



CITY OF NEW YORK
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD
FOUR**

424 West 33rd Street, Suite
#580 New York, NY 10001
tel: 212-736-4536
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

JEFFREY LEFRANCOIS
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

May 9, 2023

Hon. Eric Adams
Mayor
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Re: New York Public Library Adult Education Programming

Dear Mayor Adams,

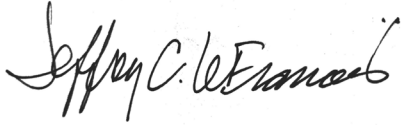
Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) urges you to restore all funding to the New York Public Library system. For more than a century, the New York Public Library (NYPL) system has been an essential resource for communities across New York City, including in our district. In addition to its regular services, the NYPL is now helping to assist newly arrived asylum families and individuals seeking asylum with a vast array of in-depth and drop-in adult learning programs. At its full Board meeting on May 3, 2023, MCB4 voted 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 1 present not eligible to support restoring the proposed funding cuts for the NYPL.

On April 11, 2023, at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Art, Culture, Education & Street Life committee (ACES) of MCB4, Dr. Brandy McNeil, Deputy Director Of Digital Literacy, updated the committee on the numerous free services that the New York Public Library is providing to the growing number of asylum seeking families living in several hotels in our district that are being managed by the Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Centers (HERCS.) These services include translation services, story-time for children, English language learning, teen services, technology instruction, and others.

Dr. McNeil informed the committee that these cuts will have a detrimental impact on NYPL's ability to deliver the vital free services, resources, and programs that New Yorkers depend on, including our local residents. The proposed cuts will result in reduced days and

hours of service at a time when NYPL is doing more and the need for quality and free education, learning programs, and social services increases exponentially.

Sincerely,



Jeffery LeFrancois
Chair
Community Board 4



Allen Oster
Co-Chair
ACES Committee



Kit Tollerson
Co-Chair
ACES Committee

CC: Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough Presidents office
Hon. Erik Bottcher, City Council
New York Public Library