



New Year, New Beginnings



A few Grand St. youngsters were featured in the Pre-K For All handbook!

Dear Colleague,

Settlement houses are about people. They're a place where communities and neighbors can come together and form bonds that strengthen our city. At Grand St., we're lucky to have incredible members of our community taking part in our services. Craig Millington, a participant at Unity Plaza Community Center, was featured on

[Brooklyn 12 News](#) for the work that he's doing with elementary schoolers. Craig is 16 and spends his afternoons tutoring 4th and 5th graders through the Young Men's Initiative in hopes to help them learn and grow.

Our Universal Pre-K enrollment begins February 4th and runs through March 15th! Our UPK programs have been a staple on the LES and in Brooklyn. So much so that multiple of our youngsters were included in the UPK Application Packet! For children born in 2015 you can enroll by visiting [MySchools.nyc](#), by phone at 718-935-2009, or by visiting a Family Welcome Center.

At 80 Pitt St. you can't walk 5 feet without running into one of our amazing participants of the Grand Coalition of Seniors. Whether getting breakfast, rehearsing their dance skills, or throwing a party, the seniors help keep our headquarters lively. They are the cornerstone of what makes Grand St. Settlement great.

January is a time of new beginnings and new goals. We're constantly looking for ways to expand our programming and create opportunities for those neighbors we hold so dear. Our community programs at Essex Crossing Community Center are shifting into high gear. Youth Services is planning a college fair on February 16th with HBCUs from across the country sending representatives. Our team will continue to reach for the stars and lead Grand St. Settlement into the future.

In Solidarity,

Robert Cordero

Happening Now

BOLD INITIATIVES

Essex Crossing is open for Events and Catering!
Interested in using one of our spaces for an upcoming event? Email events@grandlocafe.com for more information!

GRAND STRATEGY

The end of January has been a cold month and February is going to be colder. If you're in need of help, please contact 311 for resources.

INSPIRED WORK

Willing Chin-Ma is being recognized by Council Member Chin and separately by the National Association of Social Workers, NYC Chapter, for her outstanding leadership in the field of Social Work. Congrats Willing!

Moments of the Month



Going Pro

On January 6th SONYC at Saint Brigid School partnered with NYC Basketball to have the school's team play on the court at Barclay's Center while raising money for the school.

Getting Creative

Middle JUMP! spent time creating sculptures at Play Day Creative Camp alongside some of our Board of Directors.



Three King's Day

The Grand Coalition of Seniors celebrated Three Kings Day on January 4th with a dance! They even convinced two PSA-4 Police Officers to get into costume!

Lunch Time!

Early Head Start staff members attended The Teaching Kitchen at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House to learn more about how to move non-profits towards farm-to-institution models.



Congratulations!

Early Childhood Policy Council Chairperson, Reveca Palacios and Co-Chairperson, Brenda Colon were recently honored at ACS's City Wide Head Start Policy Council Parent Appreciation Award Dinner. We are extremely proud of their commitment to our programs.

More Food!

Participants of our monthly community culinary classes made veggie and pork dumplings with help from Target!



So Much Food!

The second culinary class at Rutgers Houses kicked off by making healthy tacos for Taco Monday night!

Getting into Shape

Our Baruch Cornerstone is holding classes to help participants feel their best.



Congratulations!

Joanna Huang recently passed her certification tests and has officially earned her LMSW!

Basketball Dreams

Bushwick teens are currently participating in the MAP Basketball Tournament. Our boys won both of their games and are headed to the Championship! Wish them luck!



It's Tax Season



<p style="text-align: center;">IT'S YOUR MONEY! COME AND GET IT!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Free Income Tax Services & Earned Income Tax Credit Assessment</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Monday, Wednesday & Friday) Grand St. Settlement Single Stop Program 80 Pitt Street , room 118 New York, NY 10002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">APPOINTMENT NEEDED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">walk-in will be seen only if appointment slots are available</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Starting January 28, 2019- April 12, 2019 9:30 AM-4:30 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For an appointment call:</i> 212- 674-1740 (Extension: 273, 286, 222, 289</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please leave a message with your name and telephone number and we will call you back to schedule an appointment</p>
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You MUST bring the following items to the tax site:

- Valid Photo I.D. for you and your spouse (if filing jointly)
- Social Security Card or Tax Identification Card for you, your spouse and dependents (if applicable)
- Know dependent's date of birth
- W-2s for ALL jobs held in 2018 and/or 1099 forms
- If self-employed (paid in cash/check) you must know your total earnings made for the year
- Form 1098-T
- If claiming childcare expenses know the amount paid and bring Childcare agency's ID or name & Social Security number of childcare providers
- For Direct Deposit to checking or savings MUST bring Account and Routing number\
- Bring Form 1095-A and dependent's income (if applicable) if you purchased Health Insurance from the Marketplace

Please note: Income eligibility requirements apply. Your total income has to be no more than \$55,000



A Fond Farewell

Grand St. Settlement sends our heartfelt condolences to the family of Joyce Johnson following her passing. Ms. Johnson began working for Grand St. in 1975 as a Case Aide in the Social Service Department. She continued to work with us for 18 years and retired as Program Director for the Youth Cityworks Program in 1993. After retirement Ms. Johnson continued to volunteer her services to the Grand Coalition of Seniors. We are so grateful to have been a part of Ms. Johnson's journey and to have benefited from her hard work and devotion.

Next Up

- The Grand Coalition of Seniors is holding their Chinese New Year Dance on February 1st at 80 Pitt St.
- February 7th, New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli is holding a Lunar New Year celebration at 175 Delancey. To RSVP contact Karen He at KHe@osc.ny.gov
- 80 Pitt St. is hosting a pop-up pantry on February 11th.
- Valentine's Day is February 14th.
- Beacon Community Center is hosting a college fair with Historic Black College and Universities on February 16th.
- NYC Schools will be closed February 18th-22nd for Midwinter Recess. Universal Pre-K classes will be closed during this time as well. Early Learn programs will reopen on the 19th.
- Grand St. Settlement offices will be closed on February 18th in honor of President's Day.

Want to highlight your favorite moments in the newsletter or social media? Send a description and any pictures to pictures@grandsettlement.org



Participants take part in culinary classes sponsored by Target

Grand St. Settlement Staff Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy birthday shout-outs to Martina Adames, Gerrell Martin, Grethel Samuel, Rebecca Grullon, Daisy Pimentel, Sharmila Malik, Tamar Chanadiri, Wanda Alvarado, Judith Socarras, Richard Ishak, Angel Vloria, Andy Leung, Shane Duncan, Brandon Palmer, Jordan McIntosh, Melanie Ma, Kayla Shaughnessy, Sue Naina Alam, Jessica Quezada, Etheliah Wise Scott, Christina Rivera, Kayee Lee, Caonabo Martinez, Gladys Fernandez, Anayely Grande Davila, Trisha Diaz, Lynn Cooper, Kai Williams, Crystal Alavarez, Rashid Littlejohn, Sieda Ferguson, William Samaniego, Muriel Abeledo, Rosado Altagraccio, Geoffrey Pasco, Sonthonax Jean Mary, Rachael Brannon, Mizael Dejesus, Ayana Reefe, Anthony Belvin, Joey Chen, Shiv Kadar, Ines De La Nuez, Kareem Alexis, Sanjida Malik, Medina Robinson, and Eric Grossman!

Thank you for your service and dedication to the communities of the Lower East Side and Brooklyn!
Happy Anniversary to Delisa Randall, Jimmie

Sams, Cordeillia Day, Victory Savarino, Mizael Dejesus, Rashid Littlejohn, Steven Romero, XingYi Yu, Irene Shin, Melanie Ma, Wanda Alvarado, Joanna Liu, Ruben Gomez, Martha Gonzembach, Monica Gomez Duran, Keh-Yueh Chen, Parvin Begum, Maria Santos, Ruth White, Willing Chin-Ma, Wanda Garcia, and Julienne Elsayed!



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