



Elmhurst Scavenger Hunt Draws Neighborhood History Sleuths

Despite a rainy start to the day, more than 50 people took up the challenge of our Elmhurst Scavenger Hunt last Saturday (October 21)!

The event, which was part of the citywide [Open House New York](#) weekend, had participants follow a map to five points of historic interest around the neighborhood. Using sites featured in our [Name Explorer](#) project, the route took participants to landmarks honoring local leaders from the 1700s up to the 21st century. After downloading the map or picking up a copy at the Elmhurst branch library -- which was stop number one on the route -- hunters filled in answers to questions about each site they visited.

Colorful signs and balloons marked each of the stops, which included Robert R. Tiltz Street, Reverend James Pennington Place, Janta-Polczynska Polish



Queens Memory volunteer preparing the route for the start of the hunt.

Heroes Way and the Moore Homestead Playground, in addition to the library itself. On completing the tour, participants returned to the Elmhurst library to claim their prize -- a frame-worthy 11x17 hand-lettered map of Queens.

Although the contest has ended and the clue signs are no longer hanging at their stops to reveal the answers, you can still download the map [here](#) or learn more about the places featured on the route [here](#) on the Queens Name Explorer map.



Participants picked up maps and other information at our table in the Elmhurst branch library.



Happy recipients of the prize map awarded to those who completed the hunt!

Meet Our New CUNY Interns!

Queens Memory is happy to introduce our 2023-24 cohort of CUNY Cultural Corps undergraduate interns:

Sam Griffith is a third-year transfer student at Hunter College, majoring in Spanish and Arabic Language and Culture. Before enrolling at Hunter, he studied graphic design at the Fashion Institute of Technology. He is interested in the food history of the city, the different languages spoken in Queens, NYC transit systems, graphic design, and spending time walking through the many gorgeous parks of New York City. **Nishat Hussain** is a third-year student at Hunter College, majoring in Anthropology with an intended minor in Computer Science. She is interested in exploring the art and history of human societies. In her spare time, she likes to watch movies, visit museums or simply go for a walk in the park. **Angel Sanchez** is a senior in the Bachelor of Architecture program at the Spitzer School of Architecture, City College. His interests revolve around the arts (impressionists/realistic landscape paintings) and global history, with a special interest in 20th century U.S history. In his free time, Angel partakes in music production and sketching.

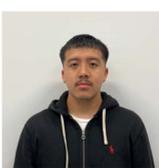
In the coming year, Sam will help us with graphic design and communications on various projects, and Nishat and Angel will focus on research and oral history. Welcome to the team!



Sam Griffith



Nishat Hussain



Angel Sanchez

Queens Memory Represents at National Oral History Conference



Several members of the Queens Memory team recently hit the road to participate in the **Oral History Association's Annual Conference** in Baltimore (October 18-21). We were honored to both present to and learn from our colleagues from across the country.

As part of the panel "*Check This Out! Public Libraries Make Oral History Prevalent and Pertinent*," (see photo below, left) Queens Memory Director **Natalie Milbrodt** and Community Coordinator **Meral Agish** discussed



the many ways in which Queens Memory works with staff at Queens Public Library branches to engage patrons of all ages in our oral history and story-sharing programs; they also discussed Queens Memory's podcast and presence on social media channels. During the session "*Good for Everyone: Developing Student Projects for Long-term Benefits*" (see photo above, right), **Milbrodt, Agish** and Queens Memory Outreach Coordinator **Lori Wallach** were joined by faculty and student representatives to discuss two highly successful collaborative projects. Our work with Prof. Johnathan Thayer's Public History classes at Queens College on the [Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground](#) project and our partnership with Prof. Kalli Anderson's Audio Journalism class at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism on the [Street Name Stories](#) project elicited much interest among conference attendees. In addition, **Milbrodt** co-taught a pre-conference workshop, "*Choose Your Own Adventure: A Metadata Assessment Tool for Oral History Projects*."

Upcoming Events

November 6 – Share your favorite holiday recipes and stories with your Kew Gardens Hills neighbors! At **Preserving Holiday Recipes and Stories**, we will have the opportunity to share and preserve photographs, recipes and memories that pertain to food and cultural traditions. The Queens Memory team will scan items you bring and gather your story to pass on to future generations. This event is hosted in collaboration with [DOROT](#) and will be held at the [Kew Gardens Hills Library](#). Register at <https://forms.office.com/r/u4SPqAmsQF> (11 am - 12:30 pm EST)

November 14, December 12 – Join us online for **Learn More about the Queens Memory Project**, an opportunity to hear about the work we do with volunteers and community partners across the borough. The Queens Memory team will provide an overview of our programs and cover the many ways you can help as a volunteer and contribute to the Queens Library's archives. Hear about opportunities to record interviews with Queens residents, contribute photos and other materials, assist with transcription and audio editing, and help with our outreach and programming. Register [here](#); we will follow up with a confirmation and event link. (12 - 1 pm EST)

November 16 – Have you ever wondered who the Kosciuszko Bridge is named for and why? What about the Holland Tunnel? If so, join us for **How We Name the City**, which uses the naming of New York City's roads, bridges and civic institutions as a unique window into urban social structure and the city's ever-changing inhabitants and legal structures. Drawing from her book **Naming Gotham: The Villains, Rogues, and Heroes Behind New York Place Names**, CUNY Law Professor Rebecca Bratspies will introduce the Revolutionary War figures, civil rights heroes, robber barons, and Tammany Hall politicians whose names grace much of our infrastructure, and will use their lives to gain an understanding of New York's history. This event, to be held at the [Forest Hills Library](#), will feature Professor Bratspies along with representatives from the Topography Department of Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr.'s office, who will explain the current process for proposing honorary street names. Attendees will also have the opportunity to contribute to the Queens Name Explorer project. No registration necessary. (6 - 7:30 pm EST)

November 28, December 26 – At our **oral history interviewing workshops**, 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 either workshop [here](#); we will follow up with a confirmation and event link. (12 - 1 pm EST)