



Join Us at Climate Week NYC!



Many thanks to our partners at Newtown Creek Alliance, King Manor Museum, New York Botanical Garden, NYC Emergency Management, Melting Metropolis, and many more. We have confirmed a full lineup of free events we will be participating in during Climate Week NYC:

Thursday, September 24, 5:30 to 7:30pm
[From Floodwaters to Future Planning](#) | 📍 Central Library, Jamaica

Friday, September 25, 6pm
[Floodlines: Where Cities and Oceans Meet](#) | 📍 Pioneer Works

Saturday, September 26, 11am to 1pm
[Melting Metropolis: Bilingual Cyanotype Workshop with Citation Needed](#)
| 📍 Hunters Point Library and Environmental Education Center

Saturday, September 26, 2 to 4pm
[Living in a Melting Metropolis: Our Memories of Summer](#) | 📍 King Manor Museum

Sunday, September 27, 11am to 6pm
[Street Works Earth Festival](#) | 📍 Travers Park, Jackson Heights

Sunday, September 27, 11am to 2pm
[Shade Canopy: A Creekside Climate Walk](#) | 📍 Cooper Park, Brooklyn

Sunday, September 27, 1:30pm
[Please Don't Flush! a municipal comedy](#) | 📍 Queens Botanical Garden

Watch our socials for updates, and we hope to see you in the field!

Find Us on Discovery Day!



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The 5th Annual Discovery Day celebrates our Environmental Education Center with a festival on the lawns of Hunters Point Library, where we explore the natural wonders of the neighborhood with naturalists, science pop-ups, and other environmental-based activities for folks of all ages.

This year, Queens Memory will co-host a bilingual cyanotype workshop with Melting Metropolis and Citation Needed from 11am to 1pm on Saturday, September 26. We will use images from the library's Digital Archives to make cyanotype prints related to local histories of extreme heat, while reflecting on our own experiences of summer.

Share Your World Cup Memory!



What does the World Cup mean to you? Do you remember watching a match that brought your community together? Do you have a favorite World Cup tradition, player, or unforgettable game?

[World Cup Memory](#) is an independent storytelling project collecting firsthand accounts from people around the world before, during, and **after the World Cup**. Whether you cheered with family at home, gathered with friends at a local café, volunteered behind the scenes, or welcomed visitors to Queens, your experience is part of the story.

We invite you to record and share your World Cup memory with us and help create a community archive of this global event.

🌟 **Submit your story [here](#).** You can also submit [in Spanish here](#).

World Cup Memory is led by Annabel Short of It's Material and builds on previous community storytelling projects, including [I Live Here – Queens](#) and [30th Ave – A Year in the Life of a Street](#).

FINAL Call for Photos!



For the past three summers, we've partnered with [Melting Metropolis](#) and [Urban Archive](#) to collect photographs and stories that illustrate how New Yorkers have weathered the summer season.

This year, we're asking you to show us how you keep cool in the summer. Are you taking advantage of the early morning or nighttime hours to go outside? Do you have a special method of cooling your apartment? Do you go somewhere to cool down? Help us document the everyday history of summer in the city!

The call is open to anyone with a story to share, but we are most interested in photographs that were taken in NYC within the five boroughs. Each photo must include at least one human subject and a brief description.

We're [accepting submissions](#) through the end of September.

Oral History Spotlight:
A Mid-Career Transition to Librarianship



Retired librarian **Sharon Banks** speaks with interviewer Adrienne Hawthorne about her mid-career transition to librarianship and the 17 years she spent working at Queens Public Library. In particular, Banks reflects on her time serving as branch manager of Queens Public Library's Pomonok and Cambria Heights branches, the many arts and cultural programs that she helped to organize, and her dedication to serving teen visitors.

Listen to Sharon's interview [here](#).



Save These Dates

October 1 – [Interviewing Family Members](#) is a fascinating and personal way to better understand who they are and learn more about the loved ones who have shaped us. But how do you get started? Ambar Wortham invites participants into the practice of family oral history at the Cambria Heights Library. We will cover how to prepare for interviews with relatives, how to craft memorable questions, and how to create an archive for yourself and your loved ones. Whether you're new to family history or ready to go deeper, you will leave with practical skills, a more intentional approach, and a renewed sense of why this labor of love is worthwhile. (6 pm ET)

October 3 – In this three-hour workshop, author-illustrator and teaching artist Jonell Joshua will share her approach to creating her illustrated memoir, *How Do I Draw These Memories?*, and guide participants in [making their own mini-memoir zines](#). In celebration of Cambria Heights Library's 20th anniversary, Jonell will read excerpts highlighting community memories and the public library's role as a childhood safe haven. Drawing inspiration from the neighborhood, she will lead participants through the zine-making process using guided prompts. Attendees can print photos directly from their phones and digitize personal items such as photographs, recipe cards, and letters. All other materials will be provided. This workshop offers a fun introduction to creating a hybrid memoir rooted in personal and community stories. Participants will collage with photographs and art materials, then gather at the end to share their stories and completed zines. (1 pm ET)

October 3 – An effective college essay doesn't list accomplishments but tells a personal story. In "[College Essay Jumpstart: Finding Your Story](#)," students at the Jackson Heights Library will mine their memories for specific sensory details to add depth to their stories and create strong openings that hook readers. Inspired by the Queens Memory Podcast, students will also hear these openings read aloud by one another, experiencing how personal narratives come to life through the spoken word. This workshop is great for students looking to enhance their college essays or for those struggling to get started! (12 pm ET)

October 10 – Join us at the Flushing Library for a deeper look at [Flushing's 19th-century history](#) and learn how the Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground was reclaimed through community efforts. Originally used for segregated African American, Native American, and "pauper" burials, the burial ground was turned into a park and playground in the 1930s. In 2007, a group of local residents came together to form the Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground Conservancy with the shared goal of reclaiming the site and uncovering long-hidden local history. Members of the Conservancy will be joined by Queens College CUNY faculty and alumni who have collaborated on a decade-long research project that contributed to New York City's formal recognition and investment in the Burial Ground as a site of mourning, memorial, and celebration of Black, Indigenous, and marginalized lives. (12 pm ET)

October 17 – Join photo curator Isabelle Dervaux for the second of a [two-part workshop](#) that will help you take control of your collections at the Jackson Heights Library. In October, we will learn how to see like a curator, so you can delete confidently and take better photos. Isabelle is a family photo curator whose mission is to teach all of us how to take charge of the thousands of photos we accumulate and eliminate the unnecessary stress they can cause. Her delightful, non-techy talks inspire participants to tackle tasks they have been dreading and putting off for years, so they can be photo-happier. (2 pm ET)

November 19 – **Celebrate Queens Memory's Sweet 16!** On Thursday, November 19, from 6 to 8pm, we'll be partnering with Culture Lab LIC for a community show & tell that will double as our sixteenth birthday party. Snacks will be provided. More details to come. (6 pm ET)