

LATEST INITIATIVES

Determined to provide every Brooklyn public school student with the opportunity to learn how to code, Borough President Adams launched Code Brooklyn on Monday, November 2nd from PS/MS 282 Park Slope School. His five-point plan started with a call for every district school in the borough to participate in the Hour of Code, a global effort in over 180 countries to help demystify coding, during Computer Science Education Week this December; to spur this effort on, he publicly challenged the city of Chicago to see who can sign up a greater percentage of their public schools. Code Brooklyn also includes an analysis from his office of the infrastructure needs in Brooklyn schools pertaining to their ability to support robust computer science programming; the results of that assessment will lead to an internal report that will help determine allocations of the increased funding that Borough President Adams is committing in his upcoming capital budgets. Additionally, Borough President Adams called for Brooklyn Borough Hall to serve as a go-between with schools and City Hall through the rollout of the Computer Science for All (CS4All) public-private partnership over the next decade to ensure that resources regarding teacher training and staff development are assigned equitably and holistically. Finally, he announced that he is working with State Senator Diane Savino and Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon on state legislation to make computer science a required part of the school curriculum, including a companion bill that would create a specific teacher accreditation for computer science.

On Friday, November 6th, Borough President Adams unveiled “Growing Brooklyn’s Future,” an initiative with more than \$2 million in initial investment from his Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) to create hydroponic classrooms in a dozen schools across Brooklyn. He made this announcement inside a classroom at the Academy of Urban Planning, a high school located at the Bushwick Campus which will be transformed into a green learning space through a partnership with New York Sun Works, a non-profit organization that builds innovative science labs in urban schools. The effort highlights the potential of urban farming to revolutionize the borough’s relationship with food and the environment, as well as to create thousands of jobs in the emerging agritech industry. Schools receiving \$167,000 each for the classroom buildout are located in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville, Bushwick, Canarsie, Cypress Hills, and East New York.

In honor of Veterans Day, Borough President Adams joined the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership and the Cadman Park Conservancy on Tuesday, November 10th to unveil their vision for a renovated Brooklyn War Memorial; the monument has been shuttered for 25 years ago due to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) non-compliance. The plan would rehabilitate the building, advancing the original vision as a war memorial and learning center. The project will provide an opportunity for World War II veterans and their families to visit, as well as for future generations to learn about those who served. Proposed

renovations include a visitor’s and exhibition center, a roof terrace and event space, a new elevator, and a complete restoration to the Wall of Honor. To date, Borough President Adams has allocated \$1 million to the project.

“It may not be sexy to talk about FICO scores and savings accounts, but learning basics of money management is essential if we are going to get serious about Brooklyn’s consumer debt crisis.” Borough President Adams made these comments on Wednesday, November 18th as he launched his partnership between financial institutions and 13 underserved schools in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville, Clinton Hill, Downtown Brooklyn, and Park Slope to bring financial education into classrooms across the borough. The announcement coincided with the release of Borough President Adams’s report, “Countering Consumer Debt in Brooklyn: Strengthening Communities by Raising Financial Literacy,” an analysis of the borough’s credit crisis that includes recommendations to improve financial security. In recent months, Borough President Adams has held a public hearing and conducted surveys to get feedback from financial institutions and local residents on the state of the borough’s financial literacy. His report identifies four major areas as causes of Brooklyn’s poor credit: a lack of economic opportunity in certain communities; a lack of basic financial education; residents living beyond their available means, and a lack of family communication.



Photo Credit: Stefan Ringel/Brooklyn BP’s Office



BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC L. ADAMS’ MESSAGE OF THE MONTH



WHAT’S UP AT BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL?

On Monday, November 2nd, Borough President Adams was honored by New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, a leading statewide advocacy organization, with its Steven McDonald Law Enforcement Award for his strong commitment to battling the deadly use of illegal firearms, dating back to his time as a member of the NYPD. As a State Senator, he was a key figure in the passage of the NY SAFE (New York Secure Ammunition and Firearms Enforcement) Act. More recently, Borough President Adams launched a public campaign urging Brooklynites to take action on reducing gun violence in their communities, and authored a gun safety report proposing the use of micro-stamping, fingerprint technology, and data shar-

ing between gun dealers and law enforcement officials.

Furthering his commitment to offer free legal services to underserved Brooklynites, Borough President Adams partnered with the Legal Aid Society to hold a comprehensive clinic on Wednesday, November 4th at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Attorneys offered legal advice and assistance with issues including Senior Citizen/Disability Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE/DRIE) eligibility, Medicare savings, landlord/tenant responsibilities, Section 8 issues, and a host of other housing related matters. He also held two separate “Know Your Rights” workshops to educate older adults, renters, and the community at large on their legal rights.

Providing clear guidance to youth organizations, Borough President Adams hosted the first in an ongoing series of quarterly capacity building workshops at Brooklyn Borough Hall on Thursday, November 5th, which focused on the importance of technology, social media, writing a business plan, and more. With the goal of enhancing the growth of organizations which serve our borough’s young people through sports, academics, and other creative outlets, a facilitator addressed the participants and companies present during and after the workshop in order to provide these support services.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAYS, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Brooklyn Crochets for a Cause!
(Organ Donation Awareness)

**2ND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
2:00 PM-5:00 PM**
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80
*Access to Legal Service – Foreclosure
Intervention/Prevention Services*

**2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY OF EVERY
MONTH, 2:00 PM-5:00 PM**
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80
*Access to Legal Service – Elder Law/Housing
Law/Pension Law Services*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH
3:30 PM-4:30 PM**
Congregation Mount Sinai
250 Cadman Plaza West
“We Can End Gun Violence” Interfaith Service

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
6:00 PM-7:00 PM**
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Exterior Christmas Tree Lighting

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
11:00 AM-12:00 PM**
Brooklyn Borough Hall - Courtroom
National Day of Healing

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
2:00 PM-5:00 PM**
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80
*Free One-to-One Help for Parents of
Young People with Disabilities*

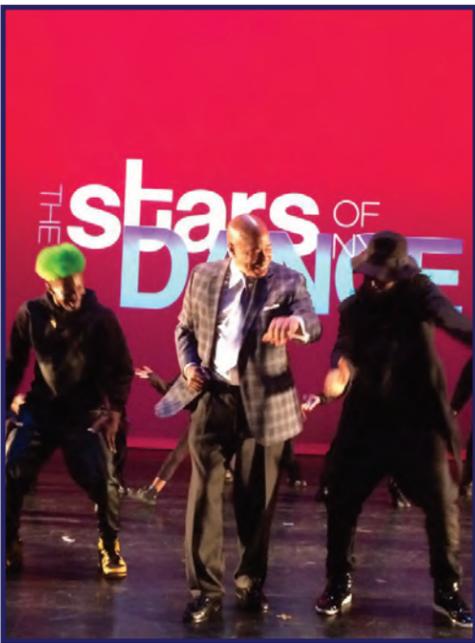
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
6:00 PM-8:00 PM**
Brooklyn Community Board 5 – 127
Pennsylvania Avenue
*Free Legal Clinic to
Fight Residential Displacement*

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
6:30 PM-8:30 PM**
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Community Room
Neighborhoods.NYC Technology Info Session

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
11:00 PM-12:30 AM**
Grand Army Plaza
New Year’s Eve Celebration

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
9:00 PM-12:30 AM**
Steeplechase Plaza
New Year’s Eve Celebration

If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting brooklyn-usa.org for more information or by calling our event hotline at (718) 802-2328. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit www.brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’s paperless notifications, like his Facebook page, and follow @BPEricAdams on Twitter.



Borough President Adams danced the “whip”, the “nae nae”, and the “stanky legg” as he was honored for his three decades of public service during the Sixth Annual Stars of New York Dance at LIU’s Kumble Theater in Fort Greene.

Photo Credit: Sylvia Hamer/Brooklyn BP’s Office



Borough President Adams held a candlelight walk through Carroll Gardens with members of Brooklyn’s French community and hundreds of concerned Brooklynites in response to terror attacks in Paris, as well as recent terrorism impacting Kenya, Lebanon, and communities around the globe.

Photo Credit: Stefan Ringel/Brooklyn BP’s Office



Borough President Adams unveiled “Growing Brooklyn’s Future,” an initiative with over \$2 million in initial investment to create hydroponic classrooms to a dozen schools across Brooklyn, inside a classroom at the Academy of Urban Planning in Bushwick.

Photo Credit: Stefan Ringel/Brooklyn BP’s Office



Borough President Adams stood with local veterans from each of the branches of the United States Armed Forces at a ceremony held in the courtroom of Brooklyn Borough Hall in commemoration of Veterans Day.

Photo Credit: Stefan Ringel/Brooklyn BP’s Office

COMMUNITY ALERTS

Brooklyn salutes its veterans! During his Veterans Day “Start Strong, Finish Strong” resource fair, Borough President Adams honored Brooklyn’s military heroes on Monday, November 9th, in partnership with United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton along with other organizations working on advancing veterans’ welfare. A former chair of the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security, and Military Affairs during his tenure in the New York State Senate, Borough President Adams presented citations to those who have served our nation in each of the branches of the United States Armed Forces. The resource fair included a military vehicle display, care packages for veterans, transition services, and a veterans’ art exhibit organized by local artist Beryl Brenner.

Did you see Borough President Adams do the “stanky legg”? A video of his memorable moves went viral as he was honored on Friday, November 13th for his three decades of public service during the Sixth Annual Stars of New York Dance at LIU’s Kumble Theater in Fort Greene. The charitable judged competition, which also featured dancing from Deputy Borough President Diana Reyna, raises dance education funds for children from low-income communities.

Borough President Adams held a vigil with members of Brooklyn’s French community

and hundreds of concerned Brooklynites on Sunday, November 15th in response to terror attacks in Paris, as well as recent terrorism impacting Kenya, Lebanon, and communities around the globe. The event began in Carroll Gardens, where participants lit candles for peace. The gathering led into a candlelight walk toward an interfaith service at St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church, which regularly offers mass in French.

Honoring those who play a vital role in ensuring the safety of all Brooklynites, Borough President Adams recognized and thanked more than 40 detectives from police precincts across the borough during an awards ceremony on Thursday, November 19th in Brooklyn Borough Hall. Joined by their families, the detectives were cited for the outstanding work they perform as part of their duties, including past and present cases that, in total, have resulted in thousands of arrests.

For years, Borough President Adams has been proud to host “A Celebration of Praise and Thanksgiving Musical Concert” at Brooklyn College’s Walt Whitman Theater in Flatbush. On Sunday, November 22nd, the annual tradition continued with a special evening of thankfulness, music and treats for some of Brooklyn’s underserved children. Attendees of the uplifting event

were asked to bring a non-perishable food item, as well as toys for children in need.

Want to “talk turkey”? Borough President Adams distributed over 1,500 turkeys and 7,000 pounds of trimmings on Monday, November 23rd, including fresh apples, collard greens, potatoes, and yams, to more than one hundred churches and community-based organizations serving Brooklynites in need this Thanksgiving. While helping to load vehicles with packages of food at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, he gave thanks for the sponsors and volunteers that made the large-scale donation, speaking to the spirit of One Brooklyn in giving back during the holiday season.

According to Borough President Adams, “the foundation of Brooklyn is built on its cornerstones.” In what read like a “Who’s Who” of Brooklyn businesses over the past half-century, he honored more than 30 Brooklyn Business Cornerstones, employees who are distinguished by long tenures with their companies, at a Brooklyn Borough Hall ceremony on Tuesday, November 24th. Among those receiving a gold brick symbolic of their special status were famed pizza maker Domenico De Marco of Di Fara Pizza, the chef and owner of the 50-year-old eatery, and Herb Turetzky of the Brooklyn Nets, the only scorekeeper in the franchise’s history.

Every year, more than 2,000 New Yorkers die of seasonal influenza and pneumonia, which can develop as a complication of flu. The illness is caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs, and it can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. To help combat this respiratory infection, Borough President Adams hosted free flu shots for uninsured and underinsured residents, in partnership with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, on Friday, November 6th and Thursday, November 19th at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Yearly vaccination is the best way to prevent becoming infected with the flu. Additionally, to prevent the spread of this and other infections, it is advised that people cover their mouths and noses when they cough or sneeze, as well as wash their hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. More information is available at nyc.gov/flu.

“High-speed access is a prerequisite to progress in 21st century Brooklyn, and we cannot accept roadblocks to progress in any of our communities.” These were the words of Borough President Adams,

a member of the Franchise and Concession Review Committee, in advance of a public forum he hosted with Waiting4FiOS, a coalition made up of advocacy groups Consumers Union and Common Cause/NY, on Tuesday, November 17th at Brooklyn Borough Hall on the local rollout of Verizon FiOS. Under a franchise agreement signed with the City of New York in 2008, Verizon FiOS is guaranteed to all New Yorkers, though an audit by the New York City Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications (DoITT) in June noted that the company has failed to live up to its obligations; under the deal, a complete fiber-optic buildout of the city was supposed to have been accomplished by November of 2014. Representatives from Verizon were on hand for the meeting, which allowed residents and businesses an opportunity to openly discuss their concerns with the service. Brooklynites who would like to share their stories can visit waiting4fios.nyc.

In light of a series of devastating terror attacks that have rocked the global community, Borough President Adams held the first in a series of ongoing counter-

terrorism security meetings designed to harden the soft targets in our borough. More than 20 Brooklyn entertainment venues as well as leadership from the New York City Police Department and New York City Office of Emergency Management met with him on Friday, November 20th to share best practices and receive access to basic training services. While there is currently no credible or specific threat against Brooklyn, Borough President Adams expressed that local establishments, whether big or small, must prepare to expect the unexpected and factor potential threats into their business plans. He recommended the use of NYPD Shield, a public-private partnership seeking to work with private sector security managers to protect the city from terror attacks; those seeking more info can visit nypdshield.org.



Our Constituent Assistance Center is here to serve all of Brooklyn. If you or someone you know are having any issues, or if you have questions about issues like alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup or other community matters, such as the matters in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 802-3777.