



🍂 **And That's a Wrap...**
on our Fall Programming 🍂



Photos courtesy of Yi-Ching Lin

Our [Queens Name Explorer](#) fall programming series concluded last week with 51 people attending our online writing workshop - "I Was Here: Name, Place and the History Between - a Writing Workshop with Sherese Francis." Our Open House New York Weekend listening party also saw dozens pass through 34th Ave. Open Streets on a sunny Sunday October afternoon (see photos above).

Stay tuned for announcements coming soon about Name Explorer programs in 2025. Many thanks to our community partners and the Mellon Foundation.



Photo courtesy of J. Faye Yuan.

We hosted our third and final climate event, "[How to Prepare for Flooding in Northeast Queens](#)," on November 14 at the Flushing Library. The evening began with tabling from seven community partners working in the climate action space, including the [Center for NYC Neighborhoods](#), the [Tzu Chi Foundation](#), [NYC Emergency Management](#), [New York Sea Grant](#), [New York Disaster Interfaith Services](#), [Kissena Synergy](#), and the [Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice](#). Lots of resources were shared around emergency preparedness, parametric insurance, and community engagement in times of extreme weather.

If you were not able to attend in person, we did record the presentations and will be sharing on the library's YouTube channel.

📍 **November Oral History Feature Spotlights**
a St. John's University Alumna 📍



Photo courtesy of Belenna Lauto.

[Frances Hynes](#) is an artist and a St. John's University alumna who grew up in Bayside during the 1950s. Hynes, who was born in Astoria during the mid-1940s, shows photographs to interviewer Ben Turner documenting her mother's side of the family working as farmers in Astoria before and after World War I. Hynes recalls her childhood memories of living in tract housing on 202nd Street in Bayside; the landscape included dirt roads, vacant land, wildlife, wetlands, and two nearby golf courses. Hynes also recalls witnessing significant land development in Bayside during her childhood, including construction of the Clearview Expressway and the Throgs Neck Bridge.

Many thanks to Ben Turner for the interview and Nande Walters for the social media audiogram.

👋 **Meet our Citi Fellow: Nande Walters** 👋



Nande Walters is a Jamaican American filmmaker, artist, and to-be archivist based in Brooklyn, NY. She's earned a Film/Video BFA from Pratt Institute and is earning a Master's in Library Science at Queens College. Nande is interested in arts and cultural studies and community archives. As our Citi Fellow this semester, Nande is gaining first-hand experience in our public library and digital archives, including working with Queens Memory on oral history interviews and social media content.



The American Library Association (ALA) has reported historic highs in the number of banned and challenged book titles. It is more important than ever to stand against censorship and celebrate the freedom to read.

To shine a light on this important and ongoing issue, we are asking for local artists and the general public, ages 13 and up, to submit original artwork that celebrates the freedom to read. The artwork may be inspired by books or authors who have been banned or challenged, or it may be inspired by your own interpretation of the freedom to read in Queens. Get creative!

The winning artwork will be featured on QPL's Banned Books Special Edition Library Card, to be released in 2025. The winner will also receive a \$2,000 cash prize. View official rules [here](#).

Finalists may have a chance to have their artwork displayed on the QPL website and at QPL locations.

Enter the contest [here](#). Submissions are accepted until November 30!

📅 **Upcoming Events** 📅

November 21 & December 19 – 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 ET)

