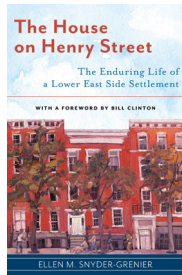


SPECIAL EVENTS BRIGHTENED THE YEAR



THE HISTORY OF HENRY STREET

The first comprehensive history of Henry Street Settlement, *The House on Henry Street: The Enduring Life of a Lower East Side Settlement*, by Ellen Snyder-Grenier, was

published in June 2020 by NYU Press. Snyder-Grenier chronicles Henry Street's pioneering role in social justice and public health reform from 1893 to today, following the blueprint laid by our founder, the trailblazing nurse Lillian Wald. As our community grapples with both the coronavirus pandemic and the ongoing struggle for racial equality, this book reminds us of the pivotal role that the Lower East Side has always played in movements for change. More information on the book at nyupress.org.

LILLIAN WALD SYMPOSIUM

In the midst of a critical election year, with heated discourse surrounding mail-in voting, voter access, and racial disparities, Henry Street Settlement held the fifth annual Lillian Wald Symposium, titled, "Who Gets to Vote," over Zoom on Thursday, September 24.

This virtual discussion saw past and present collide as panelists discussed the implications of the 100-year-old 19th Amendment—allowing women to vote—and the modern-day voting landscape.

The Symposium featured Sean Morales-Doyle, deputy director of the Brennan Center for Justice; public historian Dominique Jean-Louis; Wennie Chin, senior manager of civic engagement with the New York Immigration Coalition; and moderator Katie Vogel, the Settlement's public historian. Henry Street President & CEO David Garza gave introductory remarks, along with New York City Council Member Carlina Rivera.



Companies and nonprofits met with jobseekers at the Open Streets Job Fair.

OPEN STREETS JOBS FAIR

A highlight of the tough summer of 2020 was the Open Streets Job Fair hosted on East 6th Street and Avenue D by Henry Street's Workforce Development Center, featuring the Job Essentials Training and Jobs Plus Lower East Side programs. With opportunities to meet with representatives from multiple industries that were hiring during the pandemic, including security and delivery firms, homecare companies, and social services agencies, the fair attracted well over 100 jobseekers.

While there, fair-goers registered to vote, completed the census, and participated in health screenings with Pace University nursing students who were completing internships with the Settlement's Community Consultation Center. For Lower East Siders, the event, held on a closed street that is usually bustling with cars, gave attendees a chance to come together in a safe, socially distanced way and receive support with their job searches.

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR & WINTER WONDERLAND

Children from Henry Street's programs and throughout the neighborhood didn't miss out on the holidays in 2020; instead they delighted in a haunted garden and winter wonderland as Henry Street's Martin Luther King, Jr. Park was transformed into a spooky scene and later a sparkling paradise!

On Halloween, more than 400 people showed up for timed visits and showed out with incredible energy, impeccable costumes, and face masks replacing Halloween masks. Then, on Saturday, December 12, hundreds of kids and families, including our transitional housing residents and pre-k students, stopped by, one family at a time, for a wintry garden walk-through and socially distanced pictures with Santa. Thanks go out to the Henry Street team whose creative vision and commitment to the children of the community made these events possible.



With animal balloon and candy pail in hand, a trick or treator braves Henry Street's ghostly forest.

Photo: Lawrence Henderson

ABRONS ARTS CENTER

Henry Street's arts center brought multiple exhibitions, performances, and classes outside during the summer of 2020. In the "silver lining" department, Abrons's exhibition *Rainbow Shoe Repair: An Unexpected Theater of Flyness*, which had opened just before the lockdown, had a large outdoor component: long vinyl photo displays that stretched along the facades of Boys & Girls Republic, the Workforce Development Center, and Martin Luther King Jr. Park outside of Henry Street's headquarters. The exhibition showcased portraits taken at a locally famed shoe repair on Delancey Street from the late 1980s to the early 2000s.

Rainbow Shoe Repair was the first of several Abrons collaborations with Photoville, the visual storytelling organization. Curated by Director of Programming Ali Rosa-Salas, additional photo displays appeared in Henry Street locations during the fall by artists Destiny Mata, Gogy Esparza, Elliott Jerome Brown Jr., and Alicia Mersy—the latter two as part of the Abrons AIRspace residency. Mersy's photographs from her project *NURSES* paid homage to the health care workers whose dedication took on enormous importance during the pandemic.



Alicia Mersy, Abrons AIRspace artist in residence, paid homage to health care workers in the outdoor exhibition *NURSES*.