

ACROSS THE BOARD

MARCH 2017

VOLUME 39, NO. 3

A Message from the District Manager

***INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON MEN'S
SHELTER AT 1173 BERGEN STREET***

On Tuesday, March 14, 2017 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM, there will be a second informational meeting regarding the men's employment shelter opening at 1173 Bergen Street. The meeting will be held at Uncommon Charter School located at 1485 Pacific Street (between Brooklyn and Kingston Avenues). Come out and express your concerns and have your questions answered by the Mayor's Office, Dept. of Homeless Services, and Core Services, the operator of the facility.

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***AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR RENT***

Pacific Park aka Atlantic Yards, has luxury housing at affordable rents now available at 38 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue for households making \$20,126 to \$173,415.

Currently, 303 newly constructed apartments are being marketed. The expected occupancy date is Summer 2017. Units are available at various rates across multiple income bands. You can apply directly online at [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect). You can also request an application by mail by sending a self-addressed envelope to 38 Sixth at Pacific Park, PO 25136, Brooklyn,

NY 11202. Only send one application per development. Do not apply online and also by paper; this will lead to your application being discarded.

For more information visit [www.38sixth.com](http://www.38sixth.com). **The application deadline is March 14, 2017.**

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LEARN ABOUT SERVICE ELIGIBILITY

The office of Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams is partnering with Benefit Kitchen, a Brooklyn-based company that is helping New Yorkers learn about their eligibility for benefits like child care, public assistance, SNAP, and many others.

Download the app or visit www.app.benefitkitchen.com to get started. Use the "agency code" bbbbenefits. Log in with an email address and take 10 minutes to answer the questionnaire. When you are done, you will have eligibility information and dollar amounts for all the benefits you and your family can receive.

Once you have this information, the office of the Brooklyn Borough President can help you apply. You can contact the Constituent Assistance Center at 718-8002-3700 or call/visit Brooklyn Job Centers on www.nyc.gov/2b6ewl2.

SCRIE AND DRIE APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disabled Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) forms are now available for the 2017 year. These applications assist seniors and the disabled with obtaining rent freezes. The applications can be downloaded and completed online or obtained from the CB 8 office. Applications can be obtained at <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/rentfreeze/tols/scrie-applications.page>.

In addition, if you lost your SCRIE or DRIE benefits in the past for failure to recertify on time, the Dept. of Finance (DOF) wants you to know that if you were receiving this benefit from December 1, 2011 onward and were unable to renew your Rent Free benefit because you needed more time due to a disability or physical impairment, you could still be eligible for the benefit. According to the DOF, tenants/applicants who lost the benefit, then re-entered the program at a higher frozen rent should submit the "application for Additional Time to Renew Lapsed Benefit" form. If you are a tenant/applicant who lost your benefit and have not subsequently re-entered SCRIE/DRIE, you should complete the "Application for Additional Time to Renew Expired Benefit" form. **These forms are available at the SCRIE/DRIE walk-in center located at 66 John Street, 3rd Floor in Manhattan.**

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**HOMEOWNER PROTECTION PROGRAM**

Did you know that since 2010, almost 3,000 New Yorkers have been victims of foreclosure rescue scams? Legitimate help with your mortgage is just a phone call away.

Free, professional advice is available through the NYS Attorney General's Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP). Call 1-855-466-9456 (1-855-HOME-456) today to connect with a qualified legal services or housing counseling professional. Or visit [www.AGScamHelp.com](http://www.AGScamHelp.com).

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BEWARE OF CRAIGSLIST SCAMS

Please heed the advice from the website "Craigslist" when purchasing through their online service. Make sure to do goods exchanges in person in a public place (if at all possible) and do not provide payment to anyone you have not personally met for any product you have not inspected. Beware of offers that involve shipping. Under no circumstances should you wire funds to a stranger or send payment without receiving the item at the same time. Employ the age old adage, "if something sounds too good to be true, it usually is" when purchasing. This will go a long way in preventing you from falling victim to a popular money scamming operation. Use common sense, and heed warnings.

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**WATER RESOURCES ART CONTEST**

The NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection will have its 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Water Resources Art and poetry Contest. Students in grades 2 thru 12 in New York City and East and West of Hudson Watersheds are invited to create original art and compose poetry that reflects and appreciation for shared water resources.

DEP's Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest complements STEM learning as it relates to various aspects of water and the environment. It is also aligned with

NYS Learning Standards and NYC Performance Standards for elementary, middle, and high school students, and Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects.

For more information about the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Water Resources Art and Poetry Contest, please contact the DEP Education Office at [educationoffice@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:educationoffice@dep.nyc.gov), call 718-595-3506, or visit [http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/env/ironmental\\_education/artpoetry.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/env/ironmental_education/artpoetry.shtml).

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YOUTH SUMMER RESOURCE EXPO

Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo is pleased to present "Youth Summer Resource Expo" on **Sunday, March 12, 2017** from Noon to 6 PM at Ingersoll Community Center, 177 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn. Come learn about summer programs, camps, activities, internships, and employment for youth of all ages. A special program begins at 3 PM. For more information, call the Councilwoman's office at 718-260-9191.

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### ***FREE TAX PREPRATION SERVICES***

**Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo** is pleased to announce that her office will be providing free tax preparation for constituents thru April 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM-4 PM, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. There is no income restriction on the service. Call 347-682-5606 to schedule an appointment.

**Congressman Hakeem Jeffries** is also offering free tax preparation services for individuals making \$64,000 or less every Tuesday from 10 AM to 3 PM from now

thru April 11<sup>th</sup> at Shirley Chisholm State Office Building, 55 Hanson Place, Suite 603, Brooklyn. Bring with you a government issued photo ID; social security cards or ITIN Cards for yourself and all individuals on your return; all W-2 forms, 1099-R, etc.; documents of higher education expenses, including paid tuition, loans received, student loan interest payments, and student fees; child care expenses, provider information, and tax ID number; bank account number and routing number for direct deposit of return.

To schedule a free appointment, call 718-784-0877, and press the \*star\* button.

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MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Senator Jesse Hamilton invites you to attend a Mental Health Advisory Committee Meeting on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017** at 6:30 PM at SUNY Downstate Health Science Building, 395 Lenox Road (between New York Avenue and E. 35th Street), Brooklyn.

The Mental Health and Development Disability Advisory Committee utilizes the unique experiences and knowledge of culturally and ethnically diverse communities in support of mental health and developmental disabilities policies state wide. The committee works on identifying community needs, gaps in services, and advises Senator Hamilton on related matters.

For more information, contact the Senator's office at 718-284-4700.

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## ***WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS***

Senator Jesse Hamilton and Borough President Eric Adams invites you to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Shirley Chisholm Women of Excellence Awards on **Friday, March 17, 2017** at 6:30 PM at St. Francis de Sales School for the Deaf, 260 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to 718-284-4700 or [Hamilton@nysenate.gov](mailto:Hamilton@nysenate.gov).

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SHARE YOUR BROOKLYN STORY

Everybody has a story about their neighborhood. The #mybrooklynstory project wants you to share yours. They are looking to feature photos, artwork, videos, essays or poems/raps about what makes your neighborhood special.

Top prizes include a luxury suite and 10 tickets for a Brooklyn Nets game (plus VIP access); MacBook Air; Canon Rebel T6i Digital Camera; \$500 gift card; Beats pro Headphones. An additional 25 winners will be chosen to receive a \$100 gift card.

For more information about #mybrooklynstory and how to participate in the "Share Your Brooklyn Story Contest," visit www.mybrooklynstory.org. **The contest ends on March 17, 2017.**

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## ***SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM***

Applications are now being accepted for the Summer Youth Employment Program that offers jobs to youth ages 14-24. For more information on eligibility requirements and to obtain an application, visit

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/dycd/index.page>.

**The deadline to apply is March 17, 2017.**

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WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Comptroller Scott Stringer cordially invites you to celebrate Women's History Month on **Tuesday, March 21, 2017** from 6-8 PM at NY Supreme Court, 60 Centre Street, Manhattan. To RSVP, please email RSVP@comptroller.nyc.gov or call 212-669-4466. If you need language translation services or other special accommodations, please call 212-669-4315.

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## ***IMMIGRANT HEALTHCARE RIGHTS***

NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation, the NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, NY Immigration Coalition, and NY Legal Assistance Group is pleased to offer a seminar on Immigrant Healthcare Rights. The seminar will be held on **Wednesday, March 22, 2017** from 6:30-8 PM at Kings County Hospital, T-Building Auditorium, 689 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn.

You will learn about your legal rights as an immigrant; ways you can access healthcare; immigrants' right to privacy; program and services available to you, regardless of immigration status; and tools for protecting immigrants' access to healthcare.

Legal experts will be on site. You can sign up for health insurance. Contact [motley@nychhc.org](mailto:motley@nychhc.org) for more information.

## ***OPTICAL ACADEMY***

On **Friday, March 24, 2017** from 9 AM to 5 PM, there will be a free Optical Academy open to the community—children, parents, residents—at 130 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn. Visit the complete on-site optical shop and receive eye exams, obtain glasses/sunglasses/contacts and accessories.

To register, call 718-493-7736 ext. 220. UFT Vouchers are accepted. Eye exams are \$30. Add an additional \$30 for contact lens exams. Frames and Lens starting at \$29. All insurances accepted. Visit [www.optical-academy.com](http://www.optical-academy.com) for more information.

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RESIDENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams is offering a free, participatory workshop to build your community organizing skills. The workshop will be offered on **Friday, March 24, 2017** from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

For more information and to RSVP, contact info@nhsbrooklyn.org, call 718-469-4679, or visit www.nhsbrooklyn.org.

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## ***BLUE 1647: GIRLS TECH CHALLENGE***

Senator Jesse Hamilton is pleased to present Blue 1647 Girls Tech Challenge. The event will be held on **Saturday, March 25, 2017** from 8 AM to 8 PM at Medgar Evers College, 1650 Bedford Avenue (between Crown and Montgomery Streets), Brooklyn.

For more information, contact the Senator's office at 718-284-4700.

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WOMEN AND THE ABOLITIONIST MOVEMENT

Senator Jesse Hamilton is pleased to present Women and the Abolitionist Movement, an academic conference bringing together public history with the academic world, exploring connections between the Women's and Abolitionist movements with a focus on Brooklyn and New York City.

The event will be held on **Sunday, March 26, 2017 from Noon to 5 PM** at Medgar Evers College, 1650 Bedford Avenue (between Crown and Montgomery Streets), Brooklyn.

For more information, please call the Senator's office at 718-284-4700.

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## ***FINANCIAL EDUCATION SEMINAR FOR BROOKLYN'S DANCERS AND ARTISTS***

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and Gallim Dance invite you to a Financial Education Seminar for Brooklyn's dancers and artists on **Tuesday, March 28, 2017** from 6-8 PM at Gallim Studio, 520 Clinton Avenue, Brooklyn.

Topics include budgeting and savings; credit, credit cards, and credit reporting; retirement plans; income tax; insurance; and business and entrepreneurship.

Space is limited. Please RSVP to [www.Brooklyn-usa.org/fe-dancers](http://www.Brooklyn-usa.org/fe-dancers). If you have any questions, call 718-802-3700.

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**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
CELEBRATION**

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams invites you to participate in a series of workshops tailored to educate, engage, enlighten, and empower women. There will be focus on entrepreneurship, finance, and health. The event will be held on **Thursday, March 30, 2017** at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn. RSVP to 718-802-3531 or www.brooklyn-usa.org/womenshistory2017.

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**MOBILE CARE CLINIC**

The **Crown Heights Community Mediation Center** and **Legal Hand** along with the **American Italian Cancer Foundation** will be bringing a **Mobile Care Clinic** to Crown Heights on **Thursday, March 30, 2017** from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. The Mobile Care Clinic will be stationed in front of the Mediation Center at 250 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn.

No cost digital mammograms and clinical breast exams will be provided to women ages 40+ that currently live in New York City, and who have not had a mammogram in the last 12 months. No co-pays are required and deductibles are waived. Uninsured patients are welcomed.

To schedule an appointment, call 718-619-4248 or 1-877-628-9090.

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**7TH ANNUAL CINDERELLA PROJECT
PROM DRESS DRIVE**

The Brooklyn Cinderella Project (BCP) is pleased to present its 7th Annual Prom Dress Drive. Donate your gently used or

new gowns, formal dresses, shoes, and accessories to build a young ladies self-esteem and to help her enjoy a prom or special occasion! The BCP is seeking prom appropriate, graduation appropriate, and semi-formal clothing.

Donations will be accepted until April 16, 2017 and can be dropped off at Janette Beauty Salon, 726 Nostrand Avenue from 10 AM to 6 PM every Friday (ask for Rosa, 347-299-2775); or Greene and Green Uniforms, 482 Tompkins Avenue, every Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM (ask for Elaine, 646-707-7703). You can also schedule to have you donations picked up from your location by emailing gwr9003@gmail.com.

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**PROM DRESS AND SUIT DRIVE**

Belle and Beau of the Ball is an annual dress and suit drive by the Junior League of Brooklyn and Kappa Beta Sigma chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, providing attire for young men and women in need of preparing for senior prom, graduation, and other formal events.

They are looking for donations for both girls and boys in the form of formal dress ware including prom appropriate dresses and suits/tuxedos and semi-formal wear. Shoes in all sizes are needed as well as ties, cufflinks, handkerchiefs, etc.

Donations can be dropped off to the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, 355 Adams Street, Suite 2700 from 9 AM to 5 PM, Monday thru Friday; Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street from 9 AM to 5 PM, Monday thru Friday; 399 Atlantic Avenue, 9 AM to 5 PM Monday thru Friday and Saturday from 9 AM to 1 PM; Investors Bank, 431-433 Court Street,

8:30 AM to 6 PM Monday thru Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 AM to 7 PM Thursday, and Saturday from 8:30 AM to 2 PM.

**Donations will be accepted through April 10, 2017.**

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FREE LEGAL SERVICES FOR ALL

Borough President Eric Adams is pleased to present Free Legal Services for All at “The People’s House, Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

Legal services are offered in a variety of fields including foreclosure intervention and prevention every second Wednesday of the month from 2-5 PM; veterans’ issues every Tuesday from 9 AM to 5 PM; domestic violence every third Monday from 10 AM to 4 PM; family law every Wednesday from 4-7 PM; and housing matters, trusts and estates, elder law, and government benefits every second Thursday from 2-5 PM.

Please call 718-802-3777 to make an appointment for this free service as appointments are required.

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We thank the individuals that are doing their part in keeping the District clean. Because of your efforts, the **scorecard rating for the month of February was 90.3 for streets and 98.0 for sidewalks.**

We urge everyone to adhere to the **Dept. of Sanitation’s residential enforcement routing times of 8 AM to 9 AM and 5 PM to 6 PM daily.** The front of your property should be swept and free of debris 18 inches into the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly.

Thank you for your assistance in helping to keep our District clean.

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The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 02/27/17 through 03/05/17.

	Year-to-Date		
	2017	2016	%Chg
Murder	0	1	-100
Rape	5	2	150
Robbery	37	38	-2.6
Felony Assault	46	80	-42.5
Burglary	45	36	25
Grand Larceny	55	75	-26.7
GL Auto	11	20	-45

The overall change year-to-date is -21%.

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The following is a summary of the year-to-date F.D.N.Y Emergency Statistics through February 2017.

|                                | Month | YTD  |
|--------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Structural Fires</b>        | 25    | 55   |
| <b>Non-Structural</b>          | 17    | 34   |
| <b>Total Fires</b>             | 42    | 89   |
| <b>Suspicious Fires</b>        | 1     | 1    |
| <b>Non-Medical Emergencies</b> | 238   | 500  |
| <b>Medical Emergencies</b>     | 301   | 571  |
| <b>Total Incidents</b>         | 592   | 1187 |

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INTERNSHIP AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ACLU Summer Advocacy Institute

From free speech to privacy and from mass incarceration to voting rights, students will become experts on the

issues currently being confronted in the United States' courts and political arena.

The ACLU's Summer Advocacy Institute will bring together a diverse group of students entering their junior and senior years of high school from across the United States to participate in an advanced, firsthand learning experience for the next generation of social justice advocates. Through an intensive 8-day program, students will learn directly from lawyers, lobbyists, community activists, and other experts working to defend the civil rights and liberties critical to a free and open society.

The Close Up Foundation, a DC-based civic-education nonprofit, will serve as a partner with the ACLU to provide substantive experiential learning opportunities that help students hone their skills as issue-focused campaigners. Students will be immersed in the real world of political and legal decision making in Washington, D.C., meeting with elected officials and community organizers as well as participating in workshops with civil rights pioneers and other current youth activists.

If you know of any civil liberties activist superstars that might be interested in the Institute, please encourage them to apply! **Applications are due by Friday, March 31.** Contact Andrew Domingue at adomingue@aclu.org with any questions. For more information or for an application, visit <https://www.aclu.org/feature/aclu-summer-institute>.

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### **Mayor's Office**

The Mayor's Office Internship Program Summer 2017 application is now open.

The internship program provides a unique opportunity to gain experience and develop the capacity to solve New York City's most pressing issues. The mission of the program is to build a diverse pipeline of public service leaders. The Mayor's Office Internship Program offers interns opportunities for professional development through workshops, government engagement, and real world experience.

To apply and for more information, please visit the Internship Program website at <http://on.nyc.gov/nycmointernship>. **The application deadline is April 9, 2017.** For questions about the internships, email [interns@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:interns@cityhall.nyc.gov).

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Comptroller Scott Stringer's Office

The Comptroller's Office is committed to providing a wide range of learning and work opportunities to students with an interest in public service.

Over the course of the nine-week program, interns will participate in hands-on departmental projects in their assigned bureau as well as an overall enrichment program that includes networking opportunities, professional development programming and community service activities.

Students are expected to work 28 hours a week on a Monday – Thursday schedule from June 5th to August 3rd.

For more information or to apply, go to <http://comptroller.nyc.gov/jobs/summer-internship-program/>. **The deadline to apply is March 31, 2017.**

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## **Public Advocate Letitia James's Office**

The Office of the Public Advocate offers several full-time, part-time, and summer internship opportunities with academic credit from colleges and universities.

The Office of the Public Advocate also offers a number of volunteer opportunities. Please note that volunteer opportunities do not require college experience. However, those with work experience in law, social work, public policy, and journalism are especially welcome. Please email cover letter and resume to their volunteer coordinator, Joan Laufer at [jlaufer@pubadvocate.nyc.gov](mailto:jlaufer@pubadvocate.nyc.gov).

**There is a rolling application process.** For more information on internships or volunteering, please visit <http://pubadvocate.nyc.gov/internships-volunteer-employment-opportunities>.

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Brooklyn Navy Yard

The BNYDC Summer Internship Program connects college-attending or college-bound young adults with Navy Yard-based businesses for 8 week summer internships. The Summer Internship Program gives students an opportunity to gain real work experience, exposure to the Brooklyn Navy Yard and the industrial sector, and the opportunity to earn a salary during the summer that may supplement their college costs.

Two sessions are available to accepted interns. Each student is required to choose only one (1) session in which they will participate in.

- Session 1: June 5, 2017 to July 28, 2017

- Session 2: June 26, 2017 to August 18, 2017 (graduating high school seniors from public schools will have a late start on June 29, 2017 since their classes end the previous day)

Before the start of their session, all interns must attend a BNYDC Internship Orientation Session. All interns commit to a 40 hour work week with a one hour unpaid lunch break each day. This totals to 35 paid hours each week. All interns are compensated at \$11/hr. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. **The deadline for all applications is April 15, 2017.**

For more information or to apply, go to <http://brooklynnavyyard.org/employment/summer-internship/>.

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## **DYCD Ladders for Leaders**

The NYC Ladders for Leaders program provides high school and college students the opportunity to participate in summer internships with some of the most dynamic corporations and businesses in New York City.

The NYC Ladders for Leaders program, a component of the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), provides professional internships to NYC youth between the ages of 16 to 22. This competitive process differs from the traditional SYEP model in that it requires applicants to submit an application to one of several community-based organizations (CBO) serving the five boroughs. Applications are evaluated based on academic performance, response to an essay question, and resume. Once participants have been selected, they are engaged in 30-hours of



pre-employment training designed to teach essential workplace readiness skills and business etiquette. Interviews for summer internships are scheduled by their partnering CBO's in a variety of industries from the public and private sectors. Final selections for the six-week internship are made by their partnering employers.

If you are interested in applying to the Ladders for Leaders Program, you MUST complete an SYEP application first to be directed to the Ladders application page. Visit <https://application.nycsyep.com/> to begin the application process and to obtain more information.

**The deadline to apply is March 17, 2017.**

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The next **77th Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, March 13, 2017** at 7:30 PM at Ebenezer Wesleyan Methodist Church, located at 1024 Bergen Street (near Rogers Avenue).

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The next **78<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 28, 2017** at 7 PM at the 78<sup>th</sup> Precinct located at 65 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

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The next meeting of **Community Board No. 8** will be held on **Thursday, April 13, 2017** at 7 PM at PS 9, 80 Underhill Avenue (between Bergen Street and St. Marks Avenue), Brooklyn.

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to Ms. Xeerxeema Jordan, Mr. Meredith Staton, and Ms. Sharon Wedderburn.

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ACROSS THE BOARD is a monthly publication:

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Michelle George, Dist. Manager/Editor
Julia Neale, Community Coordinator
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