton with their project display.

NEW YORK CITY HISTORY DAY 2023



Students from Townsend Harris High School in Kew Gardens with their project “How Highways Affected Marginalized Communities.”

Early spring marks the coming of New York City History Day (NYCHD), a time when hundreds of students celebrate their shared love of history. NYCHD is an opportunity for them to present projects they’ve researched throughout the school year and to view each other’s work. BPL’s Center for Brooklyn History (CBH) has overseen the annual competition since 2021, inheriting it from the Museum of the City of New York.

NYCHD is the regional contest for National History Day, a program that annually provides 500,000+ students and 30,000+ educators the opportunity to understand and appreciate history through a modern lens and skillset. Middle and high school students learn how to conduct historical

research and interpret their findings. Working individually or as part of a team, they create an exhibit, documentary, performance, paper or website based on what they have learned.

To help students and educators prepare for each year’s contest, CBH staff offer skill-based workshops and class visits over the course of the school year, providing guidance on finding primary source materials, developing a thesis statement and beyond.

This year, students explored history ranging from Caesar’s Battle at Alesia in 52 BCE to the 1997 Mars Rover landing.

They learned about the first woman cryptologist, the first (and only) woman emperor of China, labor leaders and transgender activists, civil rights icons and space explorers, Spartan princesses, bridge builders and Siberian fighters. In the words of Adien Dewan, a Townsend Harris High School student in Queens, “we need to learn from our past for our modern-day problems...Without knowing how we got to the present, how can we progress forward as a society?”

CBH hosted the regional NYC contest virtually in 2021 and 2022. In 2023 the contest was back in person, this time at Central Library’s Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Cultural Center. The 2023 competition featured 341 students from 34 schools across the city, completing 184 projects that addressed the theme “Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas.” Top honors were awarded to projects both close to home—like the construction of the Brooklyn Bridge and the gentrification of the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood—

and a world away, including the exploration of Antarctica and the solar system.

A remarkable 74 of this year’s NYCHD participants moved on to the state contest held in April at the State University of New York-Oneonta. Of these, 30 were selected to present at the national competition held in June at University of Maryland, College Park. We are proud to report that several Brooklyn students received recognition for their projects including Ava Konstantinidis, Diamantis Katsipoutis, Bill Tsimbikos, Alexander Lambert and Love Lee from Hellenic Classical Charter School, who won the Junior Outstanding Affiliate Winner from New York State for their Junior Group Documentary, *Dr. Pap: Pioneer in Early Cancer Prevention*.

NYCHD is supported, in part, by the Rose M. Badgeley Residuary Charitable Trust, Con Edison, The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund and the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources Eastern Region Program at Waynesburg University.

➔ Learn more about NYCHD at bklynlib.org/nychd

CENTRAL LIBRARY "ADDS" *THE BOOK OF HOV* TO ITS COLLECTION



A view of *The Book of HOV* exhibition from the second-floor balcony.



Video installations and memorabilia in the second-floor exhibition space.

**"Allow me to re-introduce myself/
My name is Hov (oh), H-to-the-O-V"
—JAY-Z, "Public Service Announcement"**

Your first clue that something extraordinary is happening at Central Library might be the giant digital cube on the public plaza before the main entrance. Flashing images of Brooklyn native and superstar JAY-Z in concert draw you towards Central's historic façade, which is now covered in lyrics from some of his most iconic songs. Once inside the Grand Lobby, you'll find yourself within *The Book of HOV*, an installation created by Roc Nation and presented by BPL to celebrate the life, work and art of Shawn "JAY-Z" Carter.

One of Brooklyn's most influential figures, who grew up just a few miles away from Central Library in the Marcy Houses of Bedford-Stuyvesant, JAY-Z has shaped and consistently redefined hip-hop, music and culture on a global scale. *The Book of HOV*, which opened to the public on July 14, features never-before-seen images, art and ephemera from the artist's archives, providing an unparalleled look at his



Shawn "JAY-Z" Carter receiving a private tour of *The Book of HOV* exhibition.

extraordinary life and career. This free, immersive experience is one of the only installations of its scope to be housed in an active public space and features text, audio and curation by Roc Nation teams and partners. The exhibition, which runs through December 4, 2023, is spread throughout two floors of Central Library and includes a recreation of Baseline Recording Studios, where JAY-Z recorded his first albums.

BPL and Roc Nation have also joined forces to create 13 limited-edition library cards, each featuring art from an iconic JAY-Z album—from *Reasonable Doubt* to *4:44*. Visitors can collect all 13 cards, available at different branches across the borough.

During its opening week, the exhibit drew an astonishing 39,000 visitors and nearly 4,000 new library cards were issued. To date, attendance has totaled 300,000 and 25,000 library cards have been issued, with more signing up every day.

➔ Learn more about the exhibit at thebookofhov.com

THE CENTER FOR BROOKLYN HISTORY—REOPENED AND READY TO INSPIRE



Part of the *Brooklyn is...* installation in CBH's newly refurbished Great Hall.

The Center for Brooklyn History (CBH) reopened its doors in September 2023 after a comprehensive renovation of its first floor by architect Marble Fairbanks.

Improvements to the landmark building at 128 Pierrepont Street in downtown Brooklyn include a new entrance, upgraded digital signage, improved ADA access and a state-of-the-art AV system in the Great Hall, along with comfortable, flexible furnishings and enhanced wayfinding to make the space welcoming and accessible to all.

CBH is no stranger to transformation; it has experienced many changes since its founding in 1863 as the Long Island Historical Society. During World War I, it served as a Red Cross headquarters. In subsequent decades, it endured struggles as the city grappled with deindustrialization, economic decline and social change. In the 1970s–80s, the institution reestablished itself as both a museum and education center, changing its name to the Brooklyn Historical Society. In 2020, it underwent its most recent evolution by becoming a part of Brooklyn Public Library under its new name.

As part of its reopening celebration, CBH presents *Brooklyn is...*, a multimedia exhibit exploring the diverse neighborhoods and people of Brooklyn. Combining photographs, maps and archives from CBH's vast collection, the exhibit illustrates the dynamic and idiosyncratic neighborhoods that comprise the borough. Visitors are invited to reflect on their *own* experience of Brooklyn's essential complexity. In fact, personal stories, ephemera and images from contemporary Brooklynites are woven throughout the exhibition. Many of these pieces were collected at special events held at neighborhood libraries, making the show a participatory and collaborative reflection on Brooklyn's rich history, present and future.

CBH has also prepared an exciting slate of programming including its award-winning roster of Education programs and fall events featuring guest scholars, authors and thinkers, such as Cornel West, Jia Tolentino, Masha Gessen, Nathan Thrall, Jesse Wegman, Michael Waldman, Jocelyn Simonson and James Forman, Jr., among other luminaries.

Brooklyn is...

a place, a history, an experience, a way of thinking.



Images above, from top to bottom, courtesy of Brooklyn Public Library, Center for Brooklyn History.

George Cohen Photograph Collection, Anderson Zaca Photograph Collection and Kari Ann Pagnano Photograph Collection.

➔ Visit bklynlib.org/cbh for upcoming programs and more

CHIEF HISTORIAN DOMINIQUE JEAN-LOUIS

Dominique Jean-Louis, Ph.D., has joined the Center for Brooklyn History (CBH) as its new Chief Historian, adding to the excitement of CBH's recent reopening to the public in September.

Dr. Jean-Louis comes to CBH from the New-York Historical Society where she was the associate curator of history exhibitions. She was also a Mellon Foundation Predoctoral Fellow in Museum Education at the Museum of the City of New York.

As CBH's chief historian, Dr. Jean-Louis focuses on using CBH's extensive archives and collections to connect the public to the stories and lessons of the past—or, in her own words, to “meet people where they are.”

Dr. Jean-Louis's upcoming plans include bringing history talks, discussions and programs to BPL branches—effectively helping communities learn about their local history—as well as gathering



The Center for Brooklyn History's new chief historian, Dr. Dominique Jean-Louis.

patrons' own personal histories (including oral history recordings, scanned photos and other ephemera) to add to CBH's collections. At CBH, she plans to curate exhibitions from the collections and archives and to host open houses and workshops to guide individuals in activities such as researching their family histories, homes or neighborhood.

Dr. Jean-Louis is excited about the opportunities presented by her new role: “My whole career, I've seen firsthand how history truly can bring people together. I can't wait to be doing history within the system of a public library, to learn from and take part in the many ways Brooklyn shares and celebrates its beautifully complicated history.”

BKLYN BOOKMATCH HISPANIC HERITAGE



BookMatch is a readers' advisory service, creating customized reading recommendations based on the needs or likes (and dislikes) of patrons. To celebrate Hispanic Heritage month (September 15–October 15), we asked librarian Assh Albinson to create a BookMatch with reading suggestions for all ages and interests.

The Haunting of Alejandra by V Castro

A woman struggling with both her family's and her adoptive mother's expectations begins to explore the history of her biological family. She soon finds out that she's amid a generational curse by *La Llorona*, a vengeful ghost.

The Fitful Sleep of Immigrants by Orlando Ortega-Medina

In 1990s San Francisco, the estranged son of a rabbi who is also a burned out immigration lawyer struggling with substance use plans his grand exit from the city, but his partner is threatened with deportation. This leads to a terrifying choice between the love of his life and the promise of an easy escape by a mysterious client.

Our Migrant Souls: A Meditation on Race and the Meanings and Myths of "Latino" by Héctor Tobar

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Héctor Tobar considers his experience as the son of Guatemalan immigrants alongside the lives of his Latinx students to offer a strong rebuttal against the myths surrounding the concept of “Latino.”

Selena Didn't Know Spanish Either by Marisa Tirado

A debut collection of spirited poetry that seeks to connect the author's cultural identity and assimilation to that of late Tejano star Selena Quintanilla, with a critical focus on modern marginalization, tokenization and cultural appropriation.

Ander & Santi Were Here by Jonny Garza Villa

Working at their family's taqueria in San Antonio, Texas, art student Ander meets new waiter Santi and the two fall deeply in love. When Santi's immigration status comes under investigation, the two struggle to keep their love alive in a world against them.

The Making of Yolanda La Bruja by Lorraine Avila

Yolanda is having a great year in her Bronx high school and looking forward to being initiated into her family's *bruja* (witch) tradition. When a new student appears, she instantly feels an overwhelming sense of dread that something bad is going to happen.

Miss Quinces by Kat Fajardo

Forced to go to Honduras to visit her extended family, Sue just wants to make comics and read her books in peace. When Sue's mom starts planning her *quinceañera*, Sue struggles to look forward to wearing a floofy dress under all the pressure from her family.

Plátanos Are Love by Alyssa Reynoso-Morris

A beautiful picture book exploring a girl's love for family, community and the multiple ways to experience Latinx culture through the cooking of plátanos in all their various forms.

➔ Get your own BookMatch list at bklynlibrary.org/bookmatch



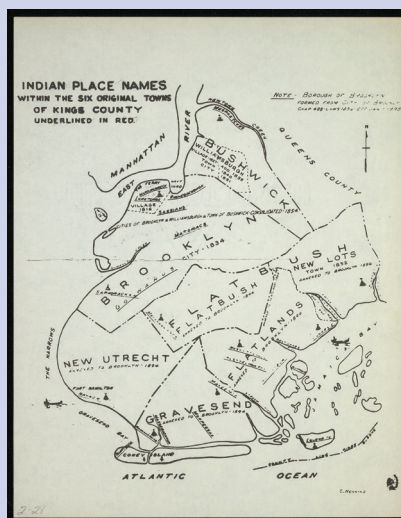
Building exterior at 162-166 Remsen Street, circa 1949.

Grading on a Curve: Assessing an 1848 Clairvoyant's Predictions for Brooklyn's Future

By Liza Katz

The following was excerpted from an article in *Brooklynology*, the Center for Brooklyn History's blog.

On November 21, 1848, the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* ran an article titled “An Evening with a Clairvoyant,” in which an unnamed woman mesmerically read from a book written 102 years into the future. The topic: “The history of the city of Brooklyn, written in the year of our Lord 1950.” The clairvoyant made several predictions about the future of Brooklyn, a future that is now 73 years behind us. Imbued with the clarity of hindsight, we can now assess the accuracy of these predictions—and imagine an alternate future for Brooklyn and its northern island neighbor.



Map of Brooklyn, circa 1898.

Prediction #1:

Fallen into her trance, the clairvoyant declared Brooklyn of 1950 to be “the largest city in the world.”

Assessment #1:

By 1850, Manhattan's population was 515,547 while the (then independent) City of Brooklyn contained just 162,244. Between 1840–1845, as European immigrants settled in New York, Brooklyn's population nearly doubled; by 1860 it became the third largest city in the country. Brooklyn in 1950 was the highest populated borough with over 2.7 million inhabitants. On the world scale, a population of that size would have ranked it around #20, falling somewhere around Mumbai, Rio de Janeiro and Cairo. While Brooklyn alone would not have qualified as the largest city in the world, it was the most populous borough of the City of New York, which by then was indeed the largest city in the world.

Accuracy rating for reading #1: 4/5

Prediction #2:

The clairvoyant stated that the name “New York” would be forgotten by 1950 when Brooklyn “swallowed it up. Some of our octogenarians can remember their ancestors speak of New York...now constituting the 98th and 99th wards of this city.”

Assessment #2:

While Brooklyn *did* become the most populous borough, it did not swallow up its East River neighbor. If anything, the name New York grew more pervasive and iconic over the decades. That said, our clairvoyant correctly predicted a future in which Manhattan and Brooklyn merged into one city, as alluded to in her mention of the 98th and 99th wards of Brooklyn. In our clairvoyant's time, Manhattan was divided into about 19 wards and Brooklyn into 11. She envisioned a Brooklyn that continued

the growth and division of wards and had embraced Manhattan Island as its 98th and 99th wards. By 1950, wards no longer existed, but the predicted consolidation is largely accurate, albeit in reverse.

Accuracy rating for reading #2: 2/5

Prediction #3:

The clairvoyant envisioned that “two huge dikes” would be thrown “across the East River, through each of which are laid iron pipes, passing under the docks, of sufficient caliber to supply the inhabitants of Manhattan's two wards with pure and wholesome Brooklyn water.” Additionally, upon the backs of the dikes would be built “warehouses and stores...two large thoroughfares between parts of the city previously separated by water.”

Assessment #3:

While warehouses indeed sprang up along Brooklyn's northern shores during the 19th century, they never ventured into the river itself. The East River would instead be straddled not by two dikes but by two bridges: the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883 and the Manhattan Bridge in 1909. Had the floating thoroughfare come to be, it is not hard to imagine its incorporation into Brooklyn Bridge Park's transformation of the waterfront, perhaps as floating restaurants.

Accuracy rating of reading #3: 1/5

Final Assessment:

While our clairvoyant's predictions did not all come to pass (fortunately, for Manhattan's sake), some very interesting details did prove true: New York became the largest city in the world, Brooklyn and Manhattan consolidated and the East River was spanned twice. In the end, our clairvoyant's average accuracy reading comes to...47%. Not exactly a passing grade yet compelling, nonetheless.

Books Unbanned.

Fall 2023 Update

BPL's Books Unbanned initiative continues to provide a lifeline for teenagers facing book bans across the country. There have been several new developments in our fight for youth to read freely: In September, we surpassed 7,000 Books Unbanned cardholders! Seattle, Boston and Los Angeles County Libraries have officially joined us as crucial partners in defending and expanding the right to read. In addition, Nick Higgins, BPL's Chief Librarian, was honored by *TIME* magazine as one of its TIME100 Next, which recognizes rising leaders in health, climate, business, sports, the arts and more.

As part of the initiative, the online Intellectual Freedom Teen Council (IFTC) provides a space where teens can connect with a peer support network and discuss book challenges, censorship and intellectual freedom.

Noted one teen, "I am passionate about joining the IFTC because I strongly advocate the importance that no voice or opinion should be silenced."



Scan this QR code to learn more about **Books Unbanned** or visit bklynlib.org/books-unbanned

BPL PRESENTS

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at Central Library. All programs are free and reservations are required for most adult programs. For complete listings visit: bklynlibrary.org/bplpresents

CLASSICAL INTERLUDES: ENSEMBLE PI PRESENTS *BANNED BOOKS*

Sunday, November 5 / 4 pm

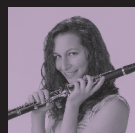
As an artistic companion to Books Unbanned, BPL Presents is offering *Banned Books*—an evening-length performance of six premieres by a diverse group of composers commissioned by Ensemble Pi. Performers will each create pieces that resonate with them.

The concert aims to draw awareness to these oppressive practices while opening a space through music for reflection and connection.

➔ Visit bklynlib.org/ensemble-pi to learn more about Banned Books and the work of Ensemble Pi.



Alexis Gerlach, cello



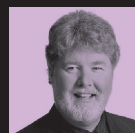
Moran Katz, clarinet



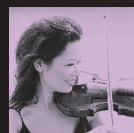
Idith Meshulam Korman, piano



Damian Norfleet, voice and narration



Bill Trigg, percussion



Airi Yoshioka, violin

IT HAPPENED IN NEW YORK: PHOTOGRAPHS BY SYLVIA PLACHY



Foyer Cases and Grand Lobby / January 2024

Celebrated photographer Sylvia Plachy shares a selection of her poignant, vibrant, and moody portraits and cityscapes—an ode to the City and its people. *It Happened in New York* lends us Plachy's immense powers of observation.

BPL PRESENTS
2023 KAHN
HUMANITIES LECTURER

December 13 / 7 pm
Central Library

BPL is pleased to announce that Peter Singer will deliver the 2023 Kahn Humanities Lecture. The annual series invites leading scholars to discuss timely, essential topics related to the humanities.

Singer is an Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University's University Center for Human Values and the author of *Why Vegan?* and *Animal Liberation*, among others. Previous Kahn Humanities Lecture speakers include writer Masha Gessen, environmentalist Bill McKibben and historian Eric Foner on climate change, racism, colonialism and beyond.

The 2023 Kahn Humanities Lecture is made possible by the Kahn Endowment for the Humanities.

➔ For more information visit bklynlibrary.org/bpl-presents

EVENTS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES



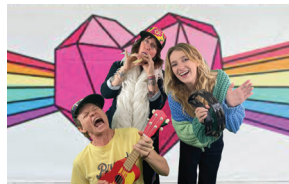
MY MOTHER WAS A NANNY—PAINTINGS FROM THE BOOK BY LAURA JAMES

September 25, 2023–January 28, 2024
Central Library, Youth Wing

Central Library will present an exhibition of artworks from Caribbean American artist Laura James's new children's book *My Mother Was a Nanny*, a celebration of maternal care, domestic workers, children and Brooklyn. Central was a second home to James, so this exhibition serves as a homecoming as well as a tribute to her mother.

STOMP, CLAP & SING

Tuesdays / 10:30 am
Dweck Center



November 21

STRAWBITTY YOPS

Strawbitty Yops is a family music band from Austin, TX. Their high energy,

interactive sets get kids and adults moving. They are back with a show focusing on the spirit of the holidays. Be on the lookout for special guests to join them.

December 5

SUZI SHELTON

December 19

FUNIKIJAM

For complete listings:
[bklynlibrary.org/
event-series/events-for-
youth-and-family](https://bklynlibrary.org/event-series/events-for-youth-and-family)

Saturdays / 1 pm
Dweck Center



WILLY WONKA

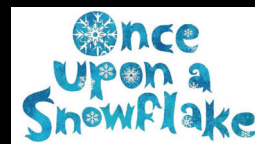
Everyone's favorite candy man lights up the stage in this scrumdilumpious musical featuring the enchanting songs from the film starring Gene Wilder!

November 18

MEET LAURA JAMES,
AUTHOR OF MY MOTHER
WAS A NANNY
December 9

ONCE UPON A SNOWFLAKE!

In this musical, Sarah helps a fellow snowman, motivates the ridiculous penguins and their exasperated trainer, and even sacrifices her chances of winning the Supreme Snowman Contest!



BPL PRESENTS DONORS

Brooklyn Public Library gratefully acknowledges the many donors who have provided generous support for BPL Presents programs, including: Cheryl and George Haywood Endowment for Cultural Diversity, Dr. Beverly S. Jacobs, The Kahn Endowment for Humanities Programs, The Miriam Katowitz and Arthur Radin Fund, Mapleton Endowment, The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, Humanities New York, New York State Council on the Arts, Sandra and Peter Schubert Endowment Fund, The Morris & Alma Schapiro Fund and the Estate of Pearl S. Reuillard in memory of her parents Yetta and Louis Schwartz.

Programs are also supported by Brooklyn Public Library's Fund for the Humanities which was established through the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Hearst Foundation, Inc., Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Starr Foundation, the Leon and Muriel Gilbert Charitable Trust, Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, Inc. and a gift in memory of Samuel and Pauline Wine.



THE GLADYS KRIEBLE DELMAS
FOUNDATION

Call or visit bklynlibrary.org/support to learn about the many ways you can support Brooklyn Public Library.

Donor Support & Monthly Giving

Elizabeth Morrel

718.230.2462

emorrel@bklynlibrary.org

Individual & Planned Giving

Lauren Arana

718.230.2009

larana@bklynlibrary.org

Corporate Partnerships

Samantha Dodds

718.230.2718

sdodds@bklynlibrary.org

Foundation & Government Grants

Noella Scott

718.230.2087

nscott@bklynlibrary.org

General Inquiries

givinginfo@bklynlibrary.org

Brooklyn Public Library gratefully acknowledges the generous support of our corporate donors (fiscal year 2023–24).

Goldman
Sachs

oneMILLION
BLACK WOMEN

NEW YORK
LIFE
New York Life
Foundation

BEST
BUY

Bloomberg
Philanthropies

amazon

nationalgrid
Foundation

DIME

Google.org

centennial
200
years

Apple
Bank

★ macy's



PCF

BIOGAS
ENERGY





Central Library

10 Grand Army Plaza
Brooklyn, NY 11238

For more information visit [***bklynlibrary.org***](http://bklynlibrary.org)



Brooklyn Public Library



@BKLYNLibrary



@BKLYNLibrary



@BKLYNLibrary