announcing $22,500 in new Destination-Brooklyn mini-grants awarded to 15 local arts and culture organizations in support of cultural tourism across the borough. This latest round of grant allocations, funded by the Office of the Brooklyn Borough President and the NYC & Company Foundation, brought the program’s total investment in local arts and culture organizations to more than $560,000 since 2015. The Destination-Brooklyn mini-grants program, now in its fifth year of operation, supports the production of innovative, art-based creative tourism experiences; broadens audience through the creation, production, and distribution of promotional materials. Awards this cycle were granted to artistic enterprises offering creative experiences in music, theater, literature, and poetry, among other mediums, in such neighborhoods as Brooklyn Heights, Crown Heights, Park Slope, Prospect-Lefferts Gardens, and Williamsburg. Borough President Adams shared how the artistic diversity and cultural richness throughout Brooklyn is one of the things that make the borough a prime destination for those seeking cultural, innovative, and transformative experiences. For a full list of current grantees, visit brooklynarts.gov.

Man’s Best Friend, and the owners who love them, got a gift of a playground when ground was broken on Monday, July 29th at the new Kensington Dog Run, located at Conner Avenue and Kermit Place in the Prospect Park Parade Ground. Borough President Adams, in partnership with Council Members Brad Lander and Mathieu Eugene, collectively allocated $405,000 in capital funds for the purpose of building and improving the dog run. At the time of the completion of the dog run, the estimated 20,000 dogs living in the surrounding area now have a dedicated space in which to exercise, play, and socialize. The park illustrates how innovative projects can be used to adapt to a changing climate, such as more than 1,000 trees that will be planted with the inclusion of leafy green produce each year. The park got a gift of a playground, with the support of the Prospect Park Alliance and the New York City Parks Department (NYC Parks). 20,000 dogs living in the surrounding area now have a dedicated space in which to exercise, play, and socialize. The park illustrates how innovative projects can be used to adapt to a changing climate, such as the inclusion of a pedestrian plaza, features that will help to mitigate flooding, which formerly presented a huge problem in that area of the park whenever there was substantial rain. In recognizing that the push for such a facility had been going on for years, Borough President Adams remarked on how the dog run can be a model for how local government can work in partnership with the community to effect positive change.

Borough President Adams joined with a broad coalition of citywide advocates and community leaders on Friday, July 19th to call on the City to adopt policies that require a portion of new residential development in current manufacturing zones including non-residential uses, including community facility, light industrial, and artisan “make” uses. Specifically, the proposal, designed to help ensure that vibrant, mixed-use development occurs, as part of planned re-zonings, charged Mayor Bill de Blasio and the New York City Department of City Planning (DCP) to provide a residential and light industrial zoning type that requires non-residential use on the first floor of a mixed-use building; require a portion of the non-residential space be reserved for defined light industrial, arts, and community facility uses; create guidelines for rent that can be charged to non-residential tenants in mixed-use buildings, and establish leadership and enforcement mechanisms that ensure owners of mixed-use buildings comply with the regulations. Joining Borough President Adams and Borough Community Board 8 (CB 8) in this call were a number of leading citywide advocacy organizations including the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD), Evergreen, Greenpoint Manufacturing and Design District (GMCDD); Brooklyn Community Development, and Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation (SBIDC).

Borough President Adams inspected the goods on his recent visit to the greenhouse at Gotham Greens rooftop farm, on the roof of Whole Foods Market in Geneva. The farm grows in excess of 200,000 pounds of holy green produce each year. If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting brooklynusa.org for more information or by following our event hotline at (718) 802-2322. Additionally, if you wish to speak with the office, visit brooklynusa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’ paperless notifications, like his Facebook page, and follow @BPEricAdams on Twitter and Instagram.

UPCOMING EVENTS

VARIous DATES VARIOUS TIMES
Brooklyn Borough Hall - Room G-80
FREE Legal Services for All

EVERY MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
New York City Parks Department - Brighton Beach
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Constituent Assistance Center
Constituent Assistance Center Walk-In

EVERY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
Brooklyn Borough Hall - Room G-80
SCORE NYC Small Business Mentoring

LATEST INITIATIVES

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COMMUNITY ALERTS

Tune in to News 12 Brooklyn every second Monday from 5:20 PM – 5:30 PM for “Ask the Borough President.” Weigh in live as Borough President Adams discusses topics of the day, in person and in real time. If you have a question you’d like answered, call (718) 861-8672 or tweet using the hashtag #BKAskTheBP.

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 topics such as alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup, or other community matters, including the topics in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 802-3700.