

QUEENS MEMORY

NEWS FROM QUEENS MEMORY PROJECT

Fall Roundup of Events

It's been a busy autumn for Queens Memory, with lots of programs taking place around the borough, and we've got some more on tap! Check out these photos from our recent events, and see our upcoming schedule below. We hope to see you soon!



On September 28 we joined New York Climate Exchange to host "Remember Ida: a 3rd Anniversary Podcast Listening Session and Reflection Circle" on Governors Island. The day included listening to an [episode](#) from the third season of the Queens Memory Podcast about a family in Flushing



who drowned in their basement home during the storm. After the listening session, a discussion with climate justice experts, researchers, educators, and audience members took place.

Photos courtesy of Nick Capezera.



Photo courtesy of J. Faye Yuan.

We hosted a second climate justice-focused event, [A Conversation on Climate Justice in Southeast Queens](#), on October 10 at the Cambria Heights Library. The evening included a topical panel discussion guided by climate researchers and local residents followed by a moderated Q&A. Learn more about this topic at our [next climate-related event](#) at the Flushing Library on November 14.



Photos courtesy of J. Faye Yuan.



[Home Movie Day](#) is always a hit, and this year was no exception! On October 19, we partnered with NYU's AMIA Student Chapter and XFR Collective at the Ridgewood Library to welcome more than 70 visitors looking to get preservation advice from experts. Home movies on film, CD, DVD, videotape, and mobile devices were all considered, and a number of patrons' recordings were shown on the big screen -- some for the first time in many years.

If you are the "Memory Keeper" for your family or organization, be sure to download a free copy of Queens Memory's brand-new brochure, [The Memory Keeper's Guide to Home Movies!](#)

Name Explorer Team Adds Four New Members

Thanks to additional funding generously provided by the Mellon Foundation, Queens Memory has recently hired four part-time staff members to help develop and expand our [Queens Name Explorer](#) project. We are looking forward to benefiting from their professional experience through summer 2025!



Jessica Sucher, Name Explorer Outreach Coordinator, has a long history of working with arts and community organizations throughout New York City. As a curator and producer, Jessica is dedicated to deepening partnerships with neighborhood organizations and residents to facilitate arts-based community action and dialog. Previously, Jessica was Director of Community Engagement with BRIC Arts Media. Jessica is also an exhibiting artist, working in collaboration with photographer Sasha Bezzubov.



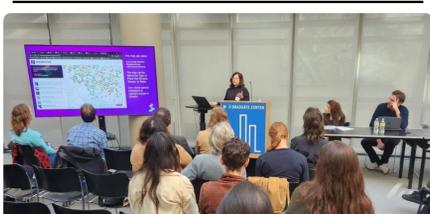
David Engelman, Name Explorer Researcher/Writer, brings more than 20 years of experience in nonprofit marketing and communications, editing, and writing to this position. He is proud to be a part of this exciting project of helping to share the stories of the accomplished people whose names grace public spaces across our borough. A resident of Jackson Heights, David is an active volunteer for his community garden and plays trumpet for the Queer Big Apple Corps.



Mariado Martínez Pérez, Name Explorer Researcher/Writer, is a bilingual journalist with a background in public relations, communications, marketing and translation (English, German and Spanish). Her reporting covers mainly cultural issues, through writing and audio, from both slightly more mainstream influence as well as unique, individual stories under the concept of finding and making culture accessible to all audiences and communities. Mariado's work has appeared on Gatopardo, El País, Vogue, Artishock and IMPULSE, among others.



Mary Bakija, Name Explorer Researcher/Writer, has a background in local journalism in Brooklyn, where she lived for many years, and is grateful for this opportunity to get to know her new borough of Queens more deeply. In 2020, she earned her master's in library science at Pratt Institute and now works developing continuing education opportunities for librarians and archivists at the METRO New York Library Council. Research remains a primary passion, which she's been able to enjoy by assisting authors on book projects.



The Queens Memory team was honored to speak about our [Queens Name Explorer](#) project at the recent [New York Archives Week Symposium](#). Above, **Aimai Reporter** (Metadata Librarian - Digital Collections at Queens Public Library) explains how the Name Explorer map works, while **Lori DiBella Wallach** (Queens Memory Outreach Coordinator at Queens College) and **Ben Smyth** (Cofounder, Urban Archive) await their turns to present.

Photo courtesy of Natalie Milbrodt.

Upcoming Events

November 4 – Travel back in time to your student years at Queens College and connect with your fellow alumni! At [Monday Memories](#), Queens Memory Outreach Coordinator (and QC alum) **Lori DiBella Wallach** will offer a short presentation of Queens College history. Then it's your turn to share stories of the clubs, social events, campus hangout spots – and friendships made – that still resonate from your QC days! This event is hosted in collaboration with the Queens College Office of Alumni Relations; register for the Zoom session [here](#). If you would like to share your memorabilia and photos, please scan them and email the scans to the Office of Alumni Relations at alumnievents@qc.cuny.edu. (4 - 5 pm EST)

November 12 – Join us on Zoom for [I Was Here: Name, Place and The History Between – A Writing Workshop](#), led by local writer **Shereese Francis**. The program will focus on using documentary and topographical poetry to activate histories and archives, specifically that of the [Queens Name Explorer](#) project. Within the workshop, participants will learn about documentary and topographical poetry, read and discuss an example of each, and receive prompts to begin at least one poem inspired by the people and places found in the Queens neighborhood of Jackson Heights. Register [here](#); this program will not be recorded. Queens Name Explorer is funded by a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation. (7 - 8:30 pm EST)

November 14 – Bring your climate stories to [Flushing Library](#) for [Climate Action: How to Prepare for Flooding in Northeast Queens](#). This climate discussion panel, which will be held in English with Mandarin interpretation, brings together diverse perspectives on the impacts of rain-based flooding events and subsequent responses from local residents, researchers, community organizations, and city agencies. During this program, we hope to share personal experiences and explore practical solutions that will help our neighbors become more prepared to weather extreme rain events in the future. Food and beverages will be served at 5:30 pm, and the panel will last from 6 to 7 pm, followed by audience Q&A. Queens Memory is currently in production on the fourth season of its award-winning podcast, which will focus on the borough's changing climate and water issues. This event will be recorded and archived, and portions of the audio may be used for the podcast. (5:30 - 7 pm EST)

November 21 – 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 Public Library's archival collections. 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. **This program is not recorded.** (12 - 1 pm EST)