



Queens Memory Pairs With Culture Lab LIC For Black History Exhibit

In honor of Black History Month, Queens Memory and [Culture Lab LIC](#) have joined forces to present **The People Behind the Names: Black History in Queens**. The exhibition, which runs from January 30 through March 2, spotlights individuals featured on the [Queens Name Explorer](#) map whose names carry historical significance. From outspoken ministers to pioneering musicians to female leaders in public service, this small sampling provides a glimpse into the histories of Elmhurst, Corona, Flushing, St. Albans, Jamaica, Hollis and Kew Gardens Hills.



The [opening reception](#) will be held on January 30, with public programs planned throughout the exhibit period, including poet Sherese Francis' [What A Wonderful World Workshop](#), focusing on sites named in honor of Louis Armstrong (see details in Events box below).

There will also be a drop-in session – **Imagining the Future Landmarks of Queens** – this coming Sunday, February 2, from 3 to 4:30 pm. The Queens Memory team will discuss the Queens Name Explorer project, and visitors will have a chance to explore the map and add their own suggestions for the people they'd like to see honored in our urban landscape. Check Culture Lab LIC's website for more events being added soon!

Spotlight on Community Partners

At our monthly [Learn More About the Queens Memory Project](#) programs, we will be inviting some of our community partners to share details about their current projects. At the January meeting, Stevie Peters of the [King Manor Museum](#) presented the following information about the organization's Bicentennial Memories Project:



DO YOU REMEMBER 1976?

HELP US MAKE JAMAICA'S BICENTENNIAL MEMORIES SOLID GOLD!

Did you live in Jamaica during the 1970s?
King Manor Museum wants to hear your stories!

Share your memories in a recorded interview for our upcoming exhibit.

Interested?
Contact Stevie Peters at intern@kingmanor.org to sign up or call 718-200-0545

www.kingmanor.org



The King Manor Museum seeks storytellers for its Bicentennial Memories Project. Through intimate 30-minute conversations, we're documenting the vibrant pulse of Jamaica, Queens, during the 1970s. Former and current residents are invited to share their experiences, helping us weave together the neighborhood's rich cultural tapestry. Each interview becomes part of a lasting historical record, preserving Jamaica's unique spirit for generations to come. Whether you lived, worked or grew up in the area during this transformative decade, we want to hear your story. Join us in this vital effort to capture our community's heritage.

You can view a recording of the presentation [here](#). For more information, contact Stevie Peters at intern@kingmanor.org or 718-200-0545.

At the February 13 workshop (see details below), Isa Dorvillier, a local artist and Youth Counselor at the [Ridgewood Library](#), will introduce "[The Work Of Art: WPA Prints From The QPL Archives](#)", an exhibit that will be up at the branch from February 11 through March 11. The exhibit will feature lithographs, etchings, relief prints, and serigraphs from Queens Public Library's Archives by artists enrolled in the Works Projects Administration's Federal Art Project (1935-1943). A rotating selection of prints by artists including Elizabeth Olds, Fuji Nakamizo, Mabel Dwight and Louis Lozowick will be on view for the public during regular library hours, and a hands-on educational art workshop is planned for March 6.

Upcoming Events

February 9 – What sights, sounds and histories can be excavated from places named after Louis Armstrong? Join poet **Sherese Francis** for the [What A Wonderful World Workshop: Improvising a Jazz Poem-Map & Louis Armstrong in Corona](#). Participants will learn about ekphrastic and jazz poetry in order to create a poetic map responding to pictures and music associated with places named after and visited by Armstrong in Corona. The workshop will be held at [Culture Lab LIC](#); reserve your free ticket [here](#). (4:30 - 5:30 pm EST)

February 10 – 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)

February 13 – 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)

February 27 – At our [oral history interviewing workshop](#), you will learn how you can contribute to Queens Memory by helping us record interviews with fellow Queens residents. Together we will review tips for oral history interviews, from initial outreach to recording to transcription. Register [here](#). We will follow up with a confirmation and event link. **This program is not recorded.** (12 - 1 pm EST)

March 1 – Join us at the [Elmhurst Library](#) for [Reflecting on Five Years of Resilience in Queens: A Listening Event With the Queens Memory Project](#) to mark the fifth anniversary of New York City's pandemic lockdown of 2020. We will share excerpts from "The Borough We Became: Queens Residents on Life During COVID-19," our podcast series featuring stories from our Queens neighbors during the early months of the pandemic, and will welcome the public to share their reflections and respond to others' memories. To listen to the 10-part series and additional bonus episodes, visit <https://queenslib.org/3W2c> (2 - 3:30 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 archives communities. Recently, Queens Memory Interim Director **Meral Agish** was a presenter at the January 9 meeting of the [Understanding Our Changing Communities](#) series offered by DHPSNY (Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York). The session focused on models of using data to inform library programs, and Meral's presentation discussed the creation and development of our [Queens Name Explorer](#).