



**HENRY STREET
SETTLEMENT**

NEWS from HENRY STREET

2016

265 HENRY STREET, NEW YORK NY 10002

212.766.9200

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The Firehouse's Colorful History

When the Settlement moved into 265 Henry Street in 1895, the fire trucks of Americus Engine Company No. 6, their bells clanging, still sped out through the ornate cast-iron decorated façade on their way to battle city blazes. The original firehouse (built in 1854 and rebuilt in 1874) was considered the grandest one at the time and was the first to have sleeping quarters for the members. Its foreman was William M. "Boss" Tweed, head of Tammany Hall. The firehouse, located at 269 Henry Street, has been vacant since November 2001, when the New York City Fire Department relocated the company to nearby Pitt Street.

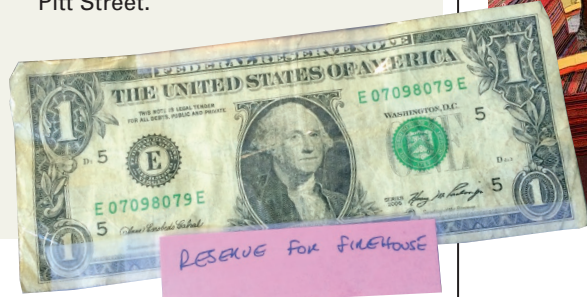
We Bought a FIREHOUSE! (Well, Almost) Returning a Vacant Building to the Community

After efforts spanning more than a decade, Henry Street Settlement is just one small step away from taking ownership of the abandoned firehouse adjacent to its historic headquarters. On September 9, 2015, Mayor Bill de Blasio signed City Council Resolution #835, thereby approving the sale of the firehouse to the Settlement. All that's left is the actual closing.

Construction on the firehouse — scheduled to take about two years — is set to begin immediately after the purchase is final. When completed, the firehouse will add approximately 6,700 square feet to the Settlement's suite of buildings on Henry Street. It will house the Neighborhood Resource Center/Parent Center where community members can enroll in affordable health care and food stamp programs, and receive free financial and legal counseling, among other services.

While the actual purchase price from the city is \$1.00, Henry Street needed to demonstrate that it had the millions of dollars required to renovate and repurpose the space. This was accomplished by the Settlement's ongoing Capital Campaign and most especially by a generous donation from the Robert and Dale Burch family.

"We are eagerly anticipating this critical addition to the Settlement," said David Garza, Executive Director of Henry Street. "Traditionally an anchor for the community, the firehouse will again play the role of 'first responder' for families in crisis — this time ADA-compliant and accessible to all."



Josephine Lume, Chief Financial Officer of Henry Street, is ready to make the deal! The \$1 bill slated for the firehouse purchase is taped to her desk.

Rendering of the future interior lobby of the firehouse.

HENRY STREET happenings

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:

FIRST LADY on Henry Street

Chirlane McCray, First Lady of New York City and Chair of The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, visited Henry Street in July to learn about the Settlement's youth employment programs. She was accompanied by leaders from both the Fund and the Center for Youth Employment, a new public-private initiative to dramatically expand workforce access to youth.

After meeting with Settlement leadership at Henry Street's historic headquarters, the First Lady visited the Workforce Development Center to speak with participants in Project RISE and the Young Adult Internship Program, employment programs for out-of-work, out-of-school youth. One youth praised Project RISE: "I've already gotten an internship! That would have

never happened for me without this program."

Wrapping up her visit, the First Lady asked for questions. An enterprising young man piped up, "Are you hiring?" The First Lady gave him her card and encouraged him to send his resume!



Chirlane McCray, First Lady of New York City, speaks with a youth employment client, as HSS Board Members John Morning (left) and Betsy McKenna look on.

What's Cooking at the SENIOR CENTER?

Meals at senior centers are not usually known for their culinary merits. But at Henry Street's Good Companions Senior Center (GCSC), the meals are not just nutritious — they're delicious! That's because two graduates of the prestigious Johnson & Wales College of Culinary Arts are in the kitchen. Food Services Manager Zechariah Hairston, who studied international cuisine, came to Henry Street after stints at PF Changs, Hotel Nylo and Walt Disney World. Head Chef David Stanford worked at the Standard Hotel and BR Guest Hospitality before joining the GCSC.

From Puerto Rican specialties like pernil with arroz con gandules (pork shoulder with rice and peas) to Asian-inspired pineapple glazed salmon and General Tso's chicken to classics like barbecue chicken, the Center's diverse menu has something for everyone — including vegetarian and kosher options.

Milvi Vehik, Director of the GCSC, raves about the Center's talented chefs. "The food speaks to you — it's seriously that good!" she said.

The secret? It's love.

"We bring our passion and love for food to seniors in a way that's nutritious and also tastes really good!" said Stanford.

Good Companions has been providing a variety of services to the senior community for more than 60 years, and serves lunch and dinner six days per week.



▲ Zechariah Hairston, Food Services Manager, left, with David Sanford, Head Chef.

New Funds GRANTED and Funds RESTORED

The New York City Council awarded Henry Street funds to launch a new aftercare program in its homeless shelters, and also restored imperiled funding for after-school and summer camp at the Boys & Girls Republic (BGR).

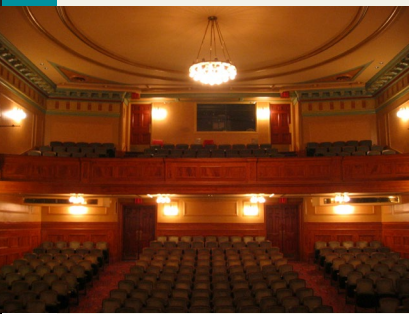
The new aftercare program will provide supportive services to families leaving shelter to smooth the transition into permanent housing. This program was conceived to address recidivism among shelter residents — an issue that emerged from the dozens of focus groups and the Town Hall Meeting held last year, spearheaded by Henry Street's advocacy team in collaboration with program staff.

"Our two-year advocacy initiative revealed that many of our families were returning to shelter because of a dearth of support systems to help them face challenges," said Jeremy Reiss, Deputy Development Officer for Public Policy and External Relations. "We identified a need and created a solution," he said.

The restored funding for BGR — along with funds raised during an emergency appeal — enabled the Settlement to maintain and enhance summer camp programming.

"We are extremely grateful to City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, and Council Members Margaret Chin, Stephen Levin and Rosie Mendez who guided these essential funds to our programs, which help our vulnerable neighbors to make better lives for themselves and their families," said David Garza, Executive Director of Henry Street. "Our enlightened elected officials recognized the value of these programs and worked hard to secure the funding."

The Perfect 100th Birthday Gift? AN OBIE!



For the second consecutive year — and smack in the middle of its centennial yearlong celebration — the Abrons Arts Center won an Obie at the Annual Obie Awards Ceremony, held in May at Webster Hall. The Obies, presented by *The Village Voice*, recognize excellence in Off-Broadway and Off-Off Broadway theater.

The award was given for Dead Centre's production of *Lippy*, which opened at the Abrons to critical acclaim after sold-out runs

in Dublin and Edinburgh. It was co-presented with the Irish Arts Center.

The Abrons is wrapping up the one-year celebration of the centennial of its historic Playhouse, a year that featured a dynamic season of world and New York City premieres by vanguard artists who epitomize the Playhouse's legacy to excite, enrage and astound.

Celebrate the past and be part of the future— Name a seat in the Playhouse!

For more information about purchasing a plaque bearing your name (or that of a friend, relative or business), please call 212.766.9200 x260 or visit henrystreet.org/seatcampaign.

Rise and Shine with NBA Star JAYSON WILLIAMS

Q: What gets Henry Street middle school students up really early in the morning?

A: The opportunity to learn basketball skills from former NBA All Star Jayson Williams!

Each Tuesday morning last spring, 15 enthusiastic (albeit bleary-eyed) middle school students arrived at Henry Street at 6 a.m. to learn basketball skills — and more — from Jayson Williams. After court time and before he walked them to their Lower East Side middle school, Williams treated the students to breakfast. Over pancakes and eggs, he mentored them about accountability, discipline and smart decision making. To qualify for the program, the students (who are in Henry Street after-school programs) had to provide proof that they completed their homework.

The students were so enthusiastic about the program that some traveled from the Bronx and Coney Island to attend the early morning basketball clinic. "It's great to get to know him," said one student. "He's also taught me it's important to be respectful and do better in school. Plus it's great to be walked to school by an NBA star!"

Williams' relationship with Henry Street began when, as an 11-year-old, he and his mother lived in a Settlement homeless shelter. "I've always had a special place in my heart for Henry Street," he said.

And the Settlement is returning the sentiment. "This initiative has been transformative," said Matthew Phifer, Director of Education Services at Henry Street, adding that that because exercise increases brain activity, it the perfect start to the school day. "Jayson's willingness to help out has been amazing," he said, "and we couldn't be more optimistic about the potential this program holds."



► Former NBA All Star Jayson Williams conducting a basketball clinic in the gymnasium at 301 Henry Street.



► Public Advocate Letitia James addressing college scholarship winners at Henry Street.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

Some 74 college bound students — recipients of an Abrons/Aranow Youth Scholarship, Bernard Tannenbaum Memorial Scholarship or Sobie Family Scholarship — were honored at Henry Street's 13th Annual Youth Scholarship Awards Ceremony in June.

Keynote speaker Letitia James, New York City Public Advocate, told the students, "I'm just like you; there's nothing that separates you from me." She detailed her own experience growing up in Brooklyn, dependent on food stamps and attending public schools before embarking on a career that has so far culminated in being elected the first woman of color to hold a city-wide office.

"Close your ears to all of the noise, step out of the shadows, and realize you have been given the power to change the world," she said. She shared words from the popular (and given by the scholars' response, beloved!) rapper, "the poet, Drake," paraphrasing his lyrics: "You started from the bottom—now you're here."

Funding for scholarships is made possible by generous support from the Abrons/Aranow Family, the Tannenbaum Family, the Sobie Family Scholarship Fund, Andrew Fredman/Fredman Family Foundation and the Dr. and Mr. Lifshitz/D & H Family Fund.

TOO OLD TO BE A STAR? Not for Ruth Taube, 91

It's been another year of accolades for Ruth Taube who, at 91, is Henry Street's oldest employee — in both years and years of service. Ruth, Director of the Home Planning Workshop, was named New Yorker of the Week by NY 1 and appeared live on *The Call*. She then went from the local to the national stage when she was the featured chef in the season premiere of The Cooking Channel hit *My Grandmother's Ravioli*, where she showed host Mo Rocca how to make matzo balls. Last year, Ruth was named a Lower East Side Hero by the Lower East Side History Month.



► Ruth Taube and Mo Rocca in the Home Planning Workshop.

ALUMNI FOCUS: Phyllis Lamhut, A Living Legacy

Dance legend and Abrons Arts Center alumna Phyllis Lamhut has been part of the Henry Street family for nearly 70 years.

She first came to the Settlement in 1946 seeking high quality, affordable dance training. “When my parents brought me to Henry Street, [ballet teacher] Anna Naila looked at my feet and said, ‘I’ll take you!’”

That was the start of a long, rich history with Henry Street Settlement’s Abrons Arts Center, and her storied dance career. At the Abrons, she received her professional dance training from famed choreographer, multimedia innovator and pedagogue Alwin “Nik” Nikolais. “The Playhouse was a place to develop our work. Nik nurtured individuality, and I danced in everything,” said Phyllis.

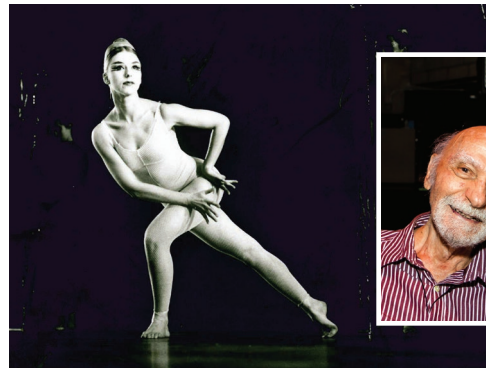
Nik also inspired Phyllis to teach at the Abrons, which she did for many years. Her teaching certificate is signed by former Henry

Street Director Helen Hall, who, Phyllis enthuses, “was wonderful and nurturing.”

These days, Phyllis continues her involvement, serving as a mentor to Jay Wegman, Director of the Abrons.

But her support doesn’t stop there. In addition to refusing complimentary tickets to the numerous performances she attends, she is also a generous donor. “I just feel attached there. I feel if I have it, I give it,” said Phyllis. “I really give because of the heart. Henry Street and the Playhouse need to keep going.”

Phyllis was honored with The Spirit of the Playhouse award at the October 2015 Playhouse Centennial Jamboree.



Phyllis Lamhut performing on the Henry Street Playhouse stage in the 1960s, and posing last fall at the Playhouse with Murray Louis, fellow dancer and former Assistant Director of the Playhouse.

Join the Henry Street ALUMNI NETWORK

Were you (or someone you know) touched by Henry Street? We want to stay connected! If you’d like to be part of the Henry Street Alumni Network, please call 212.766.9200 x260 or visit at www.henrystreet.org/alumnieregistration.

2016 ART SHOW

The Art Show, one of the foremost art fairs in the nation, will be held March 2-6, 2016, at the Park Avenue Armory. The Gala Preview is March 1.

Established in 1989 to benefit Henry Street Settlement, the show — the nation’s longest running fine art fair — is organized by the Art Dealers Association of America and features thoughtfully curated solo, two-person and thematic exhibitions by 72 of the nation’s leading art dealers.

For more information, please call 212.766.9200 x248 or visit henrystreet.org/artshow.

Like What We Do? SUPPORT OUR WORK!

Henry Street Settlement relies on the generous support of individuals to help us provide vital social service, arts and health care programs to 50,000 individuals each year. When you support the Settlement, you can be confident your money goes where it is most needed: 89 cents of every dollar donated goes directly towards helping our clients.



GIVE A GIFT: Your donation to our general operating fund, to support a specific program, to honor an individual or life event, can make a difference today. Ask about our planned giving program to create a lasting legacy.

ATTEND A SPECIAL EVENT: The Art Show, Gala Dinner Dance and other events allow you to enjoy arts, social and cultural events while directly supporting our programs.

VOLUNTEER: Donate your time and expertise (help job seekers prepare resumes, paint a day care classroom, etc.) to have meaningful impact on Henry Street’s programs, clients and facilities.

DONATE GOODS AND SERVICES: Your donation of items (bicycles, art supplies, toys, books and office furniture) or services (photography, printing, etc.) allows us to better meet our clients’ needs.

For more information on ways to support Henry Street, please contact the Development and External Relations Department at 212.766.9200 or visit henrystreet.org/donate.

Checks may be made payable to Henry Street Settlement, 265 Henry Street, New York, NY 10002.

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