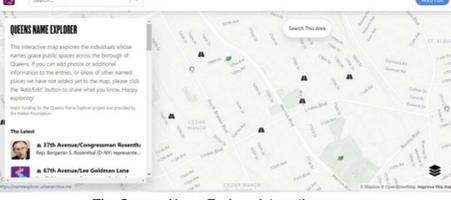




Introducing Queens Name Explorer!

The Queens Memory team, in partnership with Urban Archive, is proud to debut the **Queens Name Explorer** project! This digital mapping and crowdsourcing initiative is aimed at uncovering the stories behind named spaces throughout the borough of Queens. The [interactive map](#) features the biographical details of individuals whose names grace Queens' streets, schools, buildings, parks, monuments and other public places. The project will also analyze the demographics of Queens neighborhoods to identify gaps in representation between named places and the people of these communities. Enormous thanks are due to our technology partner, Urban Archive, and to the Mellon Foundation, whose funding made this project possible.



The Queens Name Explorer interactive map -- add your contributions today!

The public launching of the project was presented on October 13 at McGoldrick Library by Dennis M. Walcott, President and CEO of Queens Public Library, with Natalie Milbrodt, Director of the Queens Memory Project, and Jason D. Antos, Executive Director of the Queens Historical Society. At the event, Walcott unveiled three posters highlighting major landmarks named after well-known individuals:

- [Gwen Ifill Park](#) in Jamaica, near the longtime PBS anchor's birthplace
- [Lorena Borjas Way](#) in Jackson Heights, named after the Mexican American transgender and immigrant rights activist
- [McGoldrick Library](#) in Flushing, named for the Irish immigrant and priest, Reverend Edward F. McGoldrick

Milbrodt also led attendees through a brief video demonstration of the interactive map, which can be viewed on the library's YouTube channel [here](#).



Queens Public Library President and CEO Dennis Walcott at the Name Explorer Launch



Queens Memory Director Natalie Milbrodt demonstrates the Name Explorer map

In addition to the interactive map, Queens Memory will offer a series of Name Explorer-related events. The first of these will be four in-person walking tours in conjunction with [Open House NY Weekend](#). The tours will take place this Saturday, October 22, at 1 pm beginning at [Central Library](#), [Forest Hills Library](#), [Hunters Point Library](#) and [Ridgewood Library](#). There will also be a virtual walking tour of the Queens College campus (October 27) and two speaker presentations -- see details in the Upcoming Events box below.

We invite everyone to start exploring and adding to the Name Explorer map at nameexplorer.urbanarchive.me. **We can't wait for you to get involved!**

Preserve and Share Your Family's History

Do you have photos or documents you would like to preserve and share with family over the holidays? Queens Public Library can help! All our locations now have scanners you can use to scan your treasured family records. Watch our instructional video [here](#) before you head to your local branch. Library staff can also offer guidance on how your family's history can be part of the Queens Public Library's permanent local history collections.

Welcome Our New Staff and Interns!

Queens Memory is very happy to announce the addition of **Salomie (Priscilla) Singh** to our staff as Office Associate. A recent graduate of Saint Francis College, she holds a dual Bachelor of Science in business management and health care management with a minor in entrepreneurship. Singh's passion for leadership, organization and management has led her to this role, where she will support the activities of the Queens Memory team and our volunteers and participants. She hopes to pursue an MS or MBA in business in the near future.



Salomie (Priscilla) Singh



Mariam Chowdhury



Yuanjing Lin



Leo Sano

Queens Memory is also glad to be joined by three undergraduate student interns for the academic year. All three are part of the CUNY Cultural Corps and will assist us with various projects. **Mariam Chowdhury** is a junior at Hunter College studying creative writing and journalism. She is fascinated by the power of words in conveying one's story, especially the unique stories of marginalized groups. **Yuanjing Lin** is a first-year transfer student at Borough of Manhattan Community College, majoring in secondary education for Social Studies. He is interested in New York City history (from colonial times to the present), U.S. immigration history, and human geography. In his spare time, Yuanjing enjoys hiking and camping. **Leo Sano** is a sophomore Muse Scholar at Hunter College studying photography and arts management. He is determined to utilize the photographic process to document historic events and to create works of art.

Upcoming Events

October 27 – There are more than 20 buildings, gardens and architectural features on the Queens College campus that are named for individuals. Many people know that Jefferson Hall pays tribute to the third U.S. president, but who were Kiely, Powdermaker and Razran? Do you know the story of the three young men memorialized by the library's clocktower, or why Walt Whitman is honored with a garden near the Student Union? Join Queens Memory Outreach Coordinator Lori Wallach for **What's in a Name? A Virtual Walking Tour of Named Buildings on the Queens College Campus** to answer these questions and more. This tour is co-sponsored by the Queens College Library and Queens College Office of Alumni Relations, and is part of Queens Memory's Queens Name Explorer project, major funding for which was provided by a grant from the Mellon Foundation. Register for this event [here](#). (4 - 5 pm EDT)

October 27 – At our next **oral history interviewing workshop**, you will learn how you can contribute to Queens Memory and help us record interviews with fellow Queens residents. Together we will review tips for oral history interviews, from initial outreach to recording to transcription. Register for the workshop [here](#). We will follow up with a confirmation and event link. (7 - 8 pm EDT)

November 10 – Learn how you can volunteer with Queens Memory and contribute to the library's archives. In this **volunteer orientation**, you will learn about the many ways you can help the Queens Memory team, including recording interviews with Queens residents, contributing photos and other materials, and assisting with transcription and audio editing. Register for the session [here](#). We will follow up with a confirmation and event link. (7 - 7:30 pm EDT)

November 12 – Come join the staff of the American Folk Art Museum and Queens Memory Project for the **Family Memory Box Workshop**, an afternoon of connection, art exploration and hands-on work. Bring a family member or a friend, grab your family holiday mementos (such as photos, postcards and special objects) and get ready to create a fun memory box together! We will make a keepsake that honors special memories, past and future. You will also receive a simple guide with tips from a professional archivist about how to archive personal and family memories with your friends and family. All ages are welcome, and intergenerational participation is encouraged! Spanish-speaking staff will be at the event for bilingual accessibility. At [Hunters Point Community Library](#) (1 - 2:30 pm EST)

Family Stories Workshops

Would you like to record a conversation with a loved one or record your own memories to share with others? Join the Queens Memory team to learn how to record a conversation with a loved one in person or over the phone or computer, how to ask good questions, and how to share the recording with family and friends. Learn more about how your family's history can be part of the Queens Public Library's permanent local history collections. Workshops will be held via Zoom; register [here](#) for the **November 17** (7 - 8 pm EST) session or the **December 9** (2 - 3 pm EST) session. We will follow up with a confirmation and event link.

December 1 – As part of Queens Memory's Name Explorer project, we welcome geographer and scholar-in-residence at NYU's Institute for Public Knowledge **Joshua Jelly-Schapiro** for an exploration of the named places featured in his book, *Names of New York: Discovering the City's Past and Present Through Its Place Names*. From Jamaica to Jackson Heights, Arverne to Astoria, Flushing to Forest Hills, Queens overflows with places named for local legends and distant heroes alike – and contains at least as many stories as it does people. This author talk will be held at the [North Forest Park library](#). (2 - 3 pm EST)

December 6 – Are you curious about how streets get renamed to honor particular individuals? As part of Queens Memory's Name Explorer project, join Queens Historical Society Executive Director **Jason Antos** for **A History and How-To of Street Naming in Queens**. Learn about the process of getting a street renamed and learn about some of the individuals honored in local street names in the area. This program is made possible through the estate of Frank Esposito, and will be held at the [North Forest Park library](#). (2 - 3 pm EST)

January 13, 2023 – Social media is not an archive, and cloud storage still lives on hard drives somewhere. We are creating thousands of digital photos, videos and other files without a second thought, but what are you doing to make sure you can find these things later? Will you be able to share high school graduation photos when the 20-year anniversary comes around? Did you know you can't download the original photo file you uploaded to Instagram, or that YouTube auto-compresses your videos? Audio/visual archivist and preservation expert **Marie Lasco** will present **Organize It Or Lose It: Tips on Saving the Memories You Make on Your Phone** in a Facebook Live session helpful for all ages. The workshop will cover simple organizing and storage tips to help you keep your important digital files sorted; easy to find and use; and ready to transfer over when it's time to get new hard drives or use new software. Tune in on the [Queens Memory Facebook page](#). (12 - 1 pm EST)

Queens Memory in the Professional Community

QM staff are frequently invited to discuss our innovative programs with our colleagues in the library and archival communities. On October 11, Queens Memory Director **Natalie Milbrodt** participated in the panel discussion "What's in a DAM?: Tackling Digital Asset Management selection, implementation, and beyond" at the [Digital Preservation 2022](#) conference in Baltimore. Currently, Queens Memory is being represented in several sessions at the [Oral History Association's Annual Meeting](#) in Los Angeles (Oct. 19-22): Community Coordinator **Meral Agish** is chairing and participating in the discussion, "Capturing the Epicenter: How the Pandemic Transformed Our Queens-Based Oral History Practices," as well as chairing the session, "Documenting Spaces of Relief in Central Queens, New York, through Oral Histories," while **Natalie Milbrodt** is taking part in the roundtable discussion, "A Metadata Assessment Tool for All Projects, Young and Old!" On November 9, **Meral Agish** will co-facilitate a roundtable discussion for DHPSNY (Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York) called ["Collecting in Real Time."](#) The conversation will engage people who work in and volunteer for collecting organizations across New York State about the joys, perils, responsibilities and opportunities of collecting in real time. The event is open to the public; click [here](#) to register.