

# CITY ACCESS

NEW YORK

A Not-For-Profit Organization Supporting  
New Yorkers Of All Abilities



## 2023 Achievement Dinner And Auction Gala



Figure 1 Dancing at the CANY Gala

Once again, our annual gala was a success. Honoring the outstanding individuals who made City Access New York possible was a pleasure. Music, dancing, and a cocktail reception kicked off the evening! The event ended with a live and silent auction. Remembering what brought everyone together on this particular day is always important. Everything is rendered possible by our exceptional participants. We value all staff and committee members' efforts to promote participant maximum independence and raise much needed funds for our programs that support the developmentally disabled and visually impaired. Most importantly, improving participant quality of life.

## The Return of Fleet Week

Our participants had a great time at fleet week! This event allows NY citizens of all boroughs to meet and honor our Coastguard, Marines, and Sailors. Interestingly the first annual event was held in 1998 and coincides with Memorial Day. Not only is this event for the citizens, but this gives the marines, coastguards, and sailors a chance to experience the Big Apple.



Figure 2 Brooklyn Day Hab at Fleet Week

## Supported Employment Program



Figure 3 Daanyaal D working at Marshall's.

Congratulations to Daanyaal D on being employed by Marshall's as a merchandise associate. CANY is so proud of you, Daanyaal! Thank you to all the staff that supported him in reaching his goals!



Figure 4 Liam interning at Batsu



Figure 5 Gypsy interning at Huntington Free library



Figure 6 Andrea interning with the Long Island Bombers

Liam, Gypsy, and Andrea are interns in the Career Discovery Program. They successfully obtained a spring semester internship. In the image on the left, Liam is working at BATSU, which in Manhattan is a Japanese comedy club. This kind of humor is introduced to America by BATSU. The comedians will compete to avoid the penalties of losing the game. Liam assists actors in fitting costumes and directs spectators to their seats. The Bronx's Huntington Free Library employs Gypsy. The library is a not-for-profit organization managed entirely by volunteers. Among other historical records, maps, photographs, and letters are organized and preserved by Gypsy. Lastly, Andrea is filming a practice session for the Long Island Bombers in the picture to the right. The Long Island Bombers is a beep baseball team for visually impaired and blind athletes. Andrea's role is photography, filming, and scheduling events for the team.

## **Music Class at City Access New York**



Figure 7 Angel playing the Harp

Music class is top-rated among the Staten Island and Brooklyn Day Hab participants. Music allows them to express their emotions uniquely and boosts their socialization among their peers. Angel is shown playing the harp and articulating himself musically. Special shoutout to Joseph P Piccinini for making this possible.



**Figure 8 Dancing at CANY Cruise**

**Figure 9 Brunch at the CANY Cruise.**

The annual cruise by City Access New York launched in the summer. Everyone delighted in the magnificent views of Manhattan, which sailed from the Brooklyn Army Terminal. This offered staff and participants a chance to spend time together while also welcoming summer and honoring everyone's commitment. It was a wonderful day on a summer cruise with buffets, dancing, and tasty cold drinks. Yet, the CANY summer has only begun, and we eagerly anticipate the exciting activities we have planned!

## **SOS Rally!**



**Figure 10 Protesting for the Cost-of-Living Adjustment for the non profit I/DD sector.**

Another victory for City Access New York involving a cost-of-living adjustment for the non-profit I/DD service sector. However, this is just the beginning of changing the system of the service sector. With chronic underfunding and neglect by the state, hearing all the stories, struggles, and dreams of disabled activists shows how much needs to change. Be an advocate and voice for the community for those who cannot speak up for themselves. Thank you to the DSPs for putting their heart into this job and being able to support our individuals' independence; sometimes, amid everything going on in the world, it's touching to see those who care about equity, equality, and humanity as a whole. Let's keep it up!

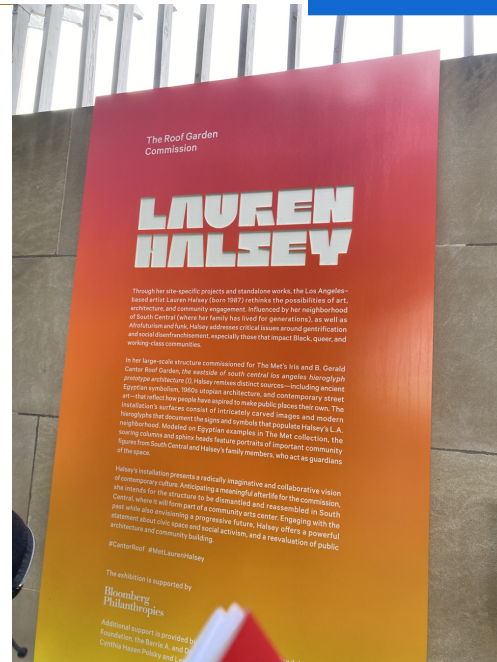


Figure 11 The Roof Garden Commission:  
Lauren Halsey

Figure 12 Background on Laurens Art

Figure 13 Remix of the Sphinx

It is always a great time at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. As seen in the picture, this is the Lauren Halsey Exhibit. This is called the East Side South Central Los Angeles Hieroglyph Prototype Architecture. The architectural design was filled with signage, flags, fliers, and documents. The Day Hab program visits this museum frequently and especially enjoys this exhibit. It was fascinating how Lauren incorporated a pharaonic temple with black culture of South Central Los Angeles.

## Job Promotions at City Access New York!

A well-deserved congratulations to Beatrice Lassends on her promotion to Assistant Program Manager of Day Hab

Congratulations to Francesca Farin's expanded role as Director of HR and administration.

Congratulations  
to Amena Girgis  
on her promotion  
as the Day Hab  
Manager!



Figure 14 Diversity

**Participants and their Families Showing Gratitude  
to CANY**

THANK YOU TO  
CITY ACCESS NEW YORK  
AND THE WONDERFUL STAFF  
*for* ALL THE SUPPORT YOU  
HAVE SHOWN ME  
AND THE BEST PROGRAMS  
I'M SO HAPPY TO BE A PART OF.

*Jesse Oge*  
JESSE OGE



Figure 15 Jesse O expressing gratitude

*For Alexandria Hawker*

Continued success to City Access  
and Family for providing  
programs that significantly  
enhances the lives of our youngsters



Sherrand Mclean-Hawker



Figure 16 Alexandria H and family giving thanks to CANY



*Bernice Stuckey & Cinobia Simon  
would like to thank  
City Access and Staff  
For your hard work in making sure  
our participant succeeds in Life!*



Figure 17 Cinobia A and family thank you note to CANY