



hester street
collaborative

Hi Lori!

The days are getting longer and spring is right around the corner! Keep reading for a brief update on what we've been up to:



[Resident Forum:
March 26](#)



[Spring Benefit -
Save The Date!](#)



[HSC in Buffalo](#)



[Newsflash!](#)



[April Meet & Greet](#)

LES READY TOWN HALL



On March 26th, [LES Ready: The Lower East Side Long Term Recovery Group](#) will be hosting a town hall meeting to share findings and recommendations from a recent community-based research report. The report focuses on what worked well in the recovery effort following Hurricane Sandy, what could be improved, and documents the resources that CBOs in the Lower East Side had in place during Sandy, as well as their capacity to respond to future disasters. At the meeting, LES Ready will be distributing a newsprint that includes tips for disaster preparedness, and a map of where community resources can be found during disaster emergencies.

Date:

Thursday, March 26th from 6:15-8:15pm
Grand Street Settlement, 80 Pitt Street.

Free! All are welcome!

For more information, please contact Lilah Mejia at lesreadyinfo@gmail.com.

WE'RE TURNING 13!



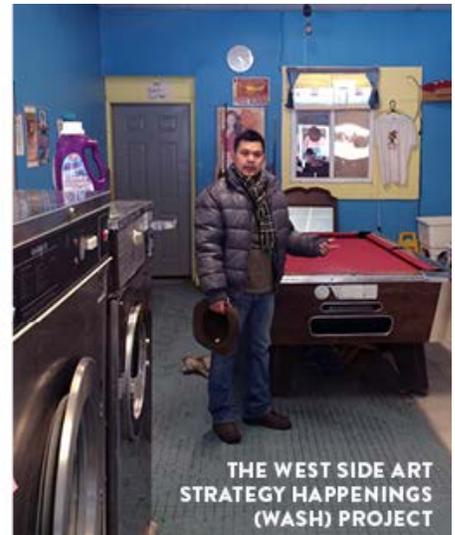
Thursday May 28, 2015
Downtown Community Television Center (DCTV)
87 Lafayette Street (between Walker and White Streets)

HSC invites you to celebrate the accomplishments of our honorees - 3 community development powerhouses whose work transforms neighborhoods and the way we all do community development work. Please join us on May 28th as we honor:

[Councilmember Brad Lander, 39th Council District](#)
[M & T Bank](#)
[Ocean Bay Community Development Corporation](#)

For more information on the event, please contact Lori Schlabach at:
(917) 265-8591 x 204 or lori@hesterstreet.org.

HSC IN BUFFALO



HSC Staff recently were in Buffalo, NY to begin work on a popular education toolkit with [People United for Sustainable Housing \(PUSH Buffalo\)](#). The project will help to communicate the impact of PUSH's workforce development programs, explain the complex green infrastructure & weatherization improvements that they have created, and ultimately to strengthen resident involvement within PUSH's [Green Development Zone](#), a unique community based-model for neighborhood revitalization. Working with arts partners like [Ujima Theater Company](#), and the [WASH Project](#), we will also help to visualize the stories and diverse communities of Buffalo's West Side through art and design. HSC will be developing the project over Spring and Summer of 2015!

GOOD NEWS!



Surveying conditions along the QueensWay abandoned rail back in fall 2013.

Our Year of the Goat is off to a productive start! Here's a quick look at a few of things we'd like to share:

1. [Robert Wood Johnson BUILD Health Initiative](#)

We've made it to the finals in the Robert Wood Johnson BUILD Health grant initiative! We are partnering with [Make the Road New York](#) to build on their innovative health and equitable development work in and around Flushing Meadows Corona Park in Southwest Queens. If funded, we will work together with MRNY, the [Health and Hospitals Corporation](#), [NYC Department of Health](#), and Health x Design to develop a new model for improving community health and health equity vis-a-vis the built environment.

2. [2015 AIANY Design Awards](#)

Congratulations to all those who contributed to the [QueensWay](#) Feasibility study - the project won a merit award from AIANY in the category of urban design! Last year, HSC was the community engagement consultant on a team led by [WXY architecture + urban design](#) and [dlandstudio architecture + landscape architecture](#) that looked at how to transform 3.5 miles of abandoned railway in central Queens into a new linear park and cultural greenway. The [Queensway Plan](#) was released in October 2014, and [funding has since been allocated to design the first phase of the project](#).

3. [Surda Foundation: Community Engaged Design](#)

Last week, HSC Executive Director Betsy MacLean served as a panelist at a convening hosted by the [Neighborhood Funders Group](#) and the [Surdna Foundation](#). The event explored how design can serve as a vehicle for low-income communities and communities of color to gain power, build capacity and democratize development.

APRIL MEET AND GREET



Our April [Meet & Greet](#) will be Friday, April 10th from 5-7pm.

HSC Meet & Greets are monthly open houses in our workshop for people interested in learning about or volunteering with the organization. They highlight our current projects and opportunities to get involved. Meet and Greets will generally happen on the second Friday of each month from 5-7pm with snacks and drinks. If you know folks that would be interested in getting involved, this is a great way of introducing them to HSC!

Please email Anna Pelavin at anna@hesterstreet.org if you are interested in attending.

ABOUT HSC

[Hester Street Collaborative's](#) (HSC) mission is to empower residents of underserved communities by providing them with the tools and resources necessary to have a direct impact on shaping their built environment. We do this through a hands-on approach that combines design, education, and advocacy. HSC seeks to create more equitable, sustainable, and vibrant neighborhoods where community voices lead the way in improving their environment and neglected public spaces.

HSC is always looking for new partners and collaborators. To help us build a more equitable and sustainable New York City, click [here](#).

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