interacting with law enforcement, but many — especially young people — still do not. As heated, violent incidents such as the altercation between police and teenagers that transpired at the Jay Street-MetroTech train station last month show, these confrontations can have dangerous consequences. That’s why Borough President Adams teamed up with Community Counseling and Mediation, a local non-profit, to create a new Know Your Rights pilot program in schools. Homeless students will be trained to offer scenario-based workshops to their peers, showing them what to do when stopped by the police. He also encouraged New York City Police Department (NYPD) leadership to provide more de-escalation training to officers.

Shifting Gears

Pedal to the metal! Borough President Adams joined Citi Bike and community advocates on November 13th to cut the ribbon on a new docking station at the Broadway Junction hub.

Protecting the Amazon

One of the planet’s most precious natural treasures is under threat. For the past few months, wildfires have raged in the Amazon rainforest — and one of the main culprits is animal agriculture. On November 14th, Borough President Adams joined Queens Council Member Costa Constantinides and environmental advocates to announce a new resolution calling on the City to cut ties with deforestation of the Amazon. Borough President Adams’ staunch advocacy around animal agriculture has already yielded results: Earlier this year, all city public schools began Meatless Monday.

If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting www.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 brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’ paperless notifications, “like” his Facebook page, and follow him @BPEricAdams on Twitter and Instagram.
Recognizing World AIDS Day

Since the AIDS virus first materialized in the early 1980s, millions of people — including thousands in Brooklyn — have succumbed to this disease. As a strong advocate for public health in Brooklyn and beyond, Borough President Adams was proud to co-host a 31st Annual World AIDS Day event at Brooklyn Borough Hall in partnership with Visiting Nurse Service. The event featured free HIV testing, guest speakers, giveaways, and more.

COMMUNITY ALERTS

Investing in the Future

A 21st-century economy requires 21st-century educational opportunities. That’s why, earlier this month, Borough President Adams announced a $15 million investment in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEM) education in more than 50 schools throughout the borough, as part of the latest capital budgetary cycle. The money will go toward the construction or completion of 11 hydroponic labs, three maker spaces, a culinary arts lab, and a creative lab. The announcement was particularly emotional for Borough President Adams, as he saw firsthand how previous investments were changing students’ lives. For more information on which schools were awarded money this year, visit brooklynusa.org/press-releases.

Brooklyn Sleeps Out

Over 60,000 people are homeless in New York City and 1 in 10 city public school students doesn’t have permanent housing. On Saturday, December 4, Borough President Adams will be participating in the World’s Big Sleep Out, a night in which people in over 60 cities will sleep out to raise awareness about homelessness. He will sleep on the steps of Borough Hall in solidarity with the men, women, and children who do not have a home here in our city, and call for greater resources to be allocated to this crisis. For more information, visit https://www.bigsleepout.com/.

Helping Small Businesses

Small businesses are the backbone of Brooklyn’s economy, employing thousands of people and pumping millions of dollars into the borough. To help small businesses thrive, Borough President Adams teamed up with the New York City Department of Small Business Services (SBS) to put on the Interagency Small Business Resource Fair at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Representatives from City agencies were on-site to help answer questions about rules and regulations governing small businesses in the city. If you are a small business owner or employee who wants to learn more about how the City can help you, visit www1.nyc.gov/html/sbs/about/contact-us.page.

Make Brooklyn Count!

The decennial census is critical to our democracy. Census data inform the allocation of more than $800 billion in Federal funds, the apportionment of elected representatives, and the redistricting of State and Federal election districts. The #MakeBrooklynCount campaign will work to ensure an accurate and fair demographic and population count during the 2020 Census, which will be conducted by the United States Census Bureau. Brooklyn is considered the “hardest to count” county in all of New York State, and had the lowest response rate in 2010 among all counties nationwide with populations over 500,000. That is why it is so critical that everyone is represented in the 2020 Census.

To encourage greater awareness among youth about how to interact with law enforcement, Borough President Adams announced a new “Know Your Rights” program with Community Counseling and Mediation.

Empowering Youth

Youth participation in politics is surging across the country. Many young people, however, are still looking for ways to make positive change in their communities. On November 13, Brooklyn Borough Hall hosted a Youth Civic Congress, which provided participants with tools for getting involved on the local grassroots level. The event builds on Borough President Adams’ efforts to encourage political participation among youth, including supporting legislation that allows people 16 to 18 years of age to serve on their local community boards.

New Initiative Against Hate

Brooklyn has no place for hate. That was the message delivered by Borough President Adams and the Anti-Defamation League during a joint press conference in November. As anti-Semitic attacks continue to surge throughout the borough, a coalition of elected officials and advocates came to Brooklyn Borough Hall to hail the expansion of an initiative that provides anti-bias education in schools across the city. During the press conference, Borough President Adams urged leaders not to let the “weeds of hate” infiltrate Brooklyn’s “garden of diversity,” and thanked the ADL for their partnership in fighting all forms of bias.

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