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Save the Date: Climate Podcast Launches on June 10

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After a three-year hiatus, we are back with the fourth season of the Queens Memory Podcast, called "Memories of Water." Follow us on [YouTube](#) where we will be releasing trailers, new episodes, and behind-the-scenes!

The first episode - "A Forgotten Place" - will drop on Tuesday, June 10, followed by an in-person [listening event](#) at the Cambria Heights branch of the Queens Public Library on Thursday, June 12, from 5:30 to 7pm.

To mark this occasion, we'll take a behind-the-scenes look at the making of this episode with Queens Memory Curator, J. Faye Yuan, and producer Roxanne Scott. From memories of growing up in Southeast Queens, to the economic burdens of flooding, to demanding accountability for the borough's decades-long environmental threats, we'll share stories of community resilience in the face of the climate crisis.



Join Us for Addisleigh Park Day on Saturday June 14

In partnership with the [Addisleigh Park Civic Organization](#), join us at Live End Plaza (180th St. and Murdock Ave.) on Saturday, June 14, from noon to 5pm. Bring your stories and photos of life in Addisleigh Park and learn how to share, scan, and record!

If you're interested in volunteering with us at this and/or future events, please email us: QueensMemory@queenslibrary.org.



Travel Back in Time with Monday Memories on June 16

Join us for [Monday Memories: Queens College Story-Sharing](#) on June 16 at 4pm, as Lori DiBella Wallach, Queens Memory Outreach Coordinator, shares a brief presentation on Queens College history. Then it's your turn to share your favorite QC stories of the clubs, social events, campus hangout spots - and friendships made - that still resonate today!

Register for Zoom link [here](#).

If you would like to share your memorabilia and photos, please scan them and forward the scans to the Office of Alumni Relations by June 1 at alumnievts@qc.cuny.edu.

Monday Memories
Queens College Story-Sharing

MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025 • 4:00 - 5:00PM (ET)
REGISTER FOR ZOOM MEETING: bit.ly/MondayMemories25

Travel back in time to your student years at QC and connect with fellow alumni!

Lori DiBella Wallach will offer a short presentation of Queens College history. Then it's your turn to share stories of the clubs, student organizations, social events, campus hangout spots – and friendships made – that still resonate from your Queens College days!

LORI DIBELLA WALLACH is the Queens Memory Outreach Coordinator with Rosenthal Library's Department of Special Collections and Archives. She received a master's in library and information studies and a certificate in archives from Queens College in 2014.

QUEENS ALUMNI RELATIONS

QUEENS MEMORY

QUEENS COLLEGE

CUNY

Street Co-Naming on Mother's Day Celebrates a Longtime Astoria Resident



Photo Credit: Derek Evers / Office of NYC Comptroller

Our latest entry on [Queens Name Explorer](#) celebrates the legacy of Elizabeth White Marcum (1940-2024) - a volunteer, activist, and natural-born leader who was deeply engaged with her community of Astoria for more than 50 years. Marcum modeled the importance of volunteerism, civic engagement, and community activism to the youth of her neighborhood.

She served in a variety of leadership roles in the Boy Scouts as a den mother in Troop 470 and went on to serve as one of the first female Cub Scout troop leaders, where she mentored numerous youths and led them on trips to Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia. She also volunteered with the Girl Scout Troop 500, where she assisted with community-based fundraising activities, and at St. Joseph's Church fundraisers and activities, including Little League and the St. Joseph's Brigade Drum and Bugle Corps. As a committed activist for LGBTQ civil rights, she marched in pride parades and rallies and also served as a parent activist in the group Western Queens for Marriage Equality.

Learn more about the life and work of Elizabeth White Marcum [here](#).

May Oral History Interview Features Owner of Neir's Tavern



Louis Neir's Social Hall, now Neir's Tavern, by Cadwallader R. Coldon, 1922

[Loycent Gordon](#) is the owner of Neir's Tavern. Located in Woodhaven, Neir's Tavern opened in 1829 and is one of the oldest bars in New York City. Gordon discusses his childhood in the island country of Jamaica, his experience moving to the Queens neighborhood of Jamaica and struggling in elementary school, and how school staff and parents in the community rallied around him to help him academically. Gordon, who attended Hunter College with the goal of working in the music industry, explains how his experience disc jockeying and working with artists and repertoire ultimately set him on a path to meeting the owner of the building where Neir's Tavern is located and purchasing the bar in 2009.

In this [oral history interview](#) conducted by Kendra Kuszai and Ken Gordon, Gordon reflects on why he has persevered in his quest to keep Neir's Tavern in business, despite financial losses and having limited prior knowledge of the industry. Gordon speaks about Neir's Tavern's function as a community gathering place, how community support rescued the bar from going out of business in January 2020, how the bar has stayed active since shutting down in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and his plans for how to sustain the bar going forward. Additionally, Gordon discusses his decision to become a New York City firefighter after the 9/11 terrorist attacks and how he has been able to give back, serve, and bring joy to people in the city and how that helped him so much as an immigrant child.

Listen to the interview [here](#).

Upcoming Events

June 3 – [Community Archiving Happy Hour](#) is back on Zoom in June. Welcome to a social and resource sharing space organized by a few folk who work on inclusive archiving projects. This get-together is for people who work on behalf of their own communities, or in partnership as community allies. So, whether you're "community-based," "community-driven," or just "community-curious," we hope you'll show up to share who you are, what you're working on, and what you're trying to figure out right now. There's weirdly not a lot of community amongst people working in these spaces so we hope to start some conversations and mutual support. (4 - 5 pm EDT)

June 7 – Join artist Rejin Leys for a [creative workshop](#) exploring the history of St. Albans and southeast Queens. We'll learn about the Jazz Trail, local landmarks, celebrity neighbors, and see historic images from Queens Public Library's Archives. Participants will work with art materials to make their own booklets. All supplies will be provided. (2 - 3 pm EDT)

June 10 – Join us for drinks and snacks at [The Museum of Bronx History](#) at 3266 Bainbridge Avenue during [NYC Neighborhood Oral History Projects Summer Social](#). Meet people from other neighborhoods doing similar work, share strategies, and mingle! Feel free to bring literature to share. Co-hosted by the Oral History Association, Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region, the Queens Memory Project, the Bronx County Historical Society and Columbia's Oral History MA Program. (5 - 7 pm EDT)

June 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 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 EDT)

June 21 – [Share your prom story](#) through a series of written and visual prompts from [Kelly Jean Fitzsimmons](#) and Zach Rothman-Hicks ([Gabbing with Gays](#)).The first half features generative writing prompts to help participants brainstorm their prom stories—or what they did instead. Kelly Jean will also read from her memoir *After After Prom*. In the second half, the story partners will trace each other's *after* on transparency paper and incorporate their prom stories to create a symbolic, composite portrait of their partner. Workshop participants are encouraged to [submit their prom poem or story](#) for publication in the forthcoming *Prom Queens: Celebrating Prom Poems & Stories* by Queens Writers anthology from [Poets of Queens](#). Register [here](#) for the Astoria workshop. (2 - 3:30 pm EDT)

June 26 – At our [oral history 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 EDT)

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. In May, **Meral Agish** represented Queens Memory at the [Community Webs](#) project planning workshop that took place at the Internet Archive Headquarters in San Francisco. On June 13, **Meral Agish** and [Name Explorer](#) Writer/Researcher **David Engelman** will present "The People Behind Named Places: Getting Creative with Civic Data" as part of the [New York Archives Conference](#). Register [here](#).