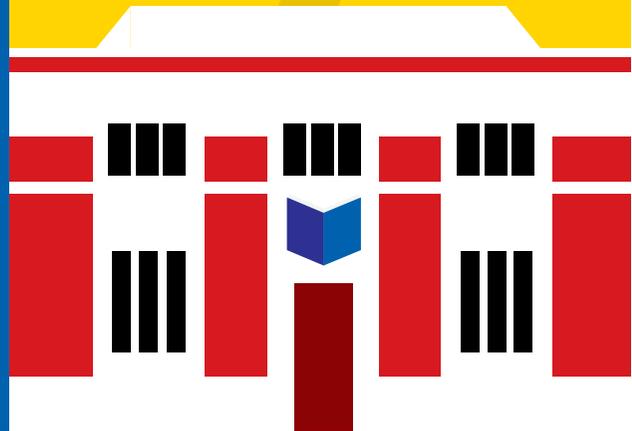
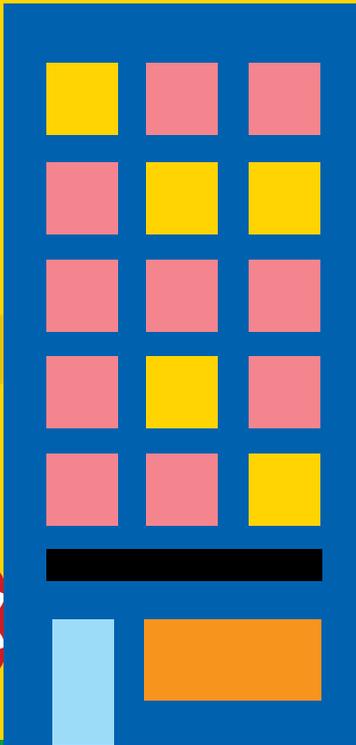


SUMMER 2025

OFF THE SHELF

A LOOK INSIDE
BROOKLYN PUBLIC
LIBRARY



Bklyn
Public Library

SUMMER
AT THE
LIBRARY

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In a world where so much is behind a paywall, Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) is free and welcoming to all. We provide support and resources in every neighborhood, creating space not just for learning, but for connection, curiosity and growth. At our branches, the pursuit of knowledge is a right, not a privilege.

The door is always open at the Library, as reflected in the title of our new summer exhibition. *Tove Jansson and the Moomins: The Door is Always Open* invites readers of all ages to learn about Jansson's wise and imaginative children's literature, daring political cartoons and bold queer fiction.

Our doors are open to everyone: new neighbors learning English at our hundreds of language classes across the borough; young readers building literacy skills at our East New York Reads and Summer at the Library programming; and Brooklynites bridging the digital divide with support from our Neighborhood Tech Help initiative. And we also welcome and honor our borough's past at the Center for Brooklyn History and New Lots Library, where a thoughtful renovation will honor the community's ancestors and the site's history as a formerly unacknowledged African Burial Ground.

As you explore our programming this season, I hope you are reminded that at Brooklyn Public Library, the invitation still stands; all you need to do is walk through our doors.



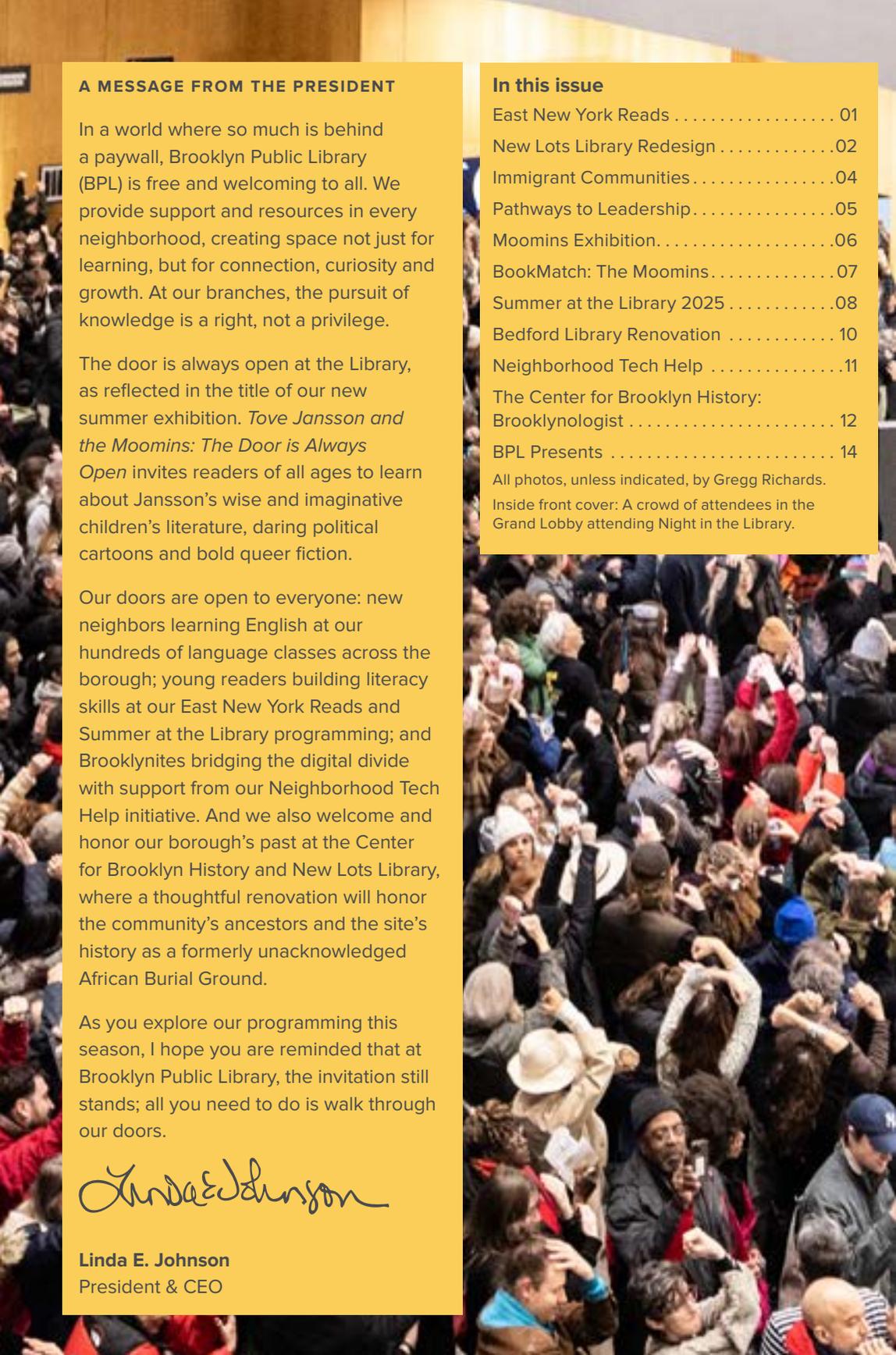
Linda E. Johnson
President & CEO

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All photos, unless indicated, by Gregg Richards.

Inside front cover: A crowd of attendees in the Grand Lobby attending Night in the Library.





A multilingual storytime session at Arlington Library.

East New York Reads: A Decade of Partnership

For 10 years, BPL has been a partner in East New York Reads (ENYR), an initiative that combines the collective effort of partner organizations to enhance literacy culture and help children thrive in school.

ENYR is part of the New York Reads Initiative, established by The Pinkerton Foundation in 2014, which focuses on three neighborhoods: South Jamaica, Harlem and East New York. Additional ENYR partners include City Year, LINC, ParentChild+, Reach Out and Read of Greater New York, Read Alliance, Reading Partners and Springboard Collaborative.

As a partner, BPL offers expanded literacy and family engagement programs at our three East New York locations (Arlington, New Lots and Cypress Hills Libraries), such

as Ready, Set, Kindergarten; Babies & Books; multilingual storytimes; Every Child Ready to Read caregiver workshops; and after-school homework help. Branches also bring author talks, musical performances, parent workshops and more services to local public schools and childcare centers.

Over the past five years, ENYR has positively impacted children and families in East New York, with over 6,000 children and caregivers participating annually.

Better yet, ENYR's curriculum-based programs have increased reading skills for 87% of students, with 51% reading at grade level or beyond—a testament to the power of community literacy programs at libraries.

East New York Reads is generously supported by The Pinkerton Foundation and the Carmel Hill Fund with additional support provided by the Venable Foundation.



A rendering of the new children's section at New Lots Library.

A NEW DESIGN FOR NEW LOTS LIBRARY

Honoring the Past and Looking to the Future

This past December, BPL unveiled the new design for New Lots Library. Thanks to direct input from the East New York community, and to BPL's enduring commitment to preserving the neighborhood's heritage, the new branch will honor the site's history as a formerly unacknowledged African Burial Ground; celebrate Black American culture; enhance accessibility to public services; and serve as a hub for community engagement.

The 25,000-square-foot library will now include separate floors for children's and adult services. There will also be a dedicated space for the New Lots Library Adult Learning Center, which offers adult education programs like high school equivalency diplomas, literacy classes and citizenship preparation. Furthermore, there will be a flexible program room that can be divided to accommodate multiple events, a new music room and art exhibition areas.



A view of the new exterior of New Lots Library.

Drawing inspiration from African traditions that center communal dialogue, the library will feature arboreal design elements inspired by the African palaver tree to create spaces for gathering, reconciliation and cultural celebration. New third-floor terraces and a landscaped plaza surrounding the branch invite such community interaction and reflection—a natural extension of other developments in the neighborhood, including the 2013 renaming of the block to African Burial Ground Square and the recent redesign of nearby Sankofa Park.

The design of New Lots Library is a collaboration between Marble Fairbanks and MASS Design Group, architects recognized for their work on libraries, cultural centers and civic spaces including the National Memorial for Peace and Justice at the Legacy Museum in Birmingham, Alabama.

The current New Lots Library is expected to close in fall 2025 for construction. During this time, BPL staff will continue to provide services and programming in the community to ensure uninterrupted access to library resources.



The second-floor reading area envisioned for New Lots Library.

Council Member Chris Banks, 42nd Council District, noted, “As a lifelong resident and now Council Member for the 42nd Council District, I have memories of growing up and visiting New Lots Library with my siblings and friends—picking out books, completing school assignments and enjoying all the resources it had to offer. I deeply understand the vital role this institution plays in our community, and I am excited about the new and improved library coming to New Lots Avenue.”

The renovation of New Lots Library has received funding from a variety of sources including the City of New York, Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso, former Council Member Inez Barron, the New York State Education Department and participatory budgeting funds from the 42nd Council District. New Lots Library’s renovation is also made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

➔ To learn more about the new design for New Lots Library, visit bklynlibrary.org/locations/new-lots

BPL Steps Up Support for Immigrant Communities

For generations, BPL branches have served as entry points for immigrants, providing essential resources ranging from citizenship classes to English conversation groups, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes and interpretation services. Now, with support from the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs and four private foundations—Carnegie Corporation of New York, Charles H. Revson Foundation, Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) and The Weissman Family Foundation—BPL is introducing several programs designed to respond to the current needs of Brooklyn immigrants:

Navigation Services: BPL has assembled a new team with fluency in several languages—including French, Haitian Creole, Spanish, Mandarin, Ukrainian and Russian—to help immigrants navigate life in the city. Navigators attend immigrant-serving programs at BPL branches to provide participants with one-on-one assistance and connections to local services that meet basic needs (e.g., housing, health, food, childcare). To increase access to legal services in libraries, the team is also organizing clinics with experts who can assist patrons around immigration-related legal issues.

English Language Learning: BPL is ramping up ESOL programming through-

out the borough. New drop-in ESOL classes provide a low-barrier entry point for learners of all levels, while registration-based classes offer more structured learning opportunities for those who are ready to fine-tune their skills.

Career Supports: To help immigrants achieve economic stability and upward mobility, BPL is expanding business and career services, including one-on-one career coaching, job fairs and entrepreneurship workshops designed to help immigrants apply for jobs, start businesses and obtain credentials that open new pathways to advancement.

BPL is thrilled to be able to offer increased support to new New Yorkers. As BPL President and CEO Linda E. Johnson shared, “When we welcome new immigrants and help them succeed, we build a better, stronger, more equitable community for us all.”

➔ Learn about BPL's support for immigrant communities at bklynlib.org/immigrants



A patron learns firsthand about the Library's resources for immigrant New Yorkers.

Graduating into Leadership

In fall 2024, BPL celebrated the first three graduates of our library career advancement initiative, Pathways to Leadership (PTL): Al Najjar, now a young adult librarian at Brighton Beach Library; Amen Emile, now a young adult librarian at Paerdegat Library; and Freddie Rivera, now an outreach librarian in BPL's Office of Neighborhood Services. Even more Pathways scholars graduated this past May: Kay Jordan-Wilkie, Maxine Wynter, Kesha Powell, Nikeisha Smothers and Jenica Holder.

PTL cultivates library leaders among non-librarian staff, from groups underrepresented in the library and archives field, supporting them in their pursuit of a master's in library and information science (MLIS) degree. PTL covers the entire cost of an MLIS program at any New York State public university or can be applied towards the tuition of other local or online programs. Of our first three graduates, two earned their degrees from Queens College and one from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

"Pathways served as a crucial bridge," Emile noted. "It provided invaluable support and encouragement throughout the demanding process of pursuing my master's while continuing my work at BPL."

PTL supports BPL's strategic plan pillar of Access & Belonging by providing staff with the opportunity to explore the wide range of career options in librarianship, participate in conferences and benefit from mentorship from seasoned librarians. "The trajectory of my career has been rejuvenated," Rivera reflected.



Pathways scholars and graduates. Back row left to right: Kenvin Allwood, Jessica Jules, Tiffany Lyte, Freddie Rivera (graduate). Front row left to right: Kesha Powell, Amen Emile (graduate), Jessica Rendon, Ann Joseph, Lisa Pryce-Brown, Kay Jordan-Wilkie, Maxine Wynter, Shalimar Rosario, Fatima Fatih. Not pictured: Al Najjar (graduate).

Najjar added, "I'd thought about librarianship once in a while, but the cost of a graduate degree kept me from seriously considering that career path. The Pathways program made it possible for me to pursue an MLIS degree without worrying about going into debt, and while working full-time for the institution I love. I am forever grateful for that."

We are tremendously proud of the achievements our Pathways graduates have made and of their dedication to giving back to their Brooklyn neighborhoods.

Pathways to Leadership is made possible by Susan & David Marcinek, Andrea Bozzo & John Martinez, Nina Collins, Goldhirsh Foundation, Betty Kahn, the Henlopen Foundation, Miriam Katowitz, Kathy Weil, Sandra & Peter Schubert, Leslie Feder & Garrick Leonard and Amol Naik. This project is also made possible in part by support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services grant #RE-254917-OLS-23.

For more information or to contribute, please contact Lauren Arana, Chief Development Officer, at larana@bklynlibrary.org or 718.230.2009.

THE DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN: BPL WELCOMES THE MOOMINS



Photo: Hans Gedda

This summer, BPL invites visitors of all ages into the world of Tove Jansson with *The Door Is Always Open*, the first-ever U.S. exhibition dedicated to the beloved Finnish artist, writer and creator of the Moomins. Extending across the borough through programming at select branches, the exhibition celebrates the enduring magic of Moominvalley and the life of the visionary behind it.

The Door Is Always Open will offer a rare opportunity to step into Jansson's creative universe through immersive installations, archival materials, multilingual editions of her books and public programming for all ages. The exhibition will also include rare artifacts from the varied theatrical productions, television adaptations, animated series and musical interpretations that have introduced the Moomins to new audiences since their inception in 1945.

Opening June 27 at Central Library, timed to coincide with NYC Pride and joining a global celebration of the Moomins' 80th year, *The Door Is Always Open* will delight and surprise newcomers and longtime fans

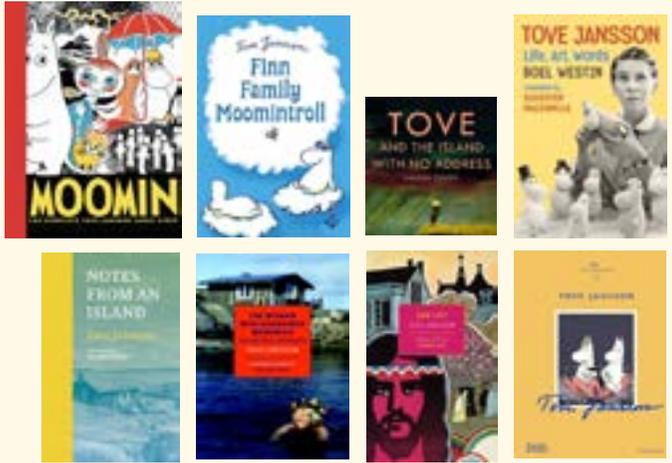
alike. BPL's Central Library Youth Wing will include educational materials and interactive social-emotional activities that encourage young visitors to read, learn and play. In addition to family-focused offerings, the exhibition will feature a robust lineup of adult programming that explores Jansson's literary and artistic legacy as a queer writer.

In the words of Jansson's relatives James Zambra, Creative Director of Moomin Characters, and Thomas Zambra, Director of Business Development: "We are thrilled to collaborate with Brooklyn Public Library to bring *The Door Is Always Open* to life in New York. It's especially meaningful to see Tove's work celebrated in a space that shares her core values—curiosity, inclusion and a belief in the power of storytelling to build bridges between people."

→ Plan your visit to the Moomins exhibition at: bklynlib.org/moomin

The exhibition is presented in partnership with Moomin Characters, Fiskars, Moomin Arabia, and the City of Tampere, home of the world's only Moomin Museum.

BKLYN BOOKMATCH THE MOOMINS AND TOVE JANSSON



BookMatch is a readers' advisory service that uses what readers like (and dislike) to create customized reading recommendations based on the interests or needs of patrons. In honor of BPL's *The Door Is Always Open* exhibition, school outreach librarian Maria McGrath created this BookMatch with reading suggestions for all ages. You can request your own BookMatch here: bklynlibrary.org/bookmatch

Moomin Book 1: The Complete Tove Jansson Comic Strip

Tove Jansson

A comprehensive introduction to the Moomins, a tight-knit family of hippo-shaped troll creatures with easygoing and adventurous outlooks.

Finn Family Moomintroll

Tove Jansson

Moomintroll, Sniff and Snufkin, who live in the forests of Finland, find a hobgoblin's hat.

Tove and the Island with No Address

Lauren Soloy

This picture book, based on a chapter in Jansson's autobiography, chronicles her family's move to a small island for the summer.

Tove Jansson: Life, Art, Words

Boel Westin

The Moomins were only part of Jansson's prodigious creative output. This book presents an engrossing, comprehensive review of the life of Scandinavia's best-loved author.

Notes from an Island

Tove Jansson

In 1963, Jansson built a cabin on a treeless skerry in the Gulf of Finland where, for 30 summers, she and her partner, artist Tuulikki Pietilä, lived, painted and wrote.

The Woman Who Borrowed Memories

Tove Jansson

A superb selection of Jansson's fictional stories for adults.

Sun City

Tove Jansson

This offbeat novel explores the lives of residents and employees at a retirement community in sunny Florida as they consider their mortality.

Tove Jansson

Paul Gravett

This book examines Jansson's art in detail, including her interpretations of such classics as Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, her political cartoons, novels, and personal commentaries.



© Moomin Characters™

SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY COLOR EVERYWHERE



Bright-eyed attendees at the kickoff celebration at Sheepshead Bay Library.

If it's summer, it must be time for BPL's annual Summer at the Library! The 2025 edition launched in early June at branches across Brooklyn. The year's theme, Color Everywhere, was conceived to engage young patrons with dynamic programming inspired by art and the colors of the borough. The vibrant palette also serves to encourage them to maintain reading and critical thinking skills over the summer.

A special kickoff weekend on June 5–7 was packed with exciting events, live performances and major book giveaways held in each of BPL's six regions. The book giveaways were sponsored by

New York Life Foundation and included a wide selection of multilingual titles for young readers, thanks to expanded support.

This year's beautifully designed Reading Tracker assists participants in staying on top of their reading. It features an appealing illustration to which readers can add colorful stamps for each day that they read, allowing them to create an evolving picture of their progress and achievements.

The Color Everywhere theme is further incorporated into colorful activity bookmarks that feature word searches and scrambles, along with downloadable coloring sheets and even a colorable Summer at the Library tote bag! Plus, downloadable scavenger hunt sheets include fun questions about local branch activities and history.

Thanks to generous support from the National Grid Foundation, Summer at the Library will also feature offerings for middle school students, such as an eight-day, STEM-themed Summer Training Institute at Central Library and Crown Heights Library's Teen Tech Center, conducted through our

Teen Techies programs. Teens can also participate in a variety of summer internships such as the StoryTeen internship program—perfect for teens interested in literacy and early childhood education.

Another exciting element? A limited-edition library card co-designed with Brooklyn's own New York Liberty basketball team that celebrates sports, education, empowerment and the transformative power of public libraries. Visit any BPL branch to get your special Liberty library card! BPL is also teaming up with Brooklyn Basketball, the educational arm of the Brooklyn Nets and New York Liberty, on select programs throughout the summer.

To help further encourage young readers, Summer at the Library booklists—all created by BPL's librarians—are available in a range of age-specific levels from baby and toddler lists to those for high schoolers and adults, including a special booklist inspired by Liberty mascot Ellie the Elephant! Lists are available in both English and Spanish.



Everyone was a winner at Macon Library's Summer at the Library kickoff festivities!



Staff from Sheepshead Bay Library and representatives from the New York Liberty show off BPL's limited-edition New York Liberty library card.

➔ Find out what's happening at your local branch all summer long at bklynlibrary.org/summer-reading



Major support provided by the New York Life Foundation, the 2025 city-wide sponsor for Summer Reading and Learning Programs.



Lead support for Brooklyn Public Library's Summer Reading 2025 program is provided by the National Grid Foundation.



This program is generously supported by the Brooklyn Nets and New York Liberty.



CBS2/WLNY is the official media partner for Brooklyn Public Library's 2025 Summer Reading program.



A photograph of the Bedford Library building's entrance. The building is made of red brick with a white stone surround around the doorway. The number '496' is visible above the door, and a sign below it reads 'BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY'. Several people are standing near the entrance, and there are red, white, and blue balloons on the right side. The text 'A Renovated Bedford Library Reopens to the Public' is overlaid on the left side of the image in white text on blue rectangular backgrounds.

A Renovated Bedford Library Reopens to the Public

Branch staff welcomed local residents back to the reopened Bedford Library.

Originally opened in December 1897, Bedford Library holds the distinction of being BPL's founding branch, though it moved several times before permanently settling on Franklin Avenue in 1905 as part of Andrew Carnegie's library investment program. Bedford houses one of the Library's five Adult Learning Centers, which provide free educational programs for adult learners and speakers of other languages.

The \$2.4 million upgrade, completed by NYC's Department of Design and Construction (DDC), installed an energy-efficient heating and cooling system and an upgraded fire safety system. "This will better serve the library-goers who use this 120-year-old building, keeping them safer and more comfortable," stated DDC Commissioner Thomas Foley. "Thank you to BPL for letting us work on this library. The historic significance of the building guided our work as we made sure renovations were done properly and with care."

Refurbished floors now reduce noise, prevent slipping and resist wear, while the building's 77 newly replaced windows provide superior insulation, UV protection and noise reduction. Bedford's historic wood trim was also meticulously removed, refinished by hand and reinstalled to preserve the library's original architecture.

Other improvements include a modernized elevator; high-efficiency LED lighting to improve illumination and reduce energy use; and fresh shrubs, flowers and grass to enhance the branch's grounds. The branch held a "welcome back" party this May.

BPL President and CEO Linda E. Johnson enthused, "We are thrilled to be back on Franklin Avenue—in a newly modernized and energy efficient building—helping a new generation discover all the Library has to offer from storytime to career classes, and so much more."



Easy access to laptops, devices and other technology helps bridge the digital divide.



One of BPL's digital navigators offers a patron guidance and encouragement.

Neighborhood Tech Help: Building a Digitally Inclusive Brooklyn

Recognizing that library branches have long been places where people go to learn new technology skills, BPL is further extending outreach into low-income communities where residents face digital access barriers. Thanks to partnerships with several key funders, our Neighborhood Tech Help program offers vital services that help bridge the digital divide.

To meet residents where they are, Neighborhood Tech Help operates within BPL branches and beyond library walls in spaces like senior centers and public schools. Digital navigators provide one-on-one support in multiple areas:

Task-Oriented Digital Literacy

Navigators help patrons create online accounts, troubleshoot technical issues, use accessibility features, and learn digital safety and privacy best practices to avoid scams and viruses.

Internet and Affordable Device Access

Navigators assist patrons in accessing low-cost internet service options and affordable laptops, tablets and smartphones.

Connecting to Public Resources

Sessions include hands-on guidance to help residents access public benefits, health care and education online.

As feedback from a recent participant attests, Neighborhood Tech Help is having a meaningful impact: "I am a 75-year-old senior, born and bred in Brooklyn, who still has one foot stuck in the 20th century... Thanks to the patient help I'm receiving from [BPL's digital navigator], I'm beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. I'd have been lost in the storm without this assistance."



To learn more, visit
[**bklynlib.org/neighborhood-tech**](https://bklynlib.org/neighborhood-tech)

BPL's Neighborhood Tech Help program is made possible with support from NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development, The New York Community Trust, Freedom Together Foundation, Altman Foundation and RWJF Special Contributions Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation.

THE AMERICAN TOILET



An illustration from *The American Toilet*, with the right-hand image revealing a hidden meaning concealed beneath a paper foldout.

This article is part of a project funded by The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation to assess and improve access to archival collections in the Center for Brooklyn History's (CBH) holdings that relate to Long Island. It was written by Cecilia Wright, an assessment archivist working on the project.

Inside a manila folder that was found in the archives of the Petit and Schenk families of Long Island is a small 4.25" by 5" bound book. The interior page reveals its title: *The American Toilet*. The date on this page, 1837, also explains the choice of "toilet," which would have had a connotation of a space intended for personal grooming and hygiene, not yet a euphemism for, well, the toilet.

The pages of this book are filled with detailed pencil drawings of items one would expect to find on a vanity (rouge, eye drops, necklaces) with accompanying rhyming verses. However, there is more to this volume. Cleverly hidden paper foldouts reveal words and phrases. See "discretion" under the images of head ornaments, "industry and perseverance" beneath the links of bracelets and "cheerfulness" below a lid of lip salve.

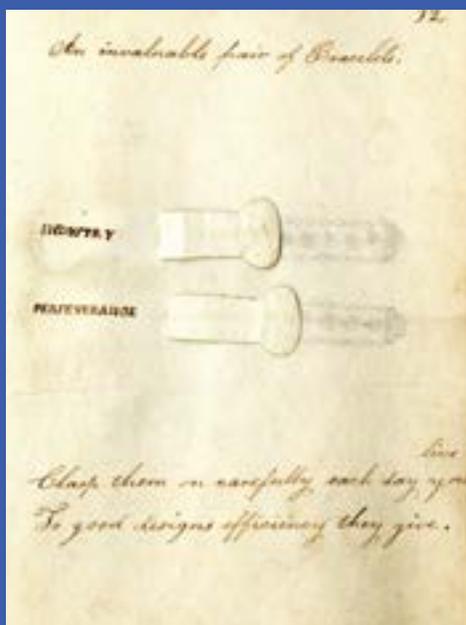
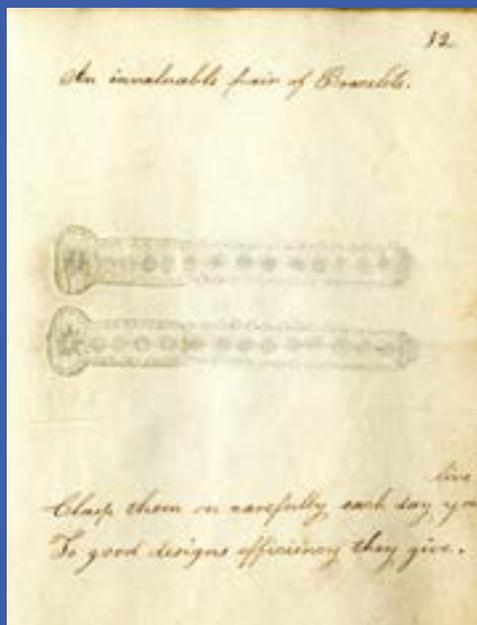
These foldouts reveal the true meaning that the creator of this volume intended for the viewer to infer. It is not a tinted lip salve which one should “use daily for your lips this precious dye / they redden & breathe sweeter melody,” but, instead, cheerfulness. Objects meant to “enhance” a woman’s beauty are conveyed in opposition to positive moral attributes. It is only through the removal of these ointments and jewelry that characteristics like discretion, cheerfulness, industry and perseverance can be revealed.

It is not clear who painstakingly penciled and carved these moral advisements. A diary in this collection is bound in the same manner as *The American Toilet* and covers the dates 1816–1850; perhaps it is from the same hand. This diary reads as though it

had been written amidst an apocalypse with a litany of unusual weather events and oceanic disasters, which, outside of geographic clues, reveal little about their scribe.

While our encounter with this object is through a person who is virtually anonymous, the effects of their hand and mind have been preserved. With a visit to the CBH archive, one can interact with an almost century-old understanding about a woman’s relationship to the beauty industry and the gendered expectations of the era.

CBH’s collections contain endless opportunities for surprise and chance encounters. Browse our collection and see what you can find!



Another example of hidden messages concealed beneath paper foldouts in *The American Toilet*.

➔ Discover more Brooklyn history at bklynlibrary.org/blogs/brooklynology

BPL PRESENTS

Unless otherwise noted, events take place at Central Library. All programs are free; reservations are required for most adult programs. For complete listings visit bklynlibrary.org/bpl-presents

NIGHT IN THE LIBRARY LOOKS UPWARD



Laurie Anderson delivering the musical keynote at BPL's 2025 Night in the Library.

BPL's ninth annual Night in the Library event was held on Saturday, March 8 at Central Library. "The Sky Above Brooklyn—The Philosophy of the Sublime" was the theme of this year's event and served to remind us that the reality we experience is only a small part of a much bigger picture. Over 4,800 attendees took advantage of free programs that introduced fresh ways of thinking about how to navigate the world around us with renewed attention, sensitivity and curiosity.

The evening was chock-full of thought-provoking programs and presentations from a variety of organizations, artists, authors and scholars. These included philosophers from the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research, writer and historian Sarah Lewis and a roster of prominent writers (including Edwin Frank, Alissa Quart and Molly Crabapple), mathematician Manil Suri,

"How Things Work" journalist Hamilton Nolan and renowned artist and musician Laurie Anderson, who provided a musical keynote to start the evening.

Program highlights included authors Edwidge Danticat, Darryl Pinckney and Robert Reid-Pharr considering James Baldwin as an essayist on his centennial; the director of the ACLU's Speech, Privacy and Technology Project, Ben Wizner, and his Hungarian counterpart discussing democratic backsliding in Hungary and its antidotes; and Dr. Jonathan Bell, vice president of World Monuments Fund, discoursing on the need to preserve the moon. Featured artists included contemporary dance and theater artists Baye & Asa, South Korean singer and actress DoYeon Kim and countertenor Jeffrey Charles Palmer.

Night in the Library is supported by The Gladys Kriebler Delmas Foundation.

UNIVERSITY OPEN AIR MAKES LEARNING A BREEZE

If you've always wanted to learn about business law in Morocco, advanced Chinese poetry from the Tang Dynasty, or Francophone literature, and also enjoy an afternoon outdoors, then University Open Air (UOA) is the place for you.

UOA is BPL's outdoor educational program offered in partnership with Prospect Park Alliance. The University is offered twice a year: during a weekend in late spring and over the course of two weeks in early fall. Classes vary in length between one to two hours depending on the material covered.

The instructors include professors, researchers and academics who were trained outside of the U.S., some of whom cannot currently teach in their respective fields due to their citizenship, visa status or other constraints. These academics' skills and love of teaching are celebrated in "classrooms" that have instructed, enlightened and challenged hundreds of attendees, with instructors hailing from over two dozen countries of origin including Cameroon, Spain, Bangladesh, Venezuela, Gabon, Guyana, Albania and Tibet.

Classes have included Taiwanese poetry, dream mapping, artificial intelligence, yoga and meditation, music composition, Chinese tea ceremonies, writing and fine art workshops. The next iteration is scheduled for fall 2025.

➔ Visit bklynlibrary.org/university-open-air for updates!

University Open Air is generously supported by The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund.



A University Open Air class on Tibetan philosophy held in Prospect Park.

PLAZA CONCERT SERIES

BRASIL SUMMERFEST WITH REGIONAL SAMAÚMA

Wednesday, July 23 / 7 pm

Regional Samaúma performs Choro—a lively, improvisational, instrumental music genre from Brazil that blends Afro-Brazilian rhythms with European influences—along with contemporary Samba compositions. In case of rain, this concert will be held on Thursday, July 24 / 7 pm.

SWINGTIME BIG BAND

Wednesday, August 6 / 7 pm

Swingtime Big Band is a 20-piece authentic swing band dedicated to performing America's greatest popular standards.

Hailed by *The New York Times* as “musicians who make the sounds of the pre-rock era rock,” the ensemble specializes in performing Big Band classics (mid-1930s through early 1950s), bringing to life the style and the spirit of this uniquely American music. In case of rain, this concert will be held in the Dweck Cultural Center.



YOUTH PROGRAMS AT CENTRAL



STOMP, CLAP AND SING WITH LAVENDER BLUES

Tuesday, August 12 / 10:30 am

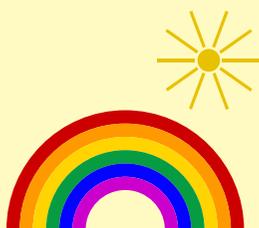
Sing, dance and play with Lavender Blues at this high-energy performance for babies and toddlers. Think baby hip-hop!

SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY MAGIC ALIVE

Thursday, August 21 / 3 pm

Dweck Auditorium

A dazzling interactive program led by magician Razzie Dazzie, who invites attendees to learn tricks by laughing, clapping and saying the magic words.



STOMP, CLAP AND SING WITH MOOZIKA!

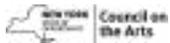
Tuesday, August 26 / 10:30 am

Come join singer-songwriter Jesse Goldman's award-winning bilingual family music band. Moozika!'s playful Spanish-English tunes are powered by an ethos of big love and gentleness.



Brooklyn Public Library gratefully acknowledges the many donors who have provided generous support for BPL Presents programs, including: Cheryl and George Haywood Endowment for Cultural Diversity, Dr. Beverly S. Jacobs, The Kahn Endowment for Humanities Programs, The Miriam Katowitz and Arthur Radin Fund, Mapleton Endowment, The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, New York State Council on the Arts, Sandra and Peter Schubert Endowment Fund, The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund and the Estate of Pearl S. Reuillard in memory of her parents, Yetta and Louis Schwartz.

Programs are also supported by Brooklyn Public Library's Fund for the Humanities, which was established through the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Hearst Foundation, Inc., Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Starr Foundation, The Leon and Muriel Gilbert Charitable Trust, Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, Inc. and a gift in memory of Samuel and Pauline Wine.



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Call **718.230.2469** or visit bklynlibrary.org/support to learn about the many ways you can support Brooklyn Public Library.

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