



CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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Arts and Culture Committee

Virtual Meeting

March 13, 2023 6:30PM

Hon. George Harrell, Chair

Hon. Wilma Brown Phillips, Vice Chair

Hon. Marquis A. Harrison
Chairperson

Shatic Mitchell
District Manager

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: George Harrell, Wilma Brown Phillips, Kimberly McLaurin, Kamaria

Milford, Jaran David Manzanet, Darryl T. Downing, Milan Reed

Committee Members Absent: Shadawn Smith, Tiffany Bowen, Mikaela Berry, Crystal McKay

Committee Members Excused: Shadawn Smith

Board Members Present: Derek Perkinson, Dominick Boyce, Marquis A. Harrison

Presenters in Attendance: Voza Rivers (Harlem Arts Alliance), Leah Harvey Odom (Cobblestone Theater Group), Gregory Gates (Imagination), Luther Isler (Harlem Bomb Shelter), Erich McMillan (Project 1 Voice)

OVERVIEW

The March, 2023 Arts and Culture Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman George Harrell, with Vice Chair, Wilma Brown Phillips in attendance. The meeting was held virtually with a total of 63 persons in attendance, including the committee members, board members, presenters and guests.

At the start of the meeting, the Arts and Culture Chair and Vice Chair welcomed everyone and asked each committee member to introduce themselves.

The minutes from the previous meeting were not presented during the opening session of the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

Presenter: Voza Rivers, Chairman – Harlem Arts Alliance discussed the overall challenges and Hardships HAA faced due to COVID-19, including the loss of staff and reported the organizations ability to remain active with the help multiple partnerships. Additionally, HAA has continued to provide meals to the community people in need.

HAA will kick off its monthly members meeting on April 24th at 10AM at the Dwyer Cultural Center located at 309 West 123rd Street New York, New York 10027. Invitations have been extended to the arts and culture committees at community board's 9 and 11. For more information go to www.harlemaa.org.

Mr. Rivers also announced details for the "A Celebration of Life" for music performer Chuck Jackson at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture located at 515 Malcolm X Blvd, New York, NY 10037. The event was held on Friday, March 24th at 7 PM and was livestreamed on Youtube at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2LWp-SU7B8>. For more information on HAA and its activities, please visit www.harlemaa.org or call (212) 926-0104.

Presenter: Leah Harvin- Odom – Cobblestone Theater Group

Ms. Leah Harvin-Odom, an arts and culture enthusiast, shared a PowerPoint presentation during the meeting to highlight her initiatives to reintroduce theater programs back into schools. Her theater group, the Cobblestone Theater Group, has already partnered with PS 125 after having been started and implemented programs in PS 200 for 10 years. The theater group conducts an after-school program that meets twice a week.

The Cobblestone Theater Group will feature a reading of the play "Why Mosquitos Buzz in People's Ears" on Friday, March 31st, at 4 PM PS 125 auditorium plans to partner with various senior centers to present performances over the summer.

Arts and Culture committee members, Darryl T. Downing and Co-Chair, Wilma Brown, offered their support to connect Leah Harvin-Odom with senior centers. Contact details for Leah Harvin-Odom and the Cobblestone Theater Group are available at www.thecobblestonetheatergroup.com or via email at leahodom23@gmail.com. The Community Board 10 Arts & Culture Committee will continue to work towards promoting and supporting initiatives that help bring arts and culture back to schools and communities.

Presenter: Gregory Gates, Executive Producer – Imagenation

Mr. Gates presented a visual trailer for the Black Anime Con scheduled for July 15th. The Black Anime Con is an event that celebrates black anime culture and is expected to draw in a significant audience.

Furthermore, the Outdoor Film Festival schedule for 2023 was presented, providing attendees with a glimpse of the upcoming movies that will be shown. For more information about the Black Anime Con, please visit www.blackanimecon.com. Additionally, for details on the Outdoor Film Festival, please contact or contact, www.imagenation.us.

Presenter: Luther Isler, Founder - Harlem Bomb Shelter

Mr. Isler announced a series of programs and initiatives that include, The Bomb Squad which provides mentorship opportunities to (5) young aspiring poets. The Harlem Bomb Shelter meets every 5th Thursday "Healing Is the Bomb at 6:30PM at The Conversation Room located at 653 Lenox Avenue. For more information visit www.theharlembombshelter.com

Presenter: Erich Mc Millan McCall, President and CEO of Project 1 Voice announced upcoming opportunities for community engagement for performances at Dance Theatre of Harlem

Proclamation Presented by Manhattan Community Board 10- to Vy Higginsen and Aleathia

Brown Community Board 10 Chairman Marquis A. Harrison presented proclamations in honor of Women's History Month. One was presented to Vy Higginsen, a theater producer, playwright, author, and radio personality, for her outstanding contributions to Harlem and the African American Community. Another was presented to Aleathia Brown, a visual artist, for her remarkable contributions to arts and community development in Harlem.

During the meeting, Chairman Harrell expressed his gratitude to Vice Chair Wilma Brown Phillips and Jasmin Heatley for their exceptional efforts.