



50
YEARS



The BronxWorks March 2023 Newsletter

PREVIEWING THE
BRONXWORKS 50TH
ANNIVERSARY GALA



MONADNOCK
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

MONADNOCK

DEVELOPMENT



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FEATURED STORY

The BronxWorks 50th Anniversary Gala

Join us on May 18th to celebrate 50 years of BronxWorks. Founded in 1972, BronxWorks has played been influential in the advancement of Bronx communities and residents with every passing decade. The 50th Anniversary Gala at the New York Botanical Garden will look back on half a century of our programs and services, from our early years as the Citizens Advice Bureau, to our evolution as BronxWorks and our integral ties to the borough. It will bring together our leadership, and our closest friends, partners, and supporters, to renew our commitment to our work for the next half century to build a better future for the Bronx.



We are thrilled to have our event in the Bronx at the esteemed New York Botanical Garden. Established in 1891, NYBG is a major educational institution, a 250-acre living museum with over one million live plants across the landscape, and one of the world's largest plant research and conservation programs. The BronxWorks 50th Anniversary Gala will start with a cocktail reception outside of the Garden Terrace Cafe with sweeping views overlooking the Conservatory, followed by dinner and our program in the Garden Terrace Room.



Honoring



Douglas M. Tween

Partner, Linklaters LLP

Member, BronxWorks Board Of Directors

Doug Tween is a partner at Linklaters LLP based in the New York office, where he serves as head of the firm's U.S. Government Enforcement and Cartel Practice group. His work covers white collar criminal and regulatory investigations, as well as complex civil litigation and class actions. He also advises on crisis management, conducts internal investigations, and assists corporations with compliance, risk management, and governance issues. Doug earned his BA from Columbia College and his JD from Northwestern University School of Law. He joined the BronxWorks Board of Directors in 2015 and sits on the Risk Committee and the Governance and Nominating Committee. Doug is also a past Co-Chair of the American Bar Association's Compliance and Ethics Committee.

MONADNOCK CONSTRUCTION, INC.

MONADNOCK

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Monadnock was founded in Brooklyn over 40 years ago by Nick Lembo, and has always done business under that name. Nick started the company as a masonry operation with just himself and three employees, but quickly expanded into a large high-rise union mason and eventually into General Contracting, Construction Management, and Real Estate Development. The company grew steadily to its current team of over 200 people with anywhere from 10-15 active job sites at any given time. BronxWorks and Monadnock have a strong working relationship and are extremely proud of the success of recent collaborations at Park Haven and the Compass Buildings. Together, BronxWorks and Monadnock are working to build a stronger Bronx and look forward to the promise of future projects.

And Introducing Our Master of Ceremonies



Seth Meyers

Host, NBC's "Late Night With Seth Meyers"

BronxWorks is incredibly excited to announce Emmy Award-winning writer and comedian

Seth Meyers will act as our Master of Ceremonies for the 50th Anniversary Gala! Meyers is a New York Times best-selling author and host of NBC's "Late Night with Seth Meyers." He began his TV career with "Saturday Night Live" in 2001, where he was a cast member for 13 seasons. He served as head writer for nine seasons and "Weekend Update" anchor for eight. In 2019, he released his debut standup special, "Lobby Baby," on Netflix. Meyers executive produces Peacock's "The Amber Ruffin Show" and IFC's "Documentary Now!," and in total has garnered 27 Emmy nominations. His children's book, "I'm Not Scared, You're Scared," was released in March 2022.

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Thank You To Our Sponsors!



BronxWorks sincerely thanks the following donors for their generous and continued support of our mission for the BronxWorks 50th Anniversary Gala.

as of March 29, 2023

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STAFF PROFILE

Gianna Dell'Olio, Director of Advancement and Communications

If you've ever joined a meeting with Gianna just a few minutes early, you'll soon find that you know a thing or two about Gianna's life

that you didn't know before. Over time, the more minutes you get to spend talking with Gianna, the more you'll come to know about who she is, about her family, and about her commitment to her hometown, The Bronx. Gianna is that type of person you hear so much about, but you rarely encounter in genuine form – the type of person who wears their heart on their sleeve. In her line of work as Director of Advancement and Communications, that is a quality of the utmost significance. With everything that Gianna shares comes a generous dose of sincerity and friendship.



Gianna was born and raised in the West Farms/Morris Park section of the Bronx. She lived in the Bronx until her early 30s. Gianna remembers growing up in a neighborhood that was incredibly diverse with families from different backgrounds and cultures.

“I remember it was the quintessential Bronx, tightknit neighborhood where everybody knew everybody.”

After graduating high school, Gianna attended St. John's University, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications. She worked for many years in sales, marketing and advertising, before making a career change to Development. When the opportunity came in 2015, she joined BronxWorks as the Director of Communications and Advancement. Leading a team of fundraisers and communications professionals, Gianna oversees all of the public relations, marketing, and promotional operations for the entire organization. Every year, she organizes annual fundraisers, including a formal gala, the #TeamBronxWorks NYC Marathon runners, Giving Tuesday, Year End Appeal, and so much more.

“I see the other departments as internal clients. We support their work, we amplify their work, we help get the message out about the incredible need and the incredible accomplishments.”

In all things, Gianna is singularly focused on advancing the impact of BronxWorks programs. “I wanted the mission-driven work,” she says, “In the department, Ken Small and his team support the public funding side and we support the individual, corporation, and communications side.”

Outside of work, Gianna is all about her family. She is a mother of two, a 14-year-old daughter who has a passion for performance art, and an 11-year-old son, who has a significant following on his YouTube channel. Whenever she has time, Gianna loves to camp with her family, work on home improvement projects, and thrift.



DID YOU KNOW

BronxWorks Offering Free Tax Services



With Tax Day coming up on April 18, BronxWorks is offering free tax preparation services to lower income individuals and families in the Bronx, regardless of immigration or naturalization status. We also assist qualified residents in the Bronx apply for the earned income tax credit. BronxWorks tax preparers are IRS-certified and trained. Every year we assist an average of 5,000 clients from January to April. See if you qualify and book an appointment at <https://bronxworks.org/vita>.



PHOTO ESSAY



BronxWorks Older Adults Celebrate International Women's Day

On March 8, older adults from BronxWorks Older Adult Centers came together to celebrate International Women's Day. Women leaders from around the Bronx, including Deputy Bronx Borough President Janet Peguero (top left, speaking), shared stories of their experiences. The words shared were inspiring reminders to our seniors showing how women in their community have achieved success.



BronxWorks Social Workers Appreciation Breakfast

March is National Social Work Month. The BronxWorks Social Work Committee

hosted their annual Social Workers Appreciation event on March 15, the first time hosting an in-person event since March 10, 2020! Social workers and social work interns from a diverse set of BronxWorks programs came together at the Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center for a hot breakfast and a fun ice-breaker game. The event is held for BronxWorks to say thank you to the incredible work and dedication of all our social workers. [Read more here.](#)



(L-R) Darcel D. Clark, Bronx District Attorney; Maggie Greenfield, Executive Director, Bronx River Alliance;

Linda Kemp, Founder, Bringing the Peace Inc.; Eileen Torres, Executive Director, BronxWorks;

Tanya Pedler, Tenant Association President, NYCHA Morrisania Air Rights; Rep. Ritchie Torres, U.S. Congressman, District 15

Executive Director Eileen Torres Honored

Congressman Ritchie Torres (NY-15) honored BronxWorks Executive Director Eileen Torres alongside three other Bronx women leaders at the New York Botanical Garden Women's History Month Celebration on March 16. The annual celebration honors local community leaders who have dedicated their lives and work to advocating for underserved populations. [Learn more here.](#)



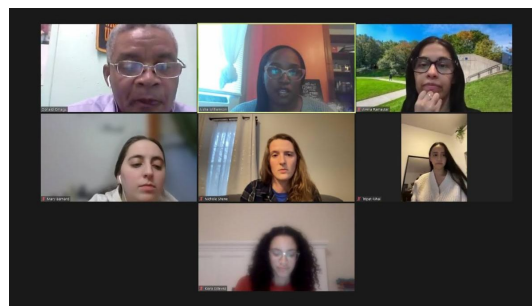
Family Outreach Event

The BronxWorks Family Wellness program and Adult Literacy cohosted an event to spread information about some new program offerings at BronxWorks targeted at Bronx families. Dozens of our neighbors came and enjoyed a cooking demo from our SNAP-Ed program as well as some fun games and prizes. There was a photo booth as well as an affirmations activity that families participated in together. Participants also signed up for our Saturday Wellness program, adult literacy classes and more.



HIPPY Read Across America Day

The BronxWorks Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program celebrated Read Across America day on March 2. Parents and children had fun together making Green Eggs And Ham as well as other art projects. Families also took time to read together. HIPPY is a home-based early childhood development and parent education program that gives parents the tools to be their children's first teachers. [Learn more here.](#)



CAFE Major Career Exploration Virtual Panel

The BronxWorks Center for Achieving Future Education (CAFE) program held two virtual panels for current high school and college students exploring different college major career paths and fields of study. Professionals from across multiple vocations, including business, psychology, and computer science spoke to students in attendance about their college experiences and shared tips and encouragement as the students prepare to take the next step in their

lives.



Youth Workforce Hiring Event

The BronxWorks Youth Workforce Programs hosted a hiring event for adults ages 18-24 at the BronxWorks Carolyn McLaughlin Community Center. Job seekers came to the event and received information about BronxWorks Workforce Development programs like Jobs-Plus and the BronxWorks Fatherhood Center that provide resume help and training for security guard and OSHA30 licenses among many other helpful career tools. Attendees also had the chance to speak with hiring representatives and apply to jobs at BronxWorks and other local organizations looking for new employees. Events like these targeted at younger adults help build our future workforce and break the cycle of poverty one person at a time.



BronxWorks Mid-Winter Camp

All BronxWorks after-school programs hosted Mid-Winter Camp for their students during the February NYC School Mid-Winter Break. Students played together at our community center and many took trips to some fun places, including the aquarium and the Crayola Factory! [See more pictures here.](#)



WAYS TO SUPPORT

Support #TeamBronxWorks at the 2023 TD Five Boro Bike Tour!



BronxWorks is proud to have 17 participants in the 2023 TD Five Boro Bike Tour on May 7, 2023! All riders commit to raising \$750 each for children's programs at our shelters for homeless families. Our team includes three staff members, one BronxWorks Board member, five staff from Endurant Energy, and six staff from Bronx Pro Group! [Please support their efforts here!](#)

There are many other ways you can support BronxWorks.

- Make a contribution. [Donate Now!](#)
- Become an early sponsor of the [BronxWorks 50th Anniversary Gala!](#)
- Join or Support #TeamBronxWorks at the [2023 TD Five Boro Bike Tour!](#)

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