In 2018, the Settlement is celebrating its Quasquicentennial — 125 years of continuous service to our community. We are marking this milestone with some pretty fabulous (if we do say so ourselves) events. The entire year will be punctuated with numerous celebrations — from the grand to the intimate to the virtual. Below is just a sampling of what’s in store.

**The House on Henry Street Exhibition**

In the spring, our permanent interactive exhibition, *The House on Henry Street*, will open to the public. It may be unusual for a social service agency to showcase its history (and receive a competitive National Endowment for the Humanities grant to do so), but Henry Street is anything but usual. The exhibit, on the ground floor of our historic headquarters at 265 Henry Street, will be engaging, educational, free and accessible to all. Later in the year, we will debut our interactive history website (complete with curriculum materials) and our walking tour app, which will take our story to the streets of the Lower East Side.

**The 125th Anniversary Gala: Dinner on Henry Street**

Enjoy a glamorous al fresco dinner on Henry Street while being entertained with theatrical interludes which evoke moments of our past, our present and our future. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in a truly unique New York City experience. Stay tuned for more details about this spectacular celebration, to be held on September 13, 2018.

**Public Programs**

A full roster of exciting (really!) lectures, panel discussions, film screenings and demonstrations will be held, free and open to the public, throughout 2018. Some will be in conjunction with our history partners, The Tenement Museum and the Museum at Eldridge Street Synagogue. Look for events that explore everything from the history of the school lunch (its roots are at the Settlement) to an historical perspective on contemporary LGBTQI arts on the Lower East Side.

**Humans of Henry Street**

Watch for our launch of the *Humans of Henry Street* series in which we profile 125 individuals whose interaction with the Settlement was transformational — in their lives or Henry Street’s. The series will be posted on our website (henrystreet.org) and on our social media channels.

To learn about sponsorship and naming opportunities, request an invitation to the gala, and/or submit stories to Humans of Henry Street, contact info@henrystreet.com.
Henry Street Settlement opens doors of opportunity for Lower East Side residents and all New Yorkers through innovative social service, arts and health care programs. Here’s a snapshot of some latest news:

**FAMILY FUN: Abrons Summer Block Party**

The Abrons Amphitheater was alive with music, dancing, Double Dutch jump roping and even a little bilingual karaoke at the Abrons Arts Center’s Summer Block Party on July 28th. Lower East Side residents were treated to free family entertainment, including face-painting, arts projects and a video game tournament while enjoying hot dogs, popcorn and other refreshments. The emcee for the event, Darrel Martin, had everyone dancing and singing on the warm summer evening.

**Lillian Wald Symposium Tackles IMMIGRANT ISSUES**

The Second Annual Lillian Wald Symposium featured a friendly, frank and lively discussion on the heated and challenging issues of immigration in New York.

The topics of the symposium, entitled *Immigrant New York, The New Majority: Policy, Politics and Programs*, were tackled by a panel of experts: Shanna Castillo, founder of Love Trumps Hate Sunset Park; Zeinab Eyega, Executive Director of Sauti Yetu Center for African Women and Families; Wayne Ho, President and CEO of the Chinese-American Planning Council; Philip Kasinitz, Ph.D., Presidential Scholar of Sociology, CUNY Graduate Center; Baseera Khan, a 2017 Artist in Residence at the Abrons Arts Center; Bitta Mostofi, Assistant Commissioner of the NYC Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs; and Linda Sarsour, racial justice/civil rights activist and former Executive Director of the Arab American Association of New York. The panel was moderated by David Garza, Executive Director of Henry Street.

**WHAT’S NEW (and not so new)? Advocating for our Community**

Like most human service organizations, Henry Street is concerned about new government proposals that would negatively impact our work and those we serve. This concern is nothing new. Since its founding in 1893, Henry Street has been a dedicated advocate for our community, fighting for social justice, civil rights, and access to social services in the local, state, and national arenas.

The Action Center on our website is our latest response to growing dismay about proposals coming out of Washington, D.C. The Center offers resources to help members of our community advocate for themselves, their families and their neighbors. In addition, the Abrons Arts Center established a Speak Up Station in its lobby, where individuals can call elected representatives to voice concerns. Henry Street Settlement also continued its annual tradition of hosting a Town Hall. The September 2016 event brought hundreds of concerned citizens together to discuss community issues, including housing, education, gentrification, police community relations and more. The Town Hall executive summary can be found on our website, as can the Action Center. The 2017 Town Hall will be held on October 22.

**Reimagined LES PLAYGROUND**

Children at Camp Henry and Abrons’ saxophone student Ben Slater provided the musical entertainment at the reopening of the reimagined and revitalized Henry M. Jackson Playground on Henry Street. David Garza, Executive Director of Henry Street, presented Mitchell J. Silver, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, with a commemorative Settlement basketball. The opening ceremony celebrating the $1.6 million restoration was attended by community members and elected officials. Today, many Henry Street programs use the park for outdoor activities.
ARTS MEETS POLITICS: Fall Season at the Abrons

The Abrons Arts Center’s 2017 Fall Season — the first programmed by new director Craig T. Peterson — features performances and exhibitions reflective of the turbulent times we live in.

“Over the last 101 years Abrons has been a home to experimental artists, radical ideas and burgeoning social movements,” said Peterson. “As we launch our fall season, we continue our legacy of challenging the status quo by confronting the issues that are shaping our lives. Gun control, immigration and gentrification are central themes in the performances and exhibitions that will take over our stages and galleries in the coming months.”

Relevant performances include Brooklyn-based theater company Caborca’s adaptation of Roberto Bolaño’s novel *Distant Star*, a harrowing tale of fascism and its aftermath, and performance artist George Emilio Sanchez’s *Bang, Bang, Gun Amok*, a 24-hour “performance filibuster” about gun violence embedded in American culture.

Abrons will also host a free outdoor reading of the United States Constitution. Maya Ciarrocchi’s *A Remedy for a Constitutional Crisis* will include food and drink, participatory writing and political discussion.

Abrons’ family-friendly programming includes a free outdoor performance, *La Casita*, part of Lincoln Center’s Boro-Linc. Artists-in-residence International Contemporary Ensemble [ICE] will offer a children’s program during its OpenICE weekend. And the holiday season special is *ONEOFUS: Jack & the Beanstalk*, written by downtown favorites Mat Fraser and directed by Julie Atlas Muz, with a cast of Lower East Side performers featuring tap-dancing animals, pie fights and more.

*The New York Times* featured the Abrons’ season, highlighting noted theater troupe Elevator Repair Service’s *Everyone’s Fine With Virginia Woolf*, a parody of Edward Albee’s *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, which will premiere in the spring.

HENRY STREET AWARDED $8.4 MILLION by Manhattan DA

Henry Street received $8.4 million, including $2.7 million in capital funding, from Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., to create a Youth Opportunity Hub on the Lower East Side. The announcement was made in February 2017 and the program launched in September 2017.

The grant, to be disbursed over four years, is from the DA’s Criminal Justice Investment Initiative, which redistributes criminal forfeiture funds obtained through settlements with international banks.

The Lower East Side Youth Opportunity Hub is operated by Henry Street in partnership with University Settlement, Educational Alliance, Grand Street Settlement, Chinatown Planning Council and Hamilton Madison House. One of five in New York City, the LES Hub increases access by linking neighborhood service providers to offer one-stop, comprehensive support for at-risk children, teens, and young adults in welcoming facilities, to prevent them from becoming involved in the criminal justice system.

David Garza, Executive Director of Henry Street, said, “These resources are transformative, and will enable us to identify and meet the needs of our young adults in a way that is unprecedented. The program provides a tightly woven safety net that will not only prevent our youth from falling through but, more importantly, lift them up by connecting them to the comprehensive services they need to succeed.”

Honoring SPECIAL SENIORS

There wasn’t a dry eye in house when two seniors — Providencia Rosario and Fidelia (Gloria) Dorival — were honored for 42 years of combined volunteer service to Henry Street Senior Services. Citations from elected officials were read, karaoke was performed, flowers were presented and proclamations in their honor were read.

Henry Street Settlement Executive Director David Garza expressed amazement at the service the honorees had given over the years. “Some people give their time to causes they care about. Some people give their money, and some people give their heart. Each is commendable, but then there are people like you who give all three,” said Garza. “You have emerged as leaders in the community who show us all how to care for each other.”

Both women continue to volunteer on a regular basis. Providencia has served as a greeter, assistant cook, kitchen aide and activity leader, and donated money to the Senior Center. Gloria spent many years as a Senior Companion and, as a cook by trade, volunteers in the kitchen preparing breakfast for the Sunday program, among other roles and contributions.

David Garza, Executive Director of Henry Street, with Lower East Side Youth Opportunity Hub partners and Manhattan DA Cyrus Vance, at the press announcement in February 2017.

Providencia Rosario and Gloria Dorival

David Garza, Executive Director of Henry Street, with Lower East Side Youth Opportunity Hub partners and Manhattan DA Cyrus Vance, at the press announcement in February 2017.
Henry Street Settlement is a member agency of planned giving and naming opportunities with donors. Unrestricted) and memorial/honorarium gifts in any amount. We are happy to discuss.

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Henry Street relies on the generous contributions of supporters. Give with confidence: the Settlement spends 86 cents of every dollar donated on direct client service, and has a four-star rating from Charity Navigator. We welcome monetary donations (restricted or unrestricted) and memorial/honorarium gifts in any amount. We are happy to discuss planned giving and naming opportunities with donors.

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