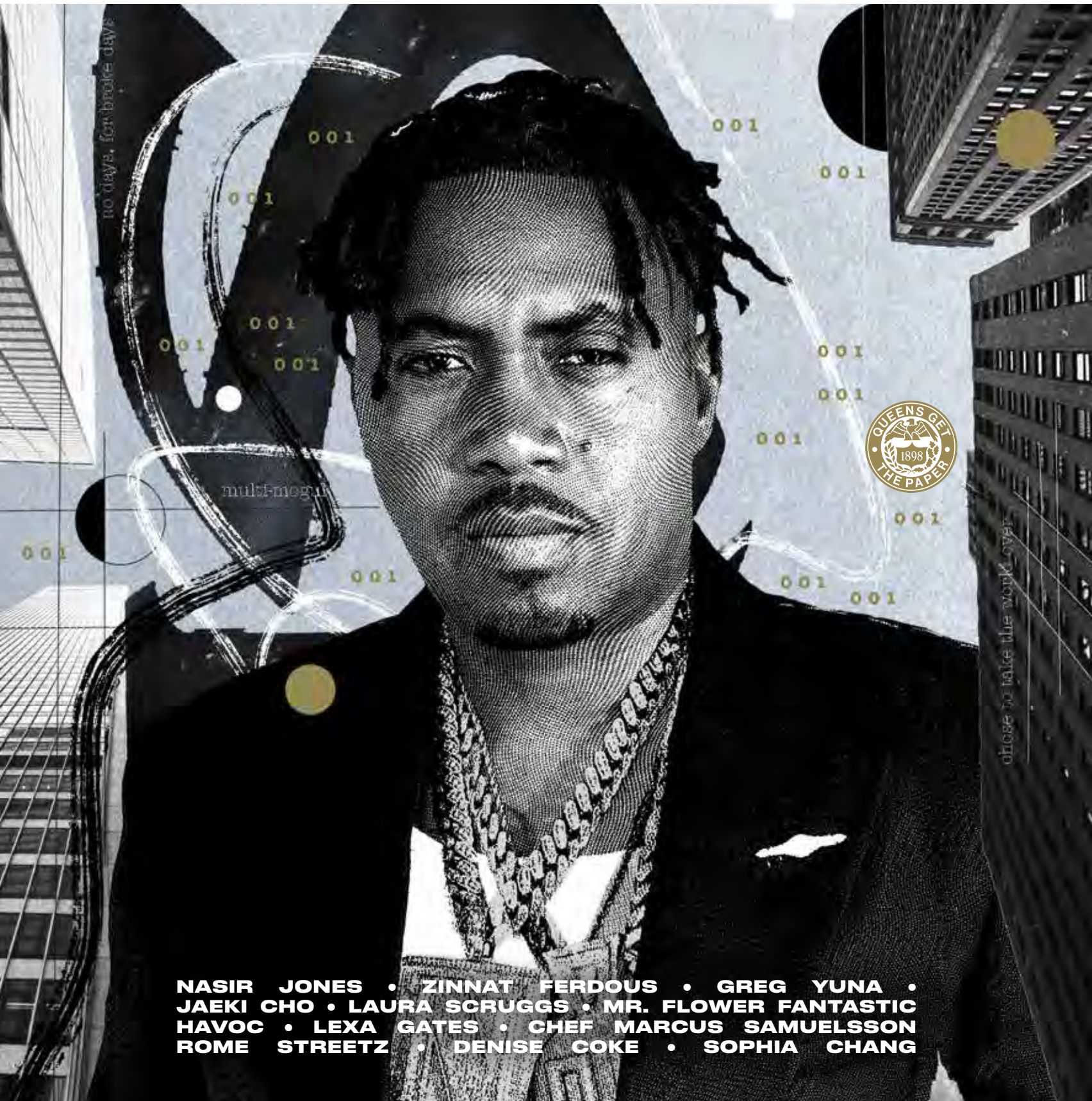


# QUEENS

GET THE PAPER



**NASIR JONES • ZINNAT FERDOUS • GREG YUNA •  
JAEKI CHO • LAURA SCRUGGS • MR. FLOWER FANTASTIC  
HAVOC • LEXA GATES • CHEF MARCUS SAMUELSSON  
ROME STREETZ • DENISE COKE • SOPHIA CHANG**



This magazine represents the heart and soul of Queens. It's for all of us: the hustlers, dreamers, artists, athletes, entrepreneurs, essential workers, community builders, and future makers.

Your dreams are our dreams. Your motivation is our motivation. We want to see you win. Never stop striving, never stop reaching  
the *World is Ours.*



# QUEENS

GET THE PAPER

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# Contents



08

## *Editor's Letter*

Geo Hagan shares the mission of our inaugural issue.

30

## *Floral Fantasy*

The masked floral artist, Mr. Flower Fantastic, lets his work speak for itself.

40

## *Taste Maker*

Jewelry icon, Greg Yuna, ventures into the restaurant business.

58

## *Against All Odds*

Abe Beam profiles Nas as his long-time dream is realized.

64

## *Noble Calling*

Righteous Eats creator, Jaeki Cho, reflects on the Queens immigrant hustle.

82

## *Diamond In The Ring*

Champion boxer, Zinnat Ferdous, shares her journey to the pinnacle of her sport.

108

## *Legend Reborn*

Havoc returns to honor the legacy of Mobb Deep and Prodigy.

122

## *The World is Ours*

Resorts World's expansion promises to breathe new life into Queens economy.

130

## *Queens Roll Call*

Honoring some of the best and brightest minds from Queens.

140

## *Shop The Issue*

Products from our featured artists, designers, and entrepreneurs.

# Editor's Letter

Welcome to the debut issue of *Queens Get The Paper*, the magazine shining a light on the vibrant culture, boundless creativity, and deep-rooted community of the best borough in NYC. As the editor of this publication, it's been an honor to work on this inaugural issue alongside the stellar team at Resorts World New York City.

Queens is the mecca, the source, the essence, and the borough I've called home for the last 20 years. I've always considered myself a global citizen after living in various African countries growing up (Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Ghana), and then finally moving to NYC after college. It only made sense for me to settle down in Queens, because something about this truly one-of-a-kind borough just felt like home. During my time as a full-fledged Queens denizen, I've moved around a bit—Elmhurst, Corona, Astoria—and with each move, I discovered more rich culture, endless diversity, and incredible communities.

You see, the thing with Queens is that it's truly the world's borough and it's also magnificently self-contained. You'll find some of the best authentic global restaurants on Steinway Street, or enjoy a beautiful, leisurely weekend at Gantry Park in Long Island City, or perhaps even catch a concert at Forest Hills Park. That's not even mentioning all the incredible nightlife, brunch spots, museums, zoos, and cultural attractions you can explore all through the year. And now that I have a 6-year-old son, it makes me smile to see him playing soccer with kids from all over the world; it's quite unreal.

Throughout this issue, we've captured similar narratives of accomplished individuals who share the same deep love for our borough—whether it's the whip-smart stand-up comic Lissa Lenis or the unbelievably talented florist, Mr. Flower Fantastic. One other key point about Queens is this: You won't find pretentious "cool kid" crowds here. Instead, you'll encounter real vibes and a warm, welcoming energy that permeates throughout the entire borough. I can personally attest to that.

With all the unique narratives we've captured in the following pages, we haven't even really scratched the surface of all the wonder and magic that Queens has to offer. Issue 1 is a great start, but trust us, we're only just getting started. Enjoy, get inspired, and stay tuned—there's lots more to come.

Till the next one,  
Peace and Good Vibes,  
Geo Hagan

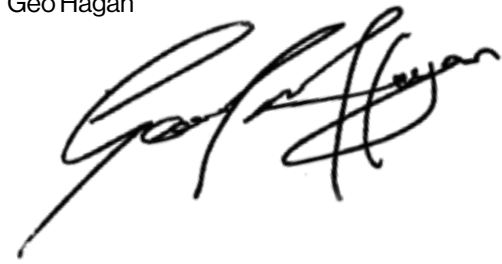


Photo by: Ja Tecson



Paintings by: Wase Osa @wase\_ington | Jackson Heights & Woodside

# Contributors



**JEFF JOHNSON**  
*Writer | Queens Village*  
**@jeffsays**

Jeff Johnson is an Emmy Award-winning television host, producer, writer and sports culture commentator. He anchors the JeffJSays YouTube channel, where he offers engaging discussions on the latest in sports and pop culture. Additionally, he hosts the Power After Hours podcast, providing insightful recaps of the hit Starz TV series "Power." Previously, he hosted "The Betting Exchange" on MSG Networks, where the Queens Village, New York native shared his expertise in sports betting and analysis for both New York sports and the broader sports world.

Currently Jeff serves as an on air talent at TNT Sports, contributing voiceover highlights for NBA and WNBA content, and regularly appears as a sports betting contributor on "TNT Sports: The Line" on truTV.



**LUCIEN GARCIA**  
*Photographer | Ozone Park*  
**@95style\_**

Lucien's photography journey started as pure curiosity. She spent her first year photographing friends in her community. She learned the basics of film photography and darkroom development at LaGuardia, which gave her a solid foundation in photography. After graduation, she was contacted by Fat Joe's sneaker store, UP NYC, where she spent three years photographing products and fashion editorials. One of her main goals moving forward is to delve deeper into photojournalistic work surrounding topics and people she grew up being influenced by, such as hip-hop and street culture.



**LISSA LENIS**  
*Writer | Astoria*  
**@damnn\_lissa**

Lissa Lenis is a comedian from Astoria, Queens, known for her sharp, sarcastic humor and unapologetic storytelling. Drawing on her experiences growing up as a fat Latina in a Colombian-Puerto Rican household, Lissa tackles topics like body image, mental health and cultural identity. She has performed at top comedy festivals like the NY Comedy Festival and SF Sketchfest and gained recognition from Time Out New York. Lissa is also the creator of the sold-out show "Bodega Kids" and is recognized from viral "Han on the Streets" videos with Hannah Berner. You can see her performing all over NYC and the country.

**ANDREW LoPICCOLO**  
*Photographer/Videographer | Howard Beach*  
**@164lopicc**

Born and raised in Queens, New York into a tight-knit immigrant family, Andrew was taught from a young age the importance of hard work and being passionate about one's career. One constant in his life was his love for hip-hop music. Most of his friends happened to make music, and he needed a reason to be around what he loved. In his early 20s, he invested in camera equipment and taught himself something new: photography. He started documenting his friends and hanging around every music studio that would let him in. He would also sneak his camera into parties and photograph candid moments. He specializes in capturing special moments that usually happen behind closed doors, and nearly a decade later, he hasn't "worked hard" since.



**EVAN PIERCE**  
*Photographer | Flushing*  
**@evanpierce**

What started off as a side hobby for Evan Pierce has become a full-time career for the self-taught Queens, New York native. He began his journey shooting "zap shot" photos at prestigious weddings in Long Island, New York.

Having no formal training in photography, Evan decided to capture iconic landscapes to practice and learn his craft. He ended up shooting his first editorial for Billionaire Boys Club, and that immediately sealed the deal as far as what he wanted to do in the future. Since then, his work has been seen among the biggest companies in the industry such as Roc Nation, TIDAL, and Ace of Spades, just to name a few.



**CAROLINE SHIN**  
*Writer | Flushing*  
**@cookingwgranny**

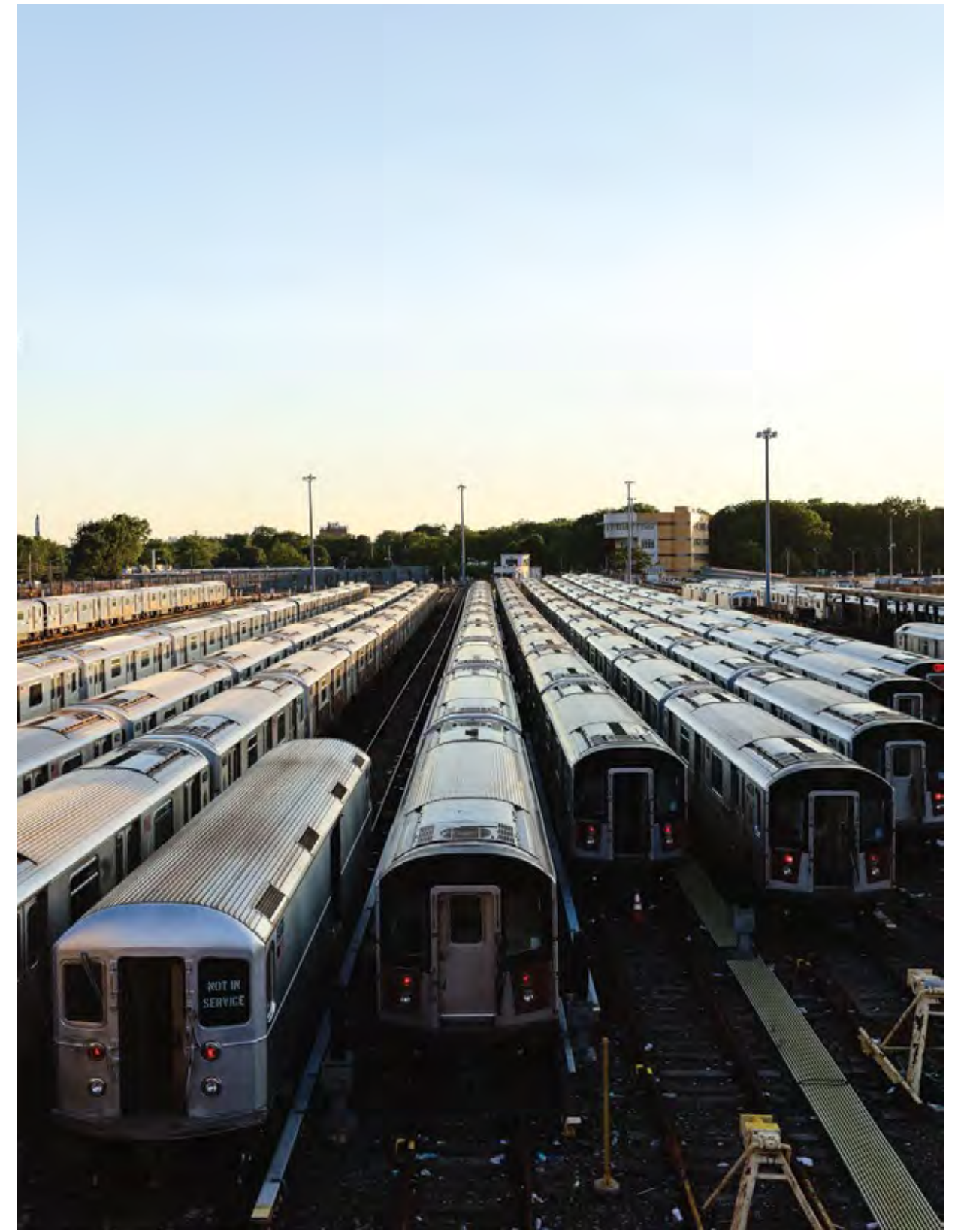
Caroline Shin is a Flushing-bred food journalist and founder of the Cooking with Granny YouTube series starring diverse grandmothers. She reports on immigrant-run Queens restaurants, spotlighting the heritage, hustle and community building of the entrepreneurs behind them. She has written for Eater, The New York Times, Gothamist and more.







Photography by: **Edwin Ascencio** @eddieprods\_ | Queens Village





# Enhanced Artistry

WORDS BY **BIANCA ALYSSE** PHOTOGRAPHY BY **KENISHA GILL**

*For Denise Coke, the founder of \$NP Designs, a Black-owned creative agency, aiding the community meant producing what had not yet been seen.*

**The Jamaica, Queens native's renowned digital illustrations have been stretched across international canvases, displayed at Madison Square Garden, and presented as murals around New York City.**

Her passion for expressing her vision through art stirred early. "I was into manga and this cartoonish style of illustration growing up. My relationship with art started as a kid," Coke explains. The Grenadian-Jamaican artist saw her parents' commitment to neighborhood development throughout her upbringing and has continued that tradition by partnering with diverse education initiatives, including the SoLa Foundation, and presenting contemporary art to inner-city youth programs.

Even so, Coke understands the value of also remaining a student, studying at Hanyang University in South Korea and acquiring a certificate in Women's Entrepreneurship from Cornell University while spearheading separate business undertakings for her global clientele.

"My neighborhood is super historical," she says. While rap icons like Nas, Nicki Minaj and 50 Cent are frequently celebrated, it was the musical legends who took residence in Addisleigh Park, such as Ella Fitzgerald and James Brown, that inspired Coke to carry an imaginative torch—expanding her graphic design skills with augmented reality features, bringing once-stationary portraits to life for onlookers.

Coke creatively collaborates with the nonprofit organization Beyond the Block New York City, aiming to bring more public art activations to the five boroughs. She is presently fashioning a mural for the pupils of her alma mater, P.S. 132Q, the Ralph Bunche School, in Queens.



## Augmented Reality Instructions

Scan QR code to experience this artwork on your mobile browser.

- Open the camera on your mobile phone.
- Point it at the QR code and open the link "lens.snap.com."
- Click "Allow" to give browser access to your camera.
- Point your camera at the artwork.

**Walk Thru'**  
**2023**

Digital Illustration

This piece is based on a nice sunny day of a woman I saw talking with her girl on Eastern Parkway while visiting this summer. Her being so carefree and engaged in conversation really spoke to me as we, as Black women, do more than just gossip when we speak—we share helpful information, talk about tips and tricks, and share secrets in a way only we can understand. This is the first piece of my new series to focus on Black women just being without the burden of trying to help everyone and everything around us.



Artworks by: [Drew Houdini @OffTheBooks.Co](mailto:Drew.Houdini@OffTheBooks.Co) | Corona

WORDS BY **ASHLEY SIMPO**

In New York City, you don't have to visit a gallery to see incredible art. A walk down the right block will greet your eye with an array of murals, sculptures and installations spanning every imaginable point of view. But the role of established galleries is not just to display prominent artists' work, but also to nurture talent and support artists so they can not only share their work with the world, but build lasting and sustainable careers. These three featured galleries are more than art spaces that curate visual storytelling and cultural expression; they also provide funding, collaboration and partnership with local and global talent to continue Queens' legacy as a cultural hub that champions creativity and innovation.

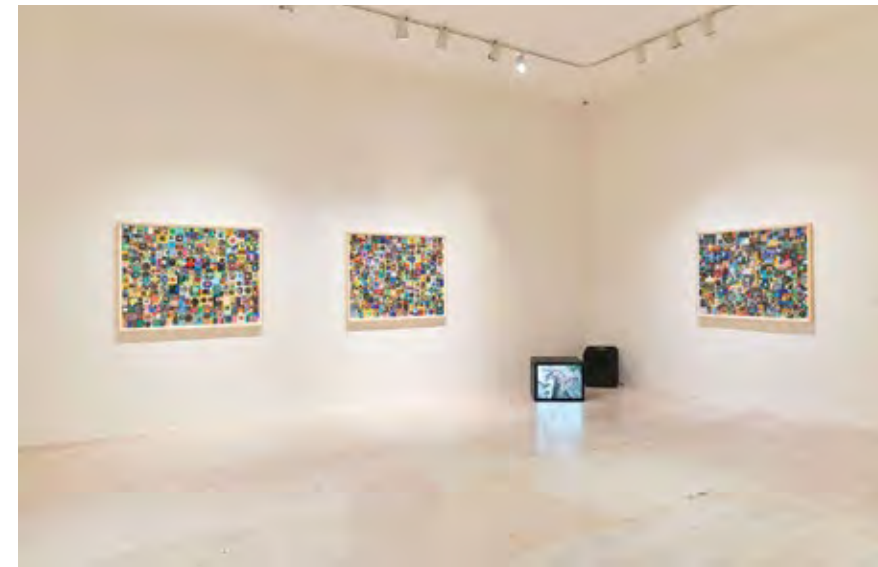
Film Still by: **Abang-guard** | Filipino Community Cultural Center of Delano, California, 2025 | Queens Museum Exhibition



## Queens Museum

For their debut museum solo exhibition, artist duo **Abang-guard (Maureen Catbagan + Jevijoe Vitug)** explore the intertwined connection between immigration and labor. They accomplish this cerebral investigation by reconfiguring iconic architecture from New York World's Fair's Philippines and State Pavilions to investigate Filipino American labor history in 1965. Their thoughtful and piercing artistic exploration titled Makibaka will be on display from March 16 to October 5, 2025

*Flushing Meadows Corona Park, New York City Building, Queens, NY 11368*



Artworks by: **Ralph Lemon** | MOMA PS1 Exhibition

## MOMA PS1

**Ralph Lemon** (b. 1952, Cincinnati) is one of the most respected and talented artists to emerge from New York City's thriving downtown scene. He's a multifaceted creator with works spanning several formats and mediums: dance, drawings, photography, sculpture, paintings, and video. Ceremonies Out of the Air: Ralph Lemon is an expansive exhibition that will be on display at MoMA PS1's spacious third-floor galleries through March 24, 2025.

*22-25 Jackson Avenue, Queens, NY 11101*

## Socrates Sculpture Park

**Landon Newton** is an artist, horticulturist and independent researcher. Her installation, "TILT (what if these plants get out)," is constructed with habitat-creating materials that provide space for insects and support biodiversity within and beyond the installation's biome. It will be on display from September 14 to April 6, 2025, as part of an artist fellowship group exhibition.

*32-01 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, NY 11106*

Sculpture by: **Landon Newton** | Socrates Sculpture Park



**Jamaica Center for  
Arts and Learning &**



**PRESENTS**

*Reclaiming  
Tomorrow:  
The Power of  
Afrofuturism*

**Until April 22nd**

*Curated by Juliet James, this exhibition will explore the resilience and creativity of Black people and their advocates, both within and outside the community. This exhibition affirms that a thriving future free from systemic erasure is not a distant dream, but an evolving space for Black individuals to empower themselves and define their own narratives.*

**FEATURED ARTISTS**

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Amari Hines      | Paul Deo       |
| Anthony McDonald | Tariffe Dennis |
| Brent Kelsick    | Shaniqua Young |
| Giselle Bradshaw | Samantha Felix |
| Jocelyn Lewis    | Brent Kelsick  |
| Kim Okoli        |                |

Artwork by: Tariffe Dennis | GLARE - WHERE FROM? | 2024 | Acrylic & ink on canvas, 36inx36in, \$550



Artwork by: Amari Hines | Marked for Greatness | 2024 | Acrylic on canvas, 22in x 28in, \$10,000



Artwork by: Brent Kelsick | Future Descendent | Oil on canvas, 14inx18in, \$300



Artwork by: **Jocelyn Lewis** | **Untitled 2024** | Acrylic on canvas, 36inx48in, \$1,200



Artwork by: **Samantha Felix** | **I prayed to God; He didn't answer**  
2024 | Acrylic on canvas, 36inx48in, \$1,200

# Reclaiming Tomorrow: The Power of Afrofuturism

## THE CURATOR:

Juliet James is a self-taught artist and curator based in Queens, NY. She began publicly showcasing her art in 2019, primarily using acrylics to preserve black culture and love in its various forms. Inspired by her relationships, she creates abstract scenes. In 2022, she shifted to curation, and has since curated 14 unique exhibitions, specifically highlighting the stories and talents of artists of color. Being a black educator, James curates for the preservation of black love and black culture so that children of color may benefit from them. She believes that it is important for children of all abilities to explore their artistic side and to grow up seeing themselves in mainstream art.

## JAMAICA CENTER FOR ARTS AND LEARNING (JCAL):

Founded in 1972, JCAL is a multidisciplinary arts center serving Southeast Queens, home to a vibrant community of 2.4 million people. JCAL's mission is to provide high-quality visual and performing arts programs and accessible education that foster participation in the arts.

## RED WALL ART GALLERY:

Since 2012, the Red Wall Art Gallery at Resorts World New York City has been a space for local artists and organizations to showcase their work. With more than 30 exhibitions, the gallery reaches thousands of visitors daily, celebrating the artistic talent of Queens and beyond.

To purchase email Wendy Berot, Director of Program Operations at Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning, at [wberot@jcal.org](mailto:wberot@jcal.org).





WORDS BY GEO HAGAN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY AP THE ANGEL

# Floral FANTASY

ENTER A REALM OF BLOOMING BLISS WITH MR. FLOWER FANTASTIC.

**Mr. Flower Fantastic is a Queens-based, multidisciplinary floral artist who combines innate talent, incredible skill and boundless imagination to create stunning works of art. His discipline truly transcends definition, and his brilliant creations take cues from fashion, sports, hip-hop, street culture, fine art and more. Some of his viral moments have included extraordinary floral sculptures of the iconic Nike Jordan 1 sneaker, the unmistakable DMX “double-R” Ruff Ryder chain and an impressive floral replica of Kobe Bryant’s famed “24” Laker jersey. To date, his creations have been commissioned by A-list clientele including Michael Jordan, Serena Williams, Kith, Netflix, ComplexCon and Louis Vuitton.**



Speaking about his upbringing in Queens, Mr. Flower Fantastic is quick to discuss how the borough's unique nature created the perfect incubation space for his art. "I'm from Jamaica, Queens," he begins. "A memory that stands out for me is going to Roy Wilkins Park. It was the greenest space outside of my front yard. And every summer, UniverSoul Circus would come in, along with the West Indian festivals. There was always something going on."

He also praises his mother as his number one supporter and the person who really nurtured his creative pursuits. "I was an only child, so I spent a lot of time alone. I have to really credit my mom for being such an advocate for the creative arts. She allowed me to just express myself however I wanted. I had the type of mom who said it's cool to draw on the walls. As long as they're your walls, you can do whatever you want."

There's an intriguing juxtaposition that accompanies his bold artistry. Whenever Mr. Flower Fantastic appears in public, his face is always concealed by his respirator mask, and he wears an ever-present pair of black gloves. This uniform was actually born out of necessity because, as it turns out, the artist is allergic to the floral medium in which he plies his trade. But it has also come to represent so much more—a way for the spotlight to be directed solely on the art, not the artist. "When I work in the studio with fresh florals, I always have a mask and gloves on," he says, "but when

it comes time to be in spaces where we're really creating memorable, cultural moments, I want to showcase the pure floristry; I want the work to speak for itself."

For an artist who operates in a medium as ephemeral and delicate as flowers, he maintains a remarkable, long-term lens for viewing the world and his craft. "I spent a lot of time in Japan a few years ago, and one of the things about Japanese culture that I really love is this idea of '百年の計' (Hyakunen no kei), which translates to 'plans for a hundred years.' This reflects a long-term perspective in construction, business and even environmental stewardship. "And it brought me back to thinking about beautiful old cathedrals and how the same people who laid those first foundational bricks are not going to be alive to see it finished." He concludes, "That's the type of dedication and conviction my team and I work with every day—if you're gonna do it, really do it. Don't half-step."

From his vibrant studio in Queens, Mr. Flower Fantastic is steadily building an authentic, global brand while upending the norms of traditional floristry. It's only a matter of time before his one-of-a-kind floral creations bloom into an undeniable, worldwide movement.

Scan for  
More ▶





**TAXI!!**  
2024

Growing up in New York, taxis were everywhere, but getting one wasn't a given. Just because you saw a cab with its light on didn't mean it was stopping for you. And if you were lucky enough to get in, that's when the real test began. Drivers would often refuse to take him to his neighborhood, often saying "I'm not going that way" which really meant "too dangerous." So, while taxis are this classic symbol of New York—the city that shaped him—they also had a way

of making him feel embarrassed and like a stranger in his own town. "TAXI!!!" is intentionally built in an oversize dimension to welcome in everyone no matter who you are or where you're headed. It is the antithesis of his lived experience and a manifestation of his childhood daydreams.





Artwork by: GIZ NYC @Giznyct1 | Ridgewood



EB 7 - 88

# THE *Taste* MAKER

WORDS BY DYLAN ANDREWS  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREW LOPICCOLO

**Greg Yuna might just be the expert on taste. If you've ever wondered how he acquired his skill of knowing what the people will love, he'll tell you it's thanks to his roots.**



**From Forest Hills to Fresh Meadows, Yuna grew up all over Queens and, to this day, believes its cultural diversity helped shape his outlook. “It didn’t matter what neighborhood you’re from or whether you grew up rich or poor or whatever,” he explains. “At the end of the day, you’re going to the same public school. I got to tap into so many cultures as a kid, and I think that kind of elevates your palate.”**



Queens in the '90s was a world where fashion and jewelry were not just accessories but also statements of identity, and that environment undoubtedly led Yuna to where he is today. Whether it was hitting Jamaica Avenue for jewelry or catching the train to hang with childhood friend Ronnie Fieg, Greg acknowledges that style was a way of life. “I was always tied into that world,” he says. “Being in the city, coming downtown, you always want to be fly. It’s all attached. If you’re getting fly, you’re getting jewelry. You want to be fresh. It goes hand in hand.”

However, Yuna’s journey into jewelry design was anything but conventional. His first taste of it was when he was 18 and landed a summer job with a cousin who worked in the industry. Greg then spent his early 20s working in mortgage and real estate before joining a family jewelry business, where he realized that jewelry making was the world in which he belonged.

**“Like grandma's recipe, grandma's ring - it means something”**



Fast forward to 2024 and Greg, alongside fellow GY designer Rachel Goatley (lovingly nicknamed “The Goat”), opened a new location on Mulberry Street. Yuna and Goatley’s professional relationship began nine years ago, when Rachel’s brother saw on social media that Yuna was in need of a graphic designer. Rachel, then a novice designer, went to his counter in the diamond district with her laptop and asked to work for him. After about three years of assisting Greg with social media and graphic design, she started designing pieces. “She’s the cooker,” states Yuna fondly. “She’s the one that I articulate to [about] what’s going on, and she has been incredible at putting together the stuff that comes out of my head. Without her, nothing’s moving.”

Although describing their methods as “unorthodox,” whatever they do is working. From their latest international expansion into Tokyo with Kith to their extensive list of high-profile clientele, Greg emphasizes that it all begins with being genuine. “I start off every relationship as a friendship,

it’s never transactional,” said Yuna, who’s no stranger to the New York party scene. “I feel like people usually gravitate to that. It’s never a money play.”

Greg’s impeccable taste doesn’t stop at jewelry. His penchant for hedonism has also led him to make a name for himself in hospitality opening Chica & The Don, a Pan-Latin restaurant and cocktail lounge with friend and restaurateur, Nick Semkiw and Executive Chef Michelle Chan.

While diamonds and dishes might seem worlds apart, they both operate around indulgence while serving a purpose in tradition and sentiment. “Like grandma’s recipe, grandma’s ring—it means something,” explains Rachel.

Yuna continues to surprise and delight fans as he expands the realms that he creates in. Whether he’s launching a trendy new restaurant, directing commercials inspired by Goodfellas, or collaborating with Adam Dressner to host art exhibitions at Grand Central, he might just be living proof that New York never sleeps.





# QUEENS BY DESIGN

WORDS BY **ASHLEY SIMPO**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **JA TECSON**  
ILLUSTRATIONS BY **SOPHIA CHANG**

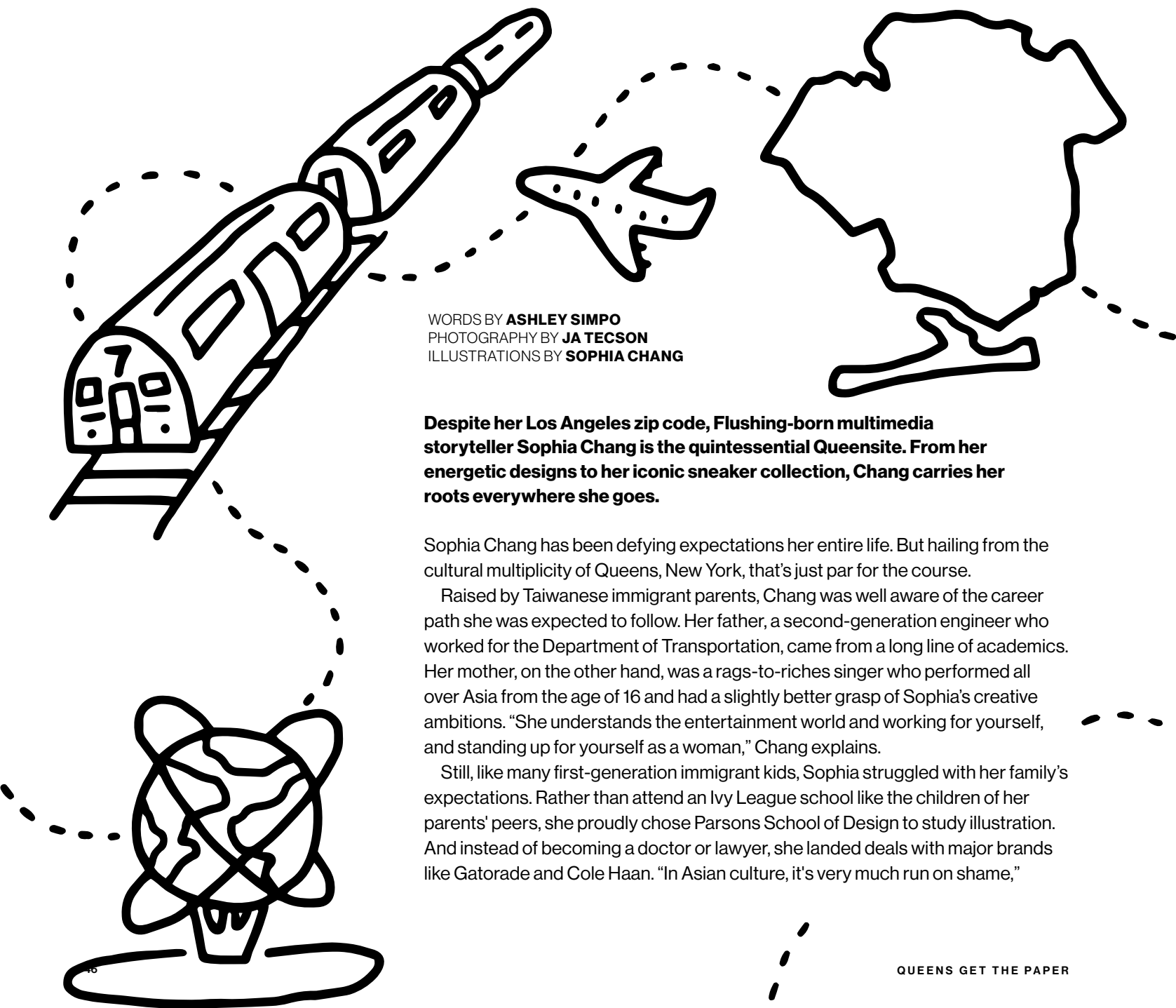
**Despite her Los Angeles zip code, Flushing-born multimedia storyteller Sophia Chang is the quintessential Queensite. From her energetic designs to her iconic sneaker collection, Chang carries her roots everywhere she goes.**

Sophia Chang has been defying expectations her entire life. But hailing from the cultural multiplicity of Queens, New York, that's just par for the course.

Raised by Taiwanese immigrant parents, Chang was well aware of the career path she was expected to follow. Her father, a second-generation engineer who worked for the Department of Transportation, came from a long line of academics. Her mother, on the other hand, was a rags-to-riches singer who performed all over Asia from the age of 16 and had a slightly better grasp of Sophia's creative ambitions. "She understands the entertainment world and working for yourself, and standing up for yourself as a woman," Chang explains.

Still, like many first-generation immigrant kids, Sophia struggled with her family's expectations. Rather than attend an Ivy League school like the children of her parents' peers, she proudly chose Parsons School of Design to study illustration. And instead of becoming a doctor or lawyer, she landed deals with major brands like Gatorade and Cole Haan. "In Asian culture, it's very much run on shame,"

QUEENS GET THE PAPER



says Chang. "So there's a lot of shame that families have to carry with them because they're really into boasting about things."

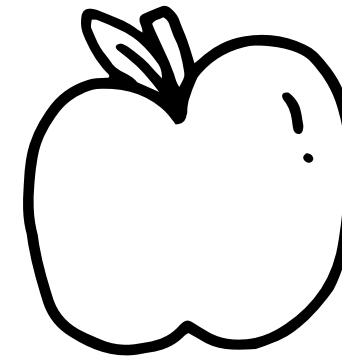
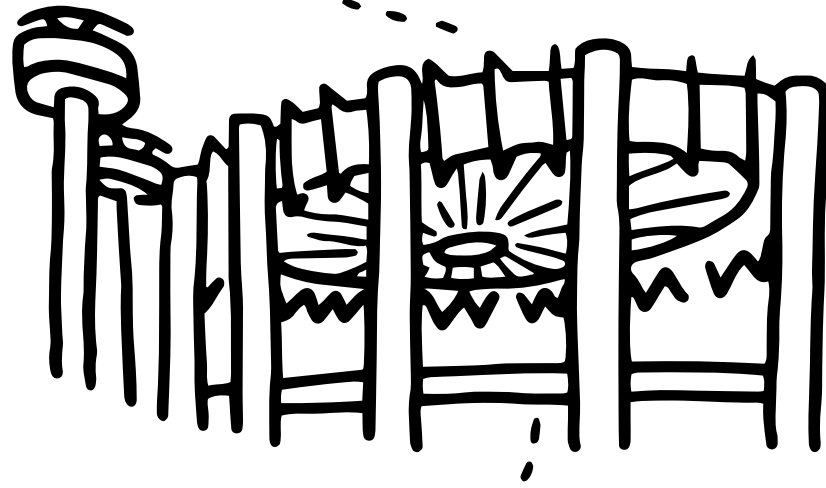
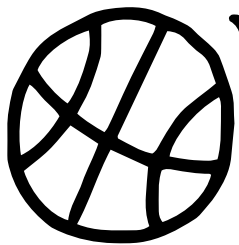
Eventually, Sophia's achievements became impossible to ignore. After landing a capsule collection with Puma, her parents stumbled upon her work on a billboard while vacationing in Europe. "They were like, 'Oh my gosh, your stuff is here, but it's right next to the Hermès store.'"

But while Sophia might have been the black sheep in her family, she fit right in with her peers. Growing up in Queens, she was surrounded by other first-generation kids who faced similar struggles. "No matter if you were Asian, Indian, Latina, whatever—we were all just in it to win it together," she recalls.

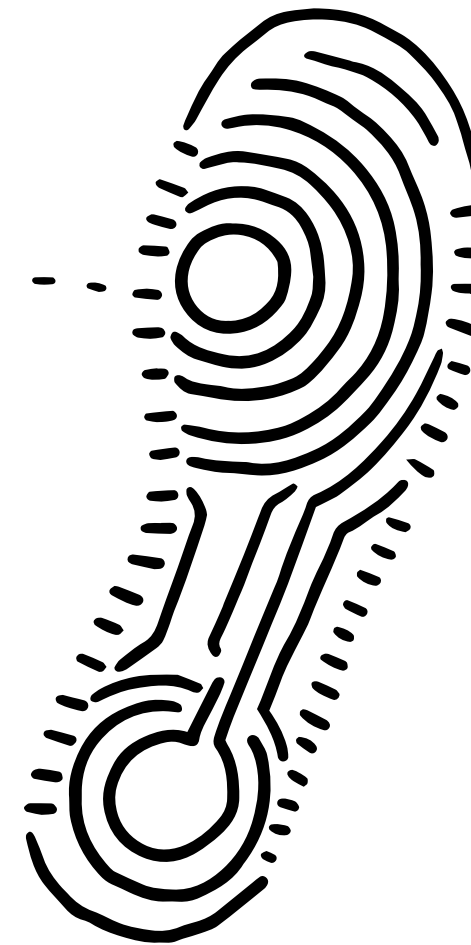
In 2015, Sophia relocated to Los Angeles, a change that took time to adjust to. "I was very bicoastal the first five years. I was going back to New York almost every month." The culture shock was significant after spending most of her life immersed in the diversity of the World's Borough, where nearly 800 different languages are spoken. "There's so much New York here in my home that reminds me of home," Chang reflects.

Sophia's determination to keep Queens alive in her life and home grew even stronger after becoming a parent. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it became crucial for her to create a space that felt familiar to her roots. She moved to a walkable neighborhood and incorporated touchstones of New York life into her home, such as a MetroCard replica area rug and gallery-style illustrations of brownstones and storefronts. She primarily speaks Mandarin to her son to maintain their connection to Taiwanese roots, which can easily be overshadowed when English dominates.

As an artist, Sophia's work is deeply influenced by Queens. "My artwork has a lot of iconography, phrases."



"WE'RE ALL  
JUST IN IT TO  
WIN IT TOGETHER."



It's very attention-grabbing, it's inviting, it's fun." The busyness and energy of her intricate doodles and designs reflect the vibrancy and color of her upbringing. "The 7 train is an [aboveground] train, so you see all the graffiti, Five Pointz, Shea Stadium when it used to be Shea Stadium with the figures," Chang reminisced. "[In Queens] there was just so much visual, food, and sensory overload all at once. I feel like a lot of that feeds into my artwork."

It's not always easy to see the big picture when you're close to something, so Sophia's love for Queens has only deepened since she left. "Queens is like the most amazing place in the world. I've really started to understand that more, especially in the past 10 years." The last decade has also brought a heightened awareness of the importance of identity. "Especially with the Black Lives Matter movement and the Stop Asian Hate movement, we're becoming so hyperaware as a country of our skin color and identity," Chang observed. "It definitely brings up a lot of reflection."

When asked about what's next, Sophia happily shared her latest brand collaboration with BÉIS, the luggage line founded by Shay Mitchell. She designed a doodle print inspired by national parks for their kids' collection. "It's great to be a creator and also a mom," Sophia exclaimed. Additionally for the recent Lunar New Year, she worked with children's skincare brand Tubby Todd on a fun serpentine product packaging that represents the Year of the Snake. "My journey is now like how do I own that on a day-to-day [basis] as a working mom and also as someone who creates? I'm really excited to try to grow more in that world."

# the CRATE

# the CRATE



WORDS BY **GEO HAGAN**

**Representing Far Rockaway, the Crate is a streetwear brand doubling down on authentic Queens style and establishing deep community roots.**

Often, the most enduring things in life arise from a place of necessity. That's exactly the case with the Crate, a Queens-based streetwear brand that oozes authenticity and realness. The brand was launched in 2014 in Far Rockaway by co-founders and friends, Tyrell Oliver and Terrill Kirk. It started off as a neighborhood fashion shop carrying multiple brands, where the community could come to get freshly dipped. But then, it quickly grew to embody and represent much more.

"The motivation behind starting the Crate was to provide a unique shopping experience in our neighborhood, which was missing when we were coming up," Oliver says. His partner Kirk adds, "We got the name of the store from a Stack Bundles quote: 'Fresh off the block, I got the print of the crate on me.' And that was the beginning of everything."

Over the years, the neighborhood shop evolved into having its own in-house label, and that same level of authenticity and no-frills flavor governs their seasonal collections. "Coming from Queens and growing up in the '90s gave us that edgy authentic streetwear look. Basically, we're staying true to the culture and giving the consumers



the same feel that caught our eyes as we grew into fashion," Oliver proudly states. That stripped-down ethos is the main driver of the word-of-mouth buzz that continues to propel the brand forward. To date, the Crate's creations have been rocked by a slew of respected celebrities, including J. Cole, Jadakiss, Jalen Green, Jim Jones, 50 Cent, Carmelo Anthony, and Issa Rae, just to name a few.

The community-driven mission of the Crate runs deep, and the co-founders make it a point to give back consistently to the neighborhood that continues to show them love. To date, the Crate has done major giveaways of book bags and more, and they even have a basketball team in Far Rockaway called Team Crate. "That's our way of always keeping our stamp in the hood," Kirk states.

Looking forward to the future, the inspirational leaders behind the brand are still brimming with energy and enthusiasm. When speaking of aspirational collabs for the Crate, Kirk offers, "My dream collab is Carhartt. I grew up watching my pops wearing it for work. It's a very special brand to me that I wear daily now. It's my uniform." Oliver chimes in with their overarching brand vision, "We are looking to expand and grow the Crate worldwide."

With so many new streetwear brands seeking quick bucks and instant clout, the Crate proves that operating with integrity and real passion is the best formula for sustained success and rewarding longevity.



Photography by: **Aaron Dee**

# Thrifted Treasures

WORDS BY **ASHLEY SIMPO**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **ANDREW LOPICCOLO**

**Diving into the Queens vintage scene reflects the borough's rich character and exceptional blend of cultures. The shops hold a wealth of uniqueness that showcases why Queens is a vintage-lover's paradise.**

Bliss Vintage & Handmade in Sunnyside, Queens, is a 340-square-foot boutique run by artist Rebecca "Violet" Vicars. Overflowing with curated artisanal goods and vintage treasures, this cozy shop features a unique atmosphere, including a legendary hidden fitting room. Its handpicked items that tell a story and an overall vibe that inspires exploration and experimentation. Adding to the fun is the fact that Bliss supports fair-trade artisans and serves the community's price-conscious needs. This shop is a local favorite for those seeking one-of-a-kind finds.



**BLISS VINTAGE  
& HANDMADE (BY VIOLET'S VOLITION)**  
41-03 46TH ST, SUNNYSIDE, NY 11104  
@VIOLETSVOLITION

**PLUSH NYC COFFEE CUP**

BY KATE DURKIN | @KATEMDURKIN

AVAILABLE AT BLISS VINTAGE





# WE ARE MERCADO

WORDS BY GEO HAGAN

**One of the most inspirational things about living in Queens is the natural symbiosis and collaboration that happens between cultures and talented creators. We Are Mercado is one of those interesting and vibrant intersections. It's a clothing brand and creative partnership between two Flushing, Queens natives, Marco Tejada and Marlon Cole. Tejada is of Ecuadorian and Dominican descent, and Cole possesses a Trinidadian and Guyanese lineage.**

Tejada already had his own brand named Q718, and with regards to launching Mercado, he states: "Mercado is a collaboration between proud Flushing Queens natives that focuses on cultural heritage and preservation through the arts."

The Mercado brand is way more than just apparel. It's a dynamic vehicle for Tejada and Cole to explore and share their Caribbean and South American experiences through music, design, food, and art. Together they have launched community-building workshops to teach kids how to make their own silk screens and develop their innate artistic talents.

"Last session I had was in RFK Junior High, where I had a group of kids that were autistic and I did a two week program where we created one of one t-shirts with they designed...and made the students peel and press the design onto the shirt."

The current Mercado collection is titled "Seven Train Dreamers" — it's a capsule that represents the dreams and aspirations of all the diverse individuals who ride the iconic 7-train in Queens.

Tejada shared his own inspirational immigrant story about how his family settled in Queens. "My grandfather went from having a bakery in the Dominican Republic to bringing his kids to Corona, Queens to pursue the American Dream," he says. "And similarly, my grandmother migrated from Ecuador to Woodside Queens."

In the great borough of Queens, a train line is never just a means of transportation, and a clothing brand is never just a collection of garments. "I think this brand is really about making your dreams come true," Tejada says. "And always representing who you are and where you come from."



# Against.

## ALL ODDS

WORDS BY ABE BEAME  
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHELLE GRÜNWARD

30 years into his legendary multifaceted career, Nas is embarking on his most epic project yet.

“This project is perfect for Queens,” Nas tells me, on a Tuesday afternoon in a conference room at Mass Appeal HQ. “New York has never had this,” the Queensbridge native says about Resorts World’s proposed expansion, as if it doesn’t sit right with him. “But we’re supposed to be a trend setting city, so I wanted to bring this here.” From his vantage point, in his words, it’s a simple problem with a simple solution. There’s an opportunity to make Queens a destination for the world and with the correct approach and execution it’s going to happen. “These are the things I wanted to see growing up in Queens.”

# Against.

## ALL ODDS



**It's the perspective of an artist, and a business person, accustomed to routinely achieving the impossible. When he first made the connection between artist and corporation, foundational hip-hop figure Ralph McDaniels, who created the early hip-hop engine Video Music Box, who directed the music video for Illmatic's lead single, but most importantly, who grew up between Bed Stuy and Queens Village, understood immediately why Nasir Jones would be the perfect ambassador to help Resorts World open a casino in Queens; Because he already did.**

Of his first meeting with Nas for the project, Ralph says, "I told him, you opened a casino with G Rap in '95. He laughed and said, 'Oh shit, you're right.' Nas had forgotten." McDaniels is referring to the low budget 1995 video for "Fast Life" off Kool G Rap's 4,5,6, in which the two men first plot over a miniature model, surrounded by lawyers in suits, then on a site where a cheaply printed sign for the "Fast Life" casino has been hung on a chain link fence in front of the exposed skeleton of a building under construction.

It was an early stage in his chrysalis, evolving from Nasty Nas to Escobar. Esco would emerge a year later fully formed, at the beginning of "Street Dreams", the video for the second single off It Was Written, when Nas gets in a car that promptly blows up. He's cast himself as Robert De Niro, specifically De Niro as Sam Rothstein in Martin Scorsese's Casino, a film about street guys who take over a kingdom in the middle of a desert. The aesthetic put forward by Scorsese, and De Palma, and Coppola played a large part in Nas' "Escobar Era", that followed somewhat surprisingly from the triumph of his debut classic. The Queens kid rocking a brimmed skullie under a hood, spouting ghetto mysticism, universal truths, and wisdom well beyond his years was replaced by a swaggering rap star in oversized dress shirt collars and tinted lenses in gold frames. It was an



QUEENS GET THE PAPER

## To Black homeowners, take over and throw the lease out.

homage, play-acting as his heroes in a narrative he deeply related to. Now Nas is doing more than dressing up as his heroes in music videos. The man running out of bucket list items to check is on the precipice of converting one last impossible childhood dream to reality. This is the full fruition of those efforts, a project the whole city has its eyes on, that will materially change it forever.

The Aqueduct Racetrack can be found in Ozone Park, on the outskirts of southeastern Queens, bordering Jamaica Bay. It takes its name from another body of water, the Ridgewood aqueduct. The track is 130-year-old, and was looked at as the city's premier horse racing arena when it was still the sport of kings in America. In 2011, Resorts World, a global hospitality and gaming conglomerate, dipped its toe into the city with a racino (a portmanteau of Race Track + Casino) that skirted prohibition laws by keeping everything digital, from slots to virtual table games.

But now gaming is coming to the city "for real" with three downstate licenses that would allow for a Vegas style casino (i.e. in person table games like craps and blackjack with actual dealers). New York City's two existing racinos, one in Yonkers and the Aqueduct, are seen as the most obvious, logical sites for two of those three licenses, because they already have the existing footprint and infrastructure to expand their already massive campus. This is why Resorts World has chosen a proud son of Queens to serve as their partner in getting their plans off the ground, which go far beyond gambling. The 350,000 square foot, \$5 billion proposed expansion is a five digit job creator, both in hospitality gigs and the construction jobs it would create to make the space. It's why, in the midst of an incredibly busy time for Nas — between launching an adaptation of the classic breakdance film Beat Street on Broadway, and recording the mythic album with his longtime producer DJ Premier that has been roughly 30 years in the making — he's dove into the casino project headfirst.

The proposal includes hotel rooms, conference space, a Kenny "The Jet Smith" led innovation center, food from

Harlem's celebrity chef restaurateur Marcus Samuelsson, and most importantly for Nas' role, a 7,000 seat concert hall, which would make it one of the largest non-arena venues in the city. But it's a healthy competition, with applicants like Mets multi billionaire owner Steve Cohen in the mix with competing projects. It was recently announced the final decision on awarding licenses would likely come down at the end of 2025, and will need a team of accomplished, front-facing advocates to get the Resorts World expansion over the goalline.

So far, Nas has served as a kind of corporate translator for the project. Michelle Stoddart is Resort World's Vice President of Community Development, as well as a member on the board of the Queens Public Library, where she initially made the connection to Ralph McDaniels, which led to Nas. Michelle explains Nas's role, as a cultural ambassador, not a spokesperson, she's quick to point out, "He's the person that is communicating directly with the community, with the public, and he's brought excitement and finesse to those communications. He's brought the culture to what we're doing. You can almost say that Resorts World as a company is very conservative. Nas presented us with the opportunity to express ourselves in a different way." McDaniels initially pitched Nas as the perfect ambassador to Stoddart because, "He cares about people. And besides it being a good business venture, Resorts World is injecting jobs into South Jamaica, which needs it, and Nas knows that because he's very familiar with that community. Those are hardcore Nas fans."

But his advocacy is more valuable than press conferences and public appearances. "I love meeting Senators, going upstate to talk to people who make things happen... It's refreshing to deal with people who aren't just talking about jobs and the community." Nas says of his new role as a lobbyist. You understand the power of having Nas in your corner when even state senators can be reduced to teenage fans in his presence, as Jamaal T. Bailey was when Nas appeared in Albany to be honored on the 30th

Anniversary of Illmatic in the spring of 2024. Nas has never lobbied Bailey directly, but the Wakefield born senator representing Westchester County is a diehard, reciting Nas' bars in his responses to a reporter's questions when he says, "Nas has always spoken about building wealth in the Black community. On "Legit" (referencing the 2022 track on King's Disease III) he says, 'To Black homeowners, take over and throw the lease out.' The casino project is but one way for him to continue to help build the community he was raised in."

We have learned to view celebrity pitchmen for high stakes development projects with an air of skepticism, but there is a logic to Nas being involved both in terms of where he is in his career trajectory and how he's gotten here. When Nas became Esco, critics derided the shift as a betrayal of what they projected on the rapper as a crunchy consciousness. It can now be seen as a maturation, growing up and recognizing his power as well as his commercial appeal. It represented his ambition to be more than a broke, well-read griot without the connections or resources to change anything.

That transformation in art has played out in life for the rapper over the past several years, transitioning from an artist to mogul with interests and talents beyond the recording industry. He owns, Mass Appeal, the label that releases his albums, dropping at a stunningly consistent clip in what has historically been the winding down period in a rapper's career (assuming they've lasted this long maintaining excellence/relevance, a list with less than five names on it). He has a diverse investment portfolio in the tech space including an early bet on Ring that netted him 40 million dollars. A far cry from agonizing over whether to spend his last dollar on malt liquor or to gamble on a lottery ticket.

Nas has built his portfolio consciously, with a clear feel for what his brand is and what it means. Because Resorts World has committed to its involvement in the community with holiday toy and clothes giveaways and beautification projects in from Queensbridge to Far Rock, not to mention a working relationship with an outer borough hip hop OG like Ralph McDaniels as their liaison. "We're working on a scholarship program, [Kenny Smith] is building

basketball courts, they got Christmas in Queens back in my neighborhood. Seeing how much [Resorts World] is involved really means a lot to me." Nas says.

Kiran Goraya helped Nas launch and develop his clothing brand HSTRY and collaborates with the artist regularly on merch drops. When it comes to the question of who Nas will either hire, or decide to work with, "Nas is definitely a person who goes with his gut. And it's not just about the person's accolades. It's like, does he vibe with them? Can he trust them? Can he be around them? He has to just feel that. He's willing to give people a chance, even if they're not the most experienced. And I've seen it go the other way, where someone has all the accolades, then it might not necessarily interest him." Goraya says. "If it's something I believe in, something I know can stand on its own too, I'm with it." Nas says, of the casino project and the type of projects he's historically been interested in. "I like situations where it's already airtight, there's an infrastructure in place, everyone involved is bringing something to the table, and I'm bringing something to the table."

He's not rubber stamping checks or signing away his name and likeness, he's a hands-on collaborator who needs to be in the room and part of every conversation his interests are attached to. Michelle Stoddart has had her share of lackluster, unenthusiastic, paycheck pitchmen on projects and paints Nas in stark contrast, "A bad version of this would be somebody doing exactly what is asked of them and nothing more. They're on the demanding side. It's a paycheck job for them. That is not Nas' personality. This has truly been a partnership where this person wanted to see what was on the table, wanted to make a genuine contribution. He's been about creativity and what would be innovative for Queens. And that's what we're really appreciating right now."

But what Resorts World, and Nas are most excited for is his forthcoming role both in the music hall and entertainment programming for the casino. Nas has always been enamored with legends of entertainment, "I think about Sinatra and the Rat Pack. I think about Anita Baker, Celine Deon, Janet Jackson. I think about hip hop music, and I think about people having the time of their lives." The rapper who is two weeks out from performing in Vegas with an orchestra envisions bringing old school glitz to Queens, remixed for his borough. "He's really into the idea of bringing quality performances, quality experiences to Queens, which he has the ability to provide because of who he is." Ralph McDaniels says. Stoddart confirmed this means a real role as a curator, "focusing on non-casino entertainment elements that will be part of the project", with equity in the space, not a superficial brand collab.

McDaniels puts it into pragmatic, wise old head terms, speaking to why he feels the Aqueduct project provides an arrangement worth celebrating, rather than sneering at, "I think the most important thing is that Resorts World is smart enough to connect with a guy who's totally anchored in the community, and that doesn't happen on a corporate level a lot. So that's a feather in their cap, as well as Nas being smart enough to understand that he can push the culture forward as far as hip hop is concerned and as far as his brand is concerned. And take it to somewhere where people might not have expected that." Nas puts it into slightly less pragmatic terms. "I like to be a part of things that blow up into something massive."

“  
Nas is  
definitely  
a person  
who goes  
with his gut.  
”

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# ANOBLE CALLING

WORDS BY **JAEKI CHO** PHOTOGRAPHY BY **PAUL GALLAGHER**

*Jaeki Cho's deep Queens roots fuel his love for championing diverse, authentic cuisines.*



**My story in Queens began in 1998 when my family arrived in New York City. Traveling from South Korea by way of China, we landed in the vibrant, eclectic borough. By the time I was 9, I had already lived in three countries, attended three schools, and learned three languages.**

Unlike the homogenous streets of Seoul and Nanjing, Queens was a whirlwind of cultures. Living in Jackson Heights, Elmhurst, and Woodside—modern-day Ellis Islands—I experienced a perpetual tasting menu of diversity. Living off the 7 train, which coursed through a mosaic of multiethnic neighborhoods, I couldn't help but be enveloped by the city's rich immigrant tapestry.

My friends hailed from Colombia, Mexico, Bangladesh, India, Romania, China, Russia, and Poland. For most, English was a second or third language. The identities we displayed at home for our parents contrasted sharply with those we showed at school. Like most teenagers, we were eager to fit in and experiment. So we looked to popular culture, like DJ Clue and G-Unit mixtapes, for guidance.

Queens had its share of segregation and isolation, but the sheer diversity made it unique. Growing up in an enclave where no single group was the majority allowed me—a kid who idolized Nas, spoke fluent Korean, and attended SAT cram school—to blend in seamlessly. Surrounded by last names like Rodriguez, Singh, Kissenides, Iqbal, Nassef, La Forte, and Normatov every day I found my place in this cultural patchwork, never feeling out of step. Cursing in Greek, Uzbek, Polish, and Patwah was standard. Eating congee and youtiao for breakfast, grabbing lunch at



QUEENS GET THE PAPER



“These experiences shaped my identity, giving me a deep appreciation for the immigrant hustle.”

Sammy's Halal cart, enjoying bandeja paisa for dinner, and sipping bubble tea for dessert was my norm.

For us first-gen (or 1.5-gen) immigrants, adapting to a new culture was only half the battle. The other half was surviving the perpetual anxiety that our status could be revoked at any moment. Navigating America's legal maze felt like hopping a turnstile in the Stop-and-Frisk era. I always feared that one wrong move—even a pink slip from the NYPD—could derail my path to citizenship. So, for me, growing up in Queens also meant annual pilgrimages to Jamaica for Social Security renewals. When my family finally secured that coveted green card, we celebrated quietly, knowing many friends remained undocumented or relied on DACA, the 2012 lifeline for those who arrived here as kids.

Meanwhile, our parents ran grocery stores, restaurants, and laundromats, their businesses the backbone of our community and our education. These experiences shaped my identity, giving me a deep appreciation for the immigrant hustle.

Righteous Eats is a tribute to my Queens roots. It's fueled by a love for diverse cuisines and a mission to elevate street vendors and restaurateurs. Growing up in Queens didn't just teach me how to speak different languages; it taught me how to thrive in any room, champion the underdog, and endlessly strive for better. And so, with my Mets hat on and a nod to the Unisphere, I continue to honor the rich soil that made me who I am.

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# LOCAL LEGENDS

WORDS BY ASHLEY SIMPO  
ILLUSTRATION BY MICHELLE GRÜNWARD

The borough of Queens has been the homeland of incredible musical talent, producing legends across genres and generations. From innovative hip-hop giants like Run-DMC and A Tribe Called Quest to the genre-defining voices of Cyndi Lauper and Louis Armstrong, this borough has consistently shaped the music world. Whether through groundbreaking rap, soulful ballads, or timeless jazz, Queens stands as a vibrant cultural hub, influencing the global music landscape. While it's impossible to capture every influential artist from Queens in a single list, their collective impact is undeniable.

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <b>1 Tony Bennett</b><br>Long Island City     | <b>7 Chinx Drugz</b><br>Far Rockaway     | <b>13 Stack Bundles</b><br>Far Rockaway      |
| <b>2 Simon &amp; Garfunkel</b><br>Kew Gardens | <b>8 Sandra "Pepa" Denton</b><br>Jamaica | <b>14 Bernadette Peters</b><br>Ozone Park    |
| <b>3 Louis Armstrong</b><br>Corona            | <b>9 Kelly Price</b><br>Far Rockaway     | <b>15 Action Bronson</b><br>Flushing         |
| <b>4 The Ramones</b><br>Forest Hills          | <b>10 Run-DMC</b><br>Hollis              | <b>16 A Tribe Called Quest</b><br>St. Albans |
| <b>5 Dee Snider</b><br>Astoria                | <b>11 50 Cent</b><br>South Jamaica       | <b>17 Salaam Remi</b><br>Jamaica             |
| <b>6 Cyndi Lauper</b><br>Ozone Park           | <b>12 Nicki Minaj</b><br>South Jamaica   | <b>18 NAS</b><br>Queensbridge                |





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# TOP PICKS

CHEF MARCUS SAMUELSSON'S  
FAVORITE BITES IN QUEENS

WORDS BY CAROLINE SHIN

Award-winning chef, TV personality, author and philanthropist, Marcus Samuelsson no doubt keeps himself busy. Ethiopian-Swedish-American with apprenticeships in Switzerland, Austria, and France, he's parlayed his globe-trotting into his restaurants and menus.

At Red Rooster in Harlem, he doles out soul food hits like fried yardbird and biscuits. At seafood-focused Hav & Mar in Chelsea, salmon gets cured in berbere seasoning and a rib-eye steak is cooked with white miso. Marcus Bar and Grille in Atlanta features coconut curry cauliflower with hot honey. Back in 2009, for President Barack Obama's first state dinner honoring Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Samuelsson served short ribs in a lemongrass and plum sauce. And now, he's brought his renowned chicken rotisserie spot, Streetbird, to Las Vegas in an exciting new venture with Resorts World.

For this inaugural issue, Samuelsson has turned his global outlook to the world's borough: Queens. Nearly half of the residents are immigrants, many of whom have propped up restaurants that serve their communities. Here's a look at Samuelsson's picks.



TAX  
TOTAL

## NA RATH RESTAURANT

86-08 WHITNEY AVE, QUEENS, NY 11373

Na Rath is an all-you-can-eat Thai and sushi buffet in Elmhurst that's so good it has drawn a following among the local Thai community. The whole fried fish is served with noodles, herbs like mint, and tamarind dipping sauce—all wrapped inside lettuce leaves for a mouthful of savory and sweet, soft and crispy. The crab curry is a hit, too.

FOLLOW @NARATH\_MEGAMILLIONS\_PLUS\_NYC



## ZYARA RESTAURANT

25-53 STEINWAY ST, ASTORIA, NY 11103

This Jordanian-owned eatery in Astoria's Little Egypt executes the staples of a Middle Eastern grill superbly. Juicy mounds of chicken or lamb shawarma are sliced off the rotating spits and funneled into freshly baked flatbread. Pair them with a black lentil soup, creamy hummus, or a vibrant fattoush salad.

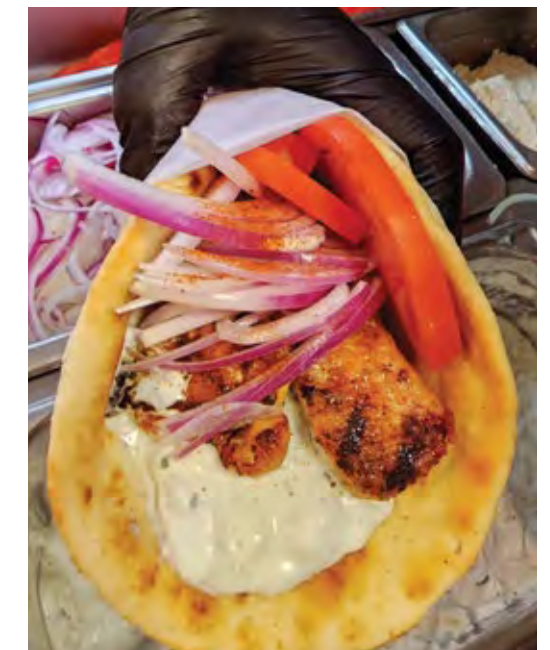
FOLLOW @ZYARARESTAURANTASTORIA

## GYRO UNO PIZZERIA

2801 STEINWAY ST, QUEENS, NY 11103

This Mexican-owned Greek and Italian spot is quintessential New York. It's a one-stop shop for hot pizza, flavorful beef and lamb gyros (try the gyro pizza for a double-header), as well as hot entrees like lasagna, lamb chops, and omelet quesadillas.

FOLLOW @GYROUNO2801



# INSIDE JOKES



Photo by: Jordan Cole

WORDS BY **LISSA LENIS**

**Sorry, stereotypers, but I'm from Astoria, Queens—not the Bronx. No shade to the Bronx, but Queens has its own distinct energy. Real New Yorkers can spot a Queens native from across the street. We carry ourselves with confidence that some might mistake for arrogance, but trust me, it's just self-assurance.**

Why venture out of Queens when everything you need is right here? We've got our own Chinatown in Flushing, Little Guyana in Richmond Hill, and Jackson Heights is home to the largest Latino community around. In my neighborhood alone, you can savor Greek cuisine, Italian gelato, Bangladeshi curry, and a taste of Rio de Janeiro—all within a few blocks. Queens isn't just diverse—it's overflowing with culture.

Growing up in such a rich mix of cultures wasn't just a backdrop—it became the pulse of my comedy. Being raised in Queens taught me early on how to read a room filled with different voices and perspectives. Whether I'm tearing it up at New York Comedy Club in Manhattan or bringing the laughs at a chill spot like Union Hall in Brooklyn, I step on stage with a lens shaped by Queens' multicultural spirit. My comedy helps me connect with people from all walks of life. It's like having a secret weapon that lets everyone feel like they're in on the joke.

QUEENS GET THE PAPER



Photo by: Arsalan Haider

Being a Latina comedian in a male-dominated industry has made navigating diverse crowds essential to my journey. I've encountered plenty of obstacles—from being denied stage time because I didn't fit a club's "look," to being pressured to stick to stereotypical routines, or flat-out getting less stage time because I'm a woman. But if there's one thing I've learned, it's that staying true to your craft is nonnegotiable. I tackle topics like body image, mental health, and cultural differences because I want to give people a real glimpse into my world. And that doesn't mean putting on an accent or relying on tired clichés about being hit with a chancla. Like Ralph Barbosa said, "I'm a comedian who happens to be Latino, not a Latino comedian." My comedy is a celebration of my identity and where I come from, with the aim of being the representation I never had. In the end, it's this authenticity and tenacity that shaped my voice and

drives me to keep going.

Of course, as comedy evolves, social media has added a whole new twist. It has opened doors for performers who've been grinding for years, giving them a platform to reach wider audiences. At the same time, it's turned into a popularity contest, where your follower count can make or break your visibility. Honestly, though, I couldn't care less. I'm grateful for the fans I have and the opportunities I've been given. Queens isn't just where I grew up; it's the heartbeat of my comedy, the foundation of my strength, and the core of my authenticity. As long as I've got that, no algorithm, gatekeeper, or doubter can shake me. I'm not performing just for applause. I'm here to represent, connect, and remind everyone that real comedy is alive, unpredictable, and unapologetically true to itself.

[FOLLOW LISSA @DAMMN\\_LISSA](#)

ISSUE 01 / SPRING 2025

75

# Queens DREAMS

WORDS BY **LEILONI BRADY**  
ILLUSTRATIONS BY **MICHELLE GRÜNWARD**

*If you can determine the strength and resilience of a place by the brilliance of the women who represent it, then Queens, New York, lives up to its regal name. The women raised here are a glorious representation of what it means to be a rose grown from concrete.*

*Spanning the NBA to hip-hop and the arts, these Queens-born women dominate every cornerstone of culture. They are pioneers and waymakers of their respective divisions, inspiring change and challenging the status quo. They dedicate their divinely given talents, which serve as a catalyst to who they are at their core. This enables them the platform to lend a helping hand to those that need it the most.*

*These are the Queens who had big dreams and stopped at nothing to share their*

*talents with their community. Learn how these women have overcome adversity to become beacons of hope and strength in their communities.*

## TINA CHARLES

“Out of many, one people.” Raised by a Jamaican mother, Tina Charles embodies the nation’s motto. Beyond her phenomenal career in the WNBA, Tina dedicates her life to positively impacting others, especially young athletes.

Inspired by the sudden passing of high school basketball player Wes Leonard, Tina founded Hopey’s Heart Foundation in 2017, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing automated external defibrillators to schools in need. Funded initially by Tina’s WNBA earnings, she generously fulfills her duty to be a leader and resource to others.



## ROXANNE SHANTE

Roxanne Shanté, the original female rapper whose prodigious rhymes continue to pave the way for women in hip-hop. Yet, Roxanne is more than the emcee that the public knows her as.

Her childhood in Queensbridge has led her to become an advocate to young girls and children everywhere. Persistently offering the support she wished she had growing up. Her organization, Mind Over Matter, specifically focuses on high school girls, helping them grow into the successful women they were destined to be.

## MICHELLE STODDART

Michelle Stoddart is an executive who places community at the forefront. As the Senior Vice President of Community Development at Resorts World, Michelle focuses on the people who impact the borough of Queens, New York. Stoddart’s parents are artists and community leaders, so she understands the importance of cultivating a safe space for creativity and connection. She is dedicated to supporting local artists in both her personal and professional life, with a mission of championing them in the corporate sphere.



## TARYN SACRAMONE

Born in Ohio, Taryn Sacramone moved to Queens, New York, in 2001 and decided to dedicate her life to enriching the community further through performing arts.

Theater is a collective experience that evokes emotion in participants both on and off the stage. As the Executive Director of Queens Theatre, Taryn recognizes this and prioritizes inclusion. With her initiative, Theater For All, her mission is to provide opportunities for deaf and disabled performers, while also giving them the platform to pursue and celebrate their talents.



## PEI WEI

As the Co-Owner of Zaab Zaab, a Thai restaurant in the heart of Elmhurst, Pei Wei’s story is one of resilience, empowerment, and deep care for her community. By prioritizing the hiring of immigrants, donating thousands of meals to local nonprofit organizations, and partnering with farms to source fresh ingredients, Pei Wei intentionally uses her business as a vehicle to serve others and provide opportunities in every way that she can.



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—Philip Gardner, *Oberon's Grove*

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Photo by: Sofia Negron





SPORTS

**A**  
**DIAMOND**  
**IN THE**  
**RING**

WORDS BY KAHLIL HAYWOOD  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ASHLI OWENS

**THE NOVICE BOXER TURNED NATIONAL CHAMPION AFTER ONLY A FEW YEARS OF TRAINING AND NOW SETS HER SIGHTS ON BECOMING THE FIRST WOMAN TO REPRESENT BANGLADESH TO COMPETE IN THE OLYMPICS.**

**Google might be the most unlikely breeding grounds for an Olympic Boxing champion, but Global Program Manager Zinnat Ferdous is currently signing off of work for the week and boarding a plane to Spain where she hopes to bring home gold in the Boxam International Tournament.**

Having only begun training for the "sport of kings" in 2019, Ferdous turned pro in 2021.

Her unique journey started with birthday tickets she gifted her then-boyfriend, now husband, to a boxing match at Madison Square Garden. At the time, Ferdous was managing a multimillion dollar program for Google and admittedly wasn't a fan of the sport. "My husband would watch these fights all the time, and I just didn't get it," Ferdous said. "Before his birthday that year, I asked friends what I should get him, and they suggested this Triple G fight at Madison Square Garden. So I got some really good seats, almost front row, and something clicked." Surprised by the art and strategy of the sport, her opinion that boxing was nothing more than senseless punching changed. "I turned to my husband at that moment and said, I think I want to do this."

In 2019, Ferdous started to train and by 2021, a former boxer named Colin Morgan caught her sparring sessions and saw potential in her boxing skills. Morgan believed that Zinnat's talents could take her to the Olympics. Together, they set a goal of trying to make it to the 2024 Paris Games.





A tribute to her culture, Ferdous longs to become the first woman of Bangladeshi descent to represent the country at the Olympics. Her parents came to Astoria, Queens, in the early 1980s. "When my family arrived in Queens, they already had other family members in the neighborhood," Ferdous explained. "All I knew from the time I was born was community. When I think about coming up in Queens, I think about community, diversity, and hard work."

The hard work that Ferdous refers to is namely the example that her father set. "My dad drove a cab when he first came to this country. He was probably my biggest influence in how I approached all of my goals in my life." Seeing the long hours her father would work in order to create the best possibilities for his family resonated with her. The initiative that it took to leave his home country with the vision of something bigger for himself made a lasting impression on Zinnat and shaped her own ambitious drive.

As someone who juggles training for the ring and a demanding 9-5, Zinnat's discipline is paramount. "You just have to make the time. Every day isn't perfect," she said. "But if I can usually get the right start to my day, I'm able to do it all," she went on to say "the best training days are the ones where I'm able to get up early, to get a session in before work, and still be able to train once I'm off of the clock." While Ferdous gives herself grace, she maintains diligence in managing the responsibilities of her life, even with its unique demands.

It's a pace that pales in comparison to the average workday. But it's one that Ferdous has been deeply passionate about, in her endeavor to become the first woman to represent Bangladesh in the Olympics. Due to registration errors beyond her control, her journey to the Paris Games ended before it began but Ferdous now sets her sights on the application to compete in the 2028 Los Angeles Games.

Any doubts about continuing on have surely been extinguished when Ferdous closed out 2024 with a historic bronze medal at Poland's international women's boxing championship, the Silesian Open, Bangladesh's first medal from the European Boxing Confederation. And if the past four years are any indication of what the world can expect from Zinnat Ferdous, the future looks as bright as gold.

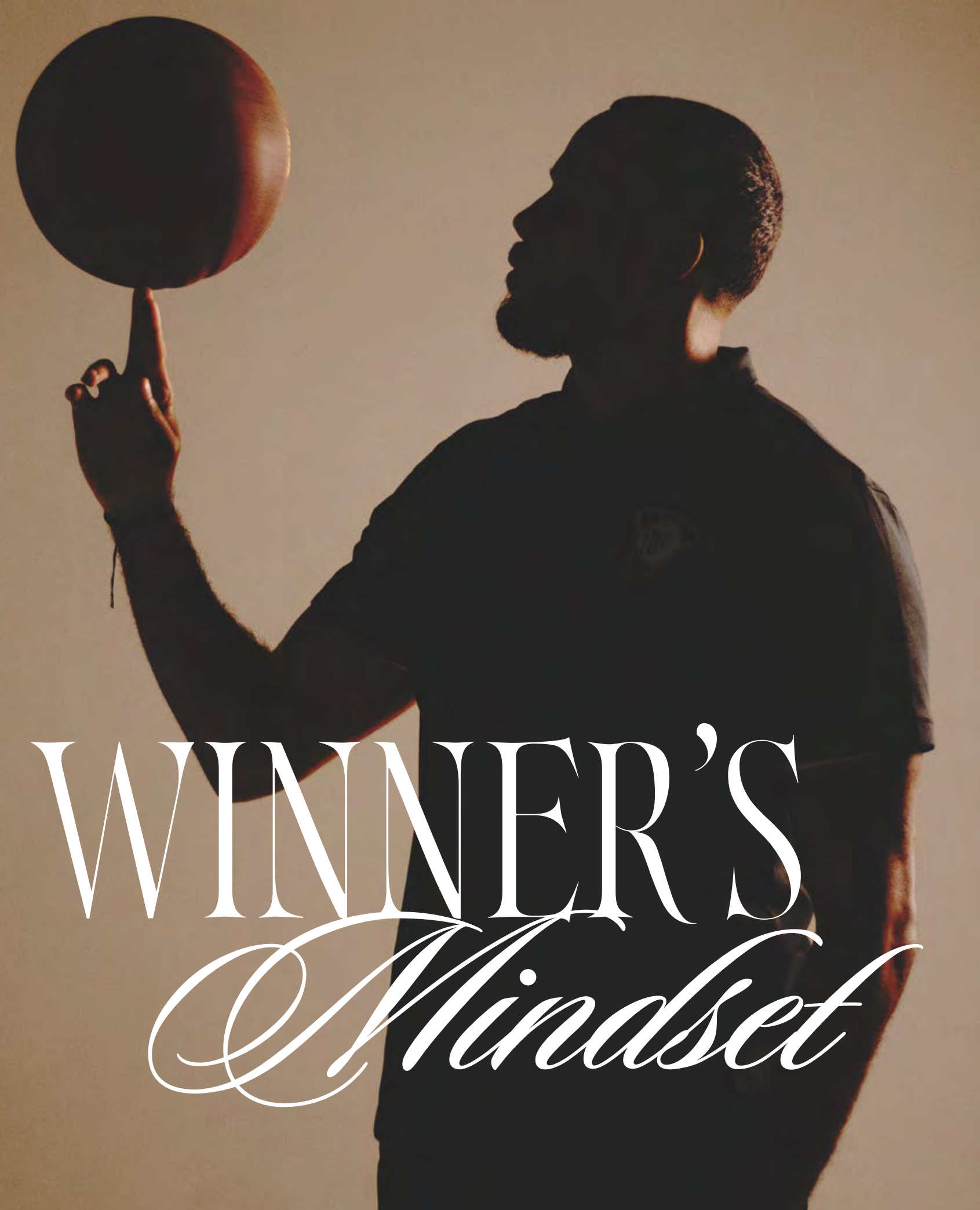


**“WHEN I THINK ABOUT COMING UP IN QUEENS, I THINK ABOUT COMMUNITY, DIVERSITY, AND HARD WORK.”**

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# WINNER'S *Mindset*

WORDS BY **JEFF JOHNSON**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **ASHLI OWENS**

**“A coach is way more than a coach. You're a counselor, a father figure, an instructor, a disciplinarian. You're so many different things. It's a 24/7 job.”**

Kevin Hamilton Jr. knew what it takes to be a coach long before he became a counselor and varsity head coach at Eagle Academy for Young Men II. Before he trained students at Hamilton Hoops Academy. Before he met transformative coaches like Ralph Willard, who instilled a winner's mindset in him.

He saw these principles in practice at home.

Kevin credits his parents for their exemplary efforts. His mom, Netty was the family linchpin whose instrumental efforts led to his success. Kevin Hamilton Sr. was affectionately known as “Coach” around the neighborhood. Witnessing his dad's impact on the community inspired Kevin to embark on his own mentorship journey.

“He was like a father figure for a lot of kids in the community,” Kevin recalled. “Seeing what type of effect he was able to have on so many people's lives and how many people respected him because of it. That was something I definitely had in the back of my mind as I transitioned into coaching.”

Kevin played high school hoops at Queens basketball staple Archbishop Molloy. After a stellar college career at Holy Cross College, he embarked on a successful decade-long international professional career with stops in Poland, Puerto Rico, Germany, and France.

Kevin sought roles in education after retiring from pro basketball.

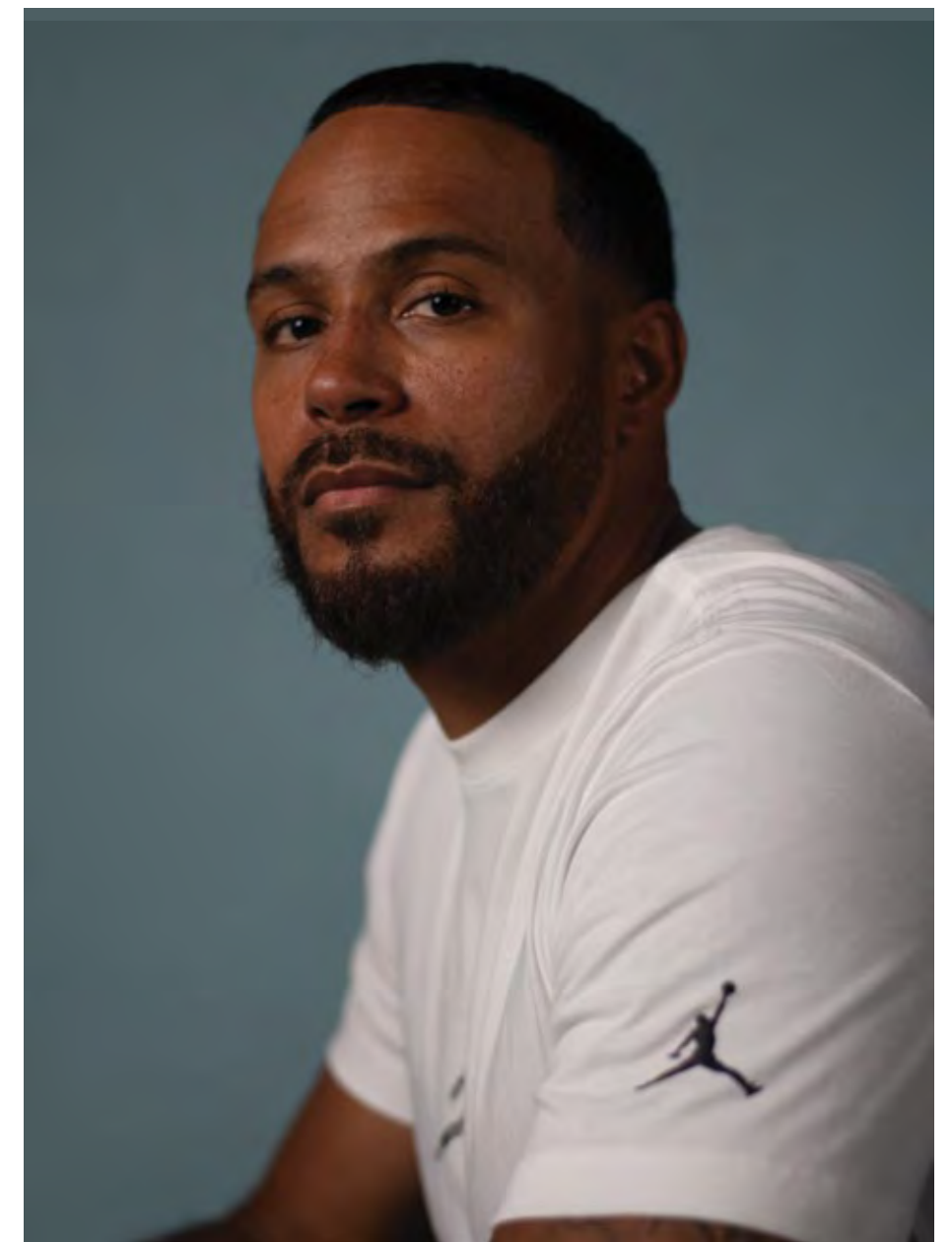
His former teammate, Jave Meade, recommended Eagle Academy, where his brother Rashad served as principal. While working as a paraprofessional, Kevin encountered a student who wasn't particularly receptive to teachers and school officials but found common ground with the 10-year pro through basketball.

Hamilton recognized his unique ability to garner trust from this student and decided his time would be more impactful as a counselor than as a teacher. Principal Rashad agreed to let him become a counselor on

one condition: He had to coach the basketball team too. Kevin agreed and hasn't looked back since.

As both a counselor and coach, Kevin mentors the kind of youth his father once did—Black and Brown boys who are good kids but have often been dealt a tough hand by circumstances. For a former pro athlete who never envisioned becoming a coach, Kevin saw the path before him. The same path “Coach” Sr. walked every day.

Hamilton connects with his students through principles that transcend generational differences:





discipline, accountability, integrity, hard work, and empathy. While Eagle Academy has raised banners at the borough and city levels, and even landed a sponsorship from Jordan, Kevin quantifies success by how his students apply their experience to life off the court.

"If they're an entrepreneur or a lawyer or a political activist, but they use the structure of what we taught them in our program, that's success to me," said Hamilton. "They're productive and accountable and disciplined. I think we did our job, especially as a high school coach."

It's poetic to see a son of Queens Village utilize collective community mentorship to raise the next generation of children. Hamilton's efforts help convert generational curses into transformational benedictions for the youth at Eagle Academy.

A famous Queens-born superhero's uncle coined the classic maxim: "With great power, there must also come great responsibility." Kevin embraces this responsibility of mentorship, like his parents and coaches before him, and he recognizes the power of positive influences on impressionable kids.

"It's an obligation when you have this level of basketball knowledge and all these life experiences, and you come from communities similar to where these kids come from. To try to pass it down, it really inspired me. Then, it became a passion ... and that's what I want to do for the rest of my life."

[FOLLOW @HAMILTONHOOPSACADEMY](#)

“  
When you have this  
level of basketball  
knowledge and all these  
life experiences, ...  
try to pass it down.  
”



# WILL & DESIRE

WORDS BY GEO HAGAN

*Fresh off winning gold and silver medals at the Paris Olympics, Queens native and Harvard student Lauren Scruggs, is just getting started.*

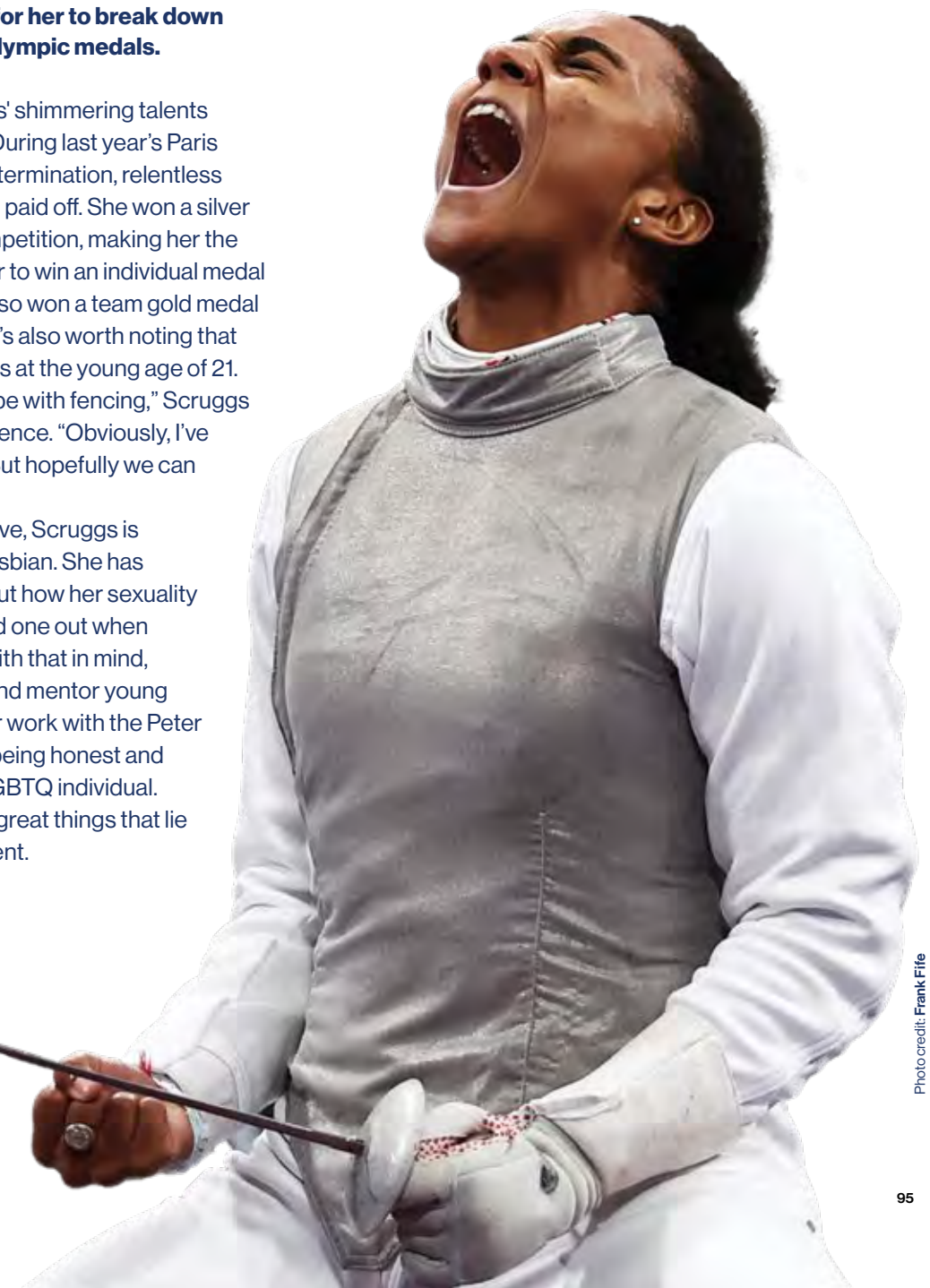
**It's a beautiful thing when childhood interests and pastimes become adult passions and accomplishments. For Lauren Scruggs, fencing was a sport she picked up at the age of nine, mostly because it was something her older brother, Nolan, was into. He was a huge Star Wars fan and sibling sword-fighting duels were common occurrences in their household. Little did they know that it would become a conduit for her to break down monumental barriers and win Olympic medals.**

Fast forward to 2024, and Scruggs' shimmering talents were displayed on a world stage. During last year's Paris Olympics, her years of dogged determination, relentless training, and unyielding dedication paid off. She won a silver medal in the women's fencing competition, making her the first African American woman ever to win an individual medal in the sport. And to top it off, she also won a team gold medal with her Team USA compatriots. It's also worth noting that she achieved these high accolades at the young age of 21. "I just want to see how good I can be with fencing," Scruggs shares about her Olympics experience. "Obviously, I've made it pretty far with this event. But hopefully we can shoot for the stars."

Adding to her impressive narrative, Scruggs is openly queer and a proud Black lesbian. She has candidly remarked in the past about how her sexuality and race made her feel like the odd one out when she was coming up in the sport. With that in mind, she makes it a point to give back and mentor young athletes—whether it's through her work with the Peter Westbrook Foundation or just by being honest and outspoken about being a proud LGBTQ individual.

We truly can't wait to see all the great things that lie ahead from this gifted Queens talent.

**FOLLOW LAUREN @SAUCYSCRUGGS**





MUSIC

# STREET SYMPHONY

WORDS BY ANTHONY MALONE  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREW LOPICCOLO

**Razor-sharp lyricist, Rome Streetz and Buffalo producer, Daringer, connect for a highly anticipated collab project.**

**Queens has always been a thriving mecca for hip-hop, and Rome Streetz, an elite Brooklyn rapper who spent several stints of his youth in the world's borough, knows that all too well. His slick delivery has often been compared to exceptional lyricists like Big L, while his raw, street storytelling has drawn comparisons to street rap legend, Kool G Rap.**

Originally born in London, Rome and his family moved to New York when he was just 2 years old. They first settled in Cambria Heights before moving on to Elmont, Long Island. During this period, his aunt in Lefrak City was one of his regular babysitters — this was also where his cousin first introduced him to rap music. “We used to watch Juice and reenact different scenes from the movie, so you can say I've always been into hip-hop,” he shares. Additionally, he lived in St. Albans and Hollis, before eventually making the move to Brooklyn, where he currently resides.

Rome spent his teen years running wild, skipping class, and getting suspended from school. When his crew upped the ante and started joining gangs, his mom pumped the brakes and decided to send Rome to London. Back across the pond, he continued pursuing his passion for rap, battling classmates and exploring London's grime music scene. Yet again, he fell in with the wrong crowd, which led to him getting sent right back to New York. “When I came back, I really had no outlets to do music so I was just getting into more trouble—I was going to jail and getting locked up.”

Luckily, his love for music prevailed and he started taking his craft seriously. When asked about the influence of Queens hip-hop on his music career, Streetz answers, “You look around, it's just so much to do, so much influence. You see all the rappers that came from here and it's like, ‘Oh, shit, all right, I could be one of them too.’” Hip-hop greats like Nas, Kool G





Rap, N.O.R.E, and Mobb Deep are just some of the Queens legends who inspire his sound and continue to fuel his passion for the art of emceeing.

Rome is presently a member of the formidable Griselda Records imprint, headed by rapper and designer Westside Gunn. Known for their gritty raps over boom-bap production, Rome Streetz was a perfect fit for the label. Daringer, one of Griselda's main producers, was influenced by Queens rappers as well. "When I started listening to The War Report [by Capone-N-Norega] and Mobb Deep, [Buffalo] didn't have no shit like that. So it definitely influenced me a lot." Daringer has also worked extensively with Queens artists like Action Bronson and Mayhem Lauren, so connecting with Rome was bound to happen.

"Tyson Beckford" was their first collaboration from Rome's Griselda debut, Kiss the Ring. "When we linked up and did 'Tyson Beckford,' we just worked and finished that song on the spot," said Daringer about how fast Rome crafts and records his superior rhymes. Their collab LP, Hatton Garden Holdup, dropped last October, and was accompanied by an original film called Calculated Risk, written and directed by Rome's manager, Coach Bombay.

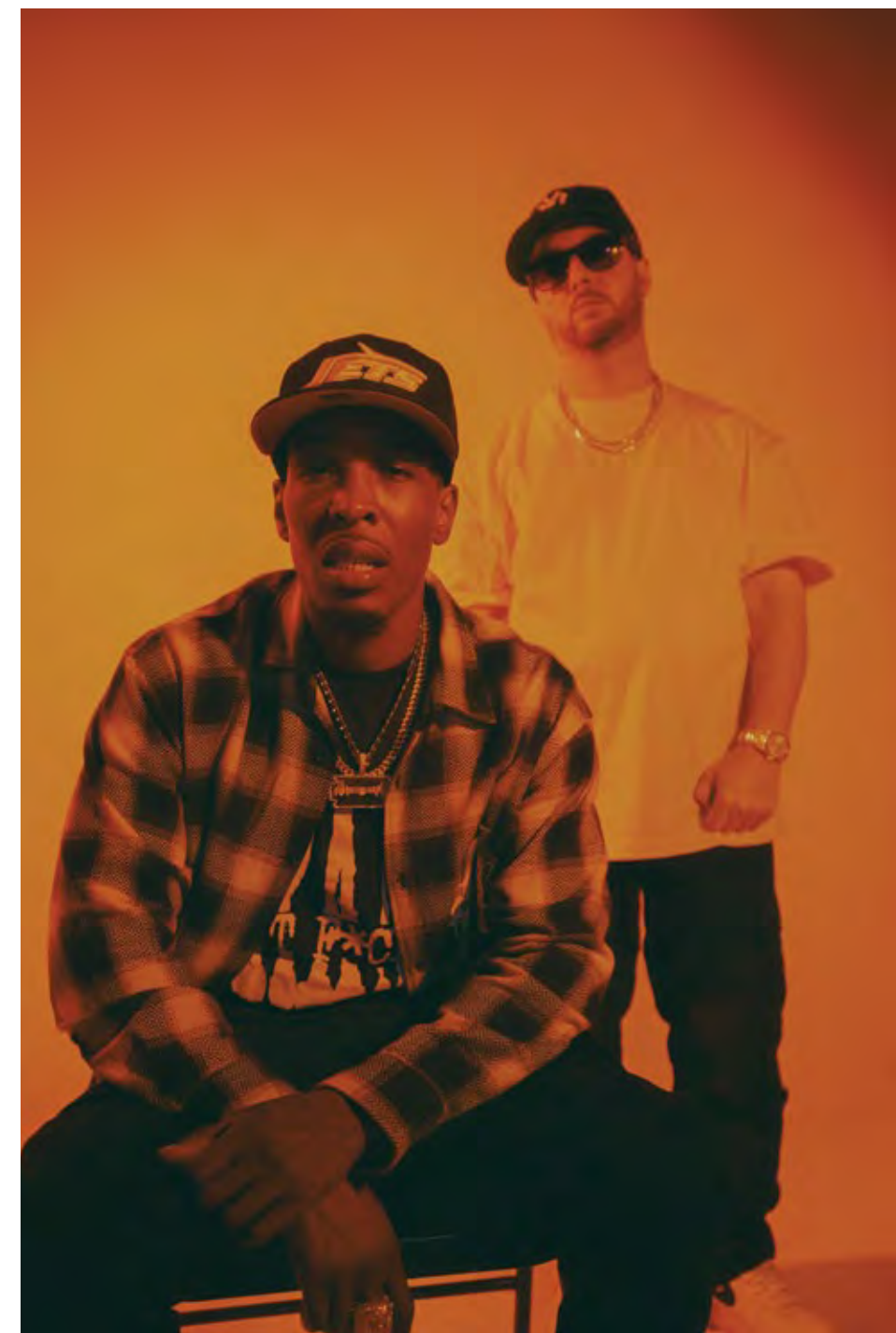
The album was critically hailed by rap purists and serious music critics, and the duo is currently hitting cities in Europe expanding their loyal fanbase. "We're going to do a lot of shows—same shit I've been doing with all my U.S. tours," Rome says excitedly.

Quality street rap is certainly alive and well. Be on the lookout for Rome and Daringer hitting a town near you.

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**“You look around,  
it's just so much  
to do, so much  
influence.”**



# Elite Vessel



WORDS BY MIABELLE

**Twenty-three-year-old, Lexa Gates builds on the Queens music scene with her sultry sound, heartfelt lyrics, and genre-fusing melodies that separate her from the artists of her generation.**

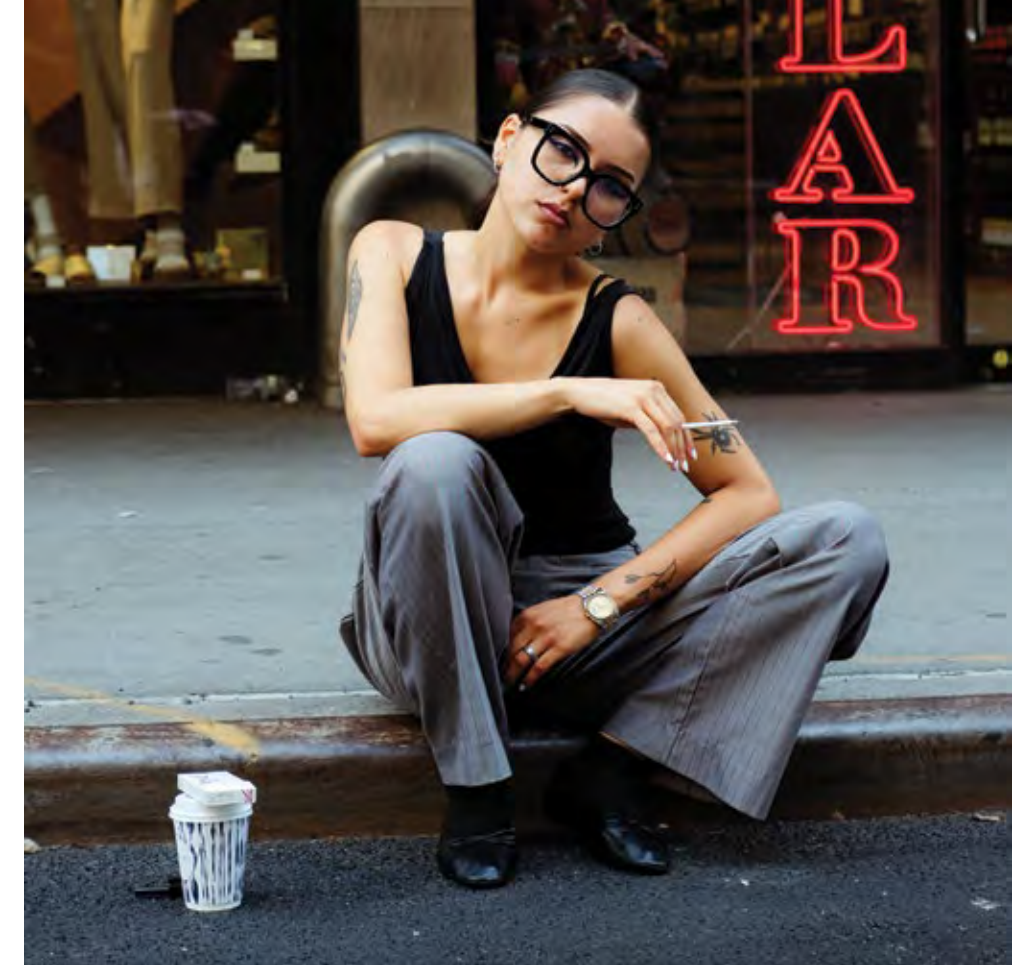
Currently signed to Capitol Records, her unique sound aligns her with artists like Brent Faiyaz, SZA, Smino and others with thriving niche audiences. Lexa's one-of-a-kind style is partly thanks to growing up in Astoria where she got comfortable standing out. Now, she uses it as the driving force to define who she is in music.

"I got, like, a love-hate relationship with Astoria. Sometimes I walk outside, and I feel like I look crazy, 'cause I'm dressed up or 'cause the makeup. That's why it's love/ hate, 'cause at least I get to feel special."

Classic records like "If I Ruled the World" by Nas and Lauryn Hill, "Gypsy Woman" by Crystal Waters, and a sprinkle of Shakira added to Gates' music memories before composing that of her own. At times, a humbling experience, Gates reminisces on going to her local Dunkin' Donuts to use the Wi-Fi and upload a track to SoundCloud on the laptop she stole from her mom.

"I connected to the Wi-Fi there and I put it up and then just went home. It was like, you know, I hope people care. I couldn't even see the feedback on Instagram or anything." The track in question garnered about 1,000 likes, a win in Lexa's eyes, and feedback that pushed her to keep going.

With her newest album, *Elite Vessel*, Lexa is on tour and taking her artistry to the next level. In October, she made waves by locking herself in a glass box (a vessel if you would) for 10 hours



Photography by: Sabrina Palko

allowing passersby to listen along to her album.

Gates expresses the weighty privilege of taking care of loved ones. In "Provider" she raps, "What a luxury it would be to feel like I'm financially free. To stuff the mouths I'm meant to feed." When asked how she balances the early stages of the journey and the eagerness to support her family, Gates lit up. "It just feels like a fire under my ass. I feel super pushed in a good way. I can do it."

Now, just a few months later, Gates has sold out shows across Europe and is prepping to perform at Governors Ball this June. With a quickly growing fanbase, Gates says she wants supporters and newcomers to embrace their own limitlessness: "I just want my audience to gain a new perspective on life. I want everybody to know that anything's possible."

FOLLOW LEXA @ LEXAGATES

## Current Rotation

- "Salvaje" - Action Bronson
- "Windows Up" - Molly Santana
- "At Your Best" - Aaliyah
- "SS" - Ken Carson
- "I Don't Like (feat. Lil Reese)" - Chief Keef

NEW ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:

# Kumbaya



Photo by: Caitly Arthur

QUEENS GET THE PAPER

**If the voice is an instrument, then mine is tucked deep in the rhythm section of New York. As a drummer, lyricist, and producer from Queens, my music carries the unmistakable energy of the city.**

Born and raised in Laurelton, I grew up nowhere near a subway station. But I was minutes away from the stomping grounds of one of my favorite rap groups, A Tribe Called Quest. Their music didn't just encourage me to rap; it encouraged me to read. Low proximity to trains and a hatred for riding the bus kept me in Queens with fewer distractions and more determination. With this, my permanent creative bubble was formed and expanded as I did.

So far, rap legends like Rapsody, Pharoahe Monch, and Havoc (Mobb Deep) have recognized my efforts. I was told in a session with Buckwild that my support circle is like a "hip-hop reunion." I'm living proof that rap isn't dead.

"Hold On," my greatest song thus far, is my lyrical introduction to the world—an ode to believing in your pace and yourself. The song emphasizes our individual inner strengths, offering playful words of encouragement to everyone, including myself.

towards everyone, including me.

[FOLLOW @ KUMBAYAAAAAAAAAAAA](#)



## Current ▶ Rotation

- "Untitled 03" - Kendrick Lamar
- "1990 Quadrillion de Tonnes" - GOJIRA
- "SunLove" - Chromonicc
- "I Hate It Here" (Contour Remix) - April + Vista
- "Genesis" - Busta Rhymes

NEW ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:

# ZEDDY WILL

**As a Queensbridge, New York, native, I see myself as a lyrical emcee who's bringing fun music back to the rap game. Through my music, I want to champion authenticity and the confidence to stand in who you truly are. The playful side of my music comes from early comedic inspirations like Jim Carrey and Martin Lawrence. After going viral on social media for numerous skits throughout the pandemic, I'm now paving my own lane in the music industry.**

Thanks to a lot of trial and error with my music, I've used the medium to create the most sincere version of myself. From my experimentation, I've learned two things: it's hard to make music that isn't true to who I am, and the people who know me can see through an act. I uncovered my distinct sound through my beat selection and by writing lyrics that genuinely reflect my personality. Being yourself is the only thing that works in music today. You have to be willing to embody your unique fingerprint.

[FOLLOW ZEDDY @THEZEDDYWILL](#)

## Current ▶ Rotation

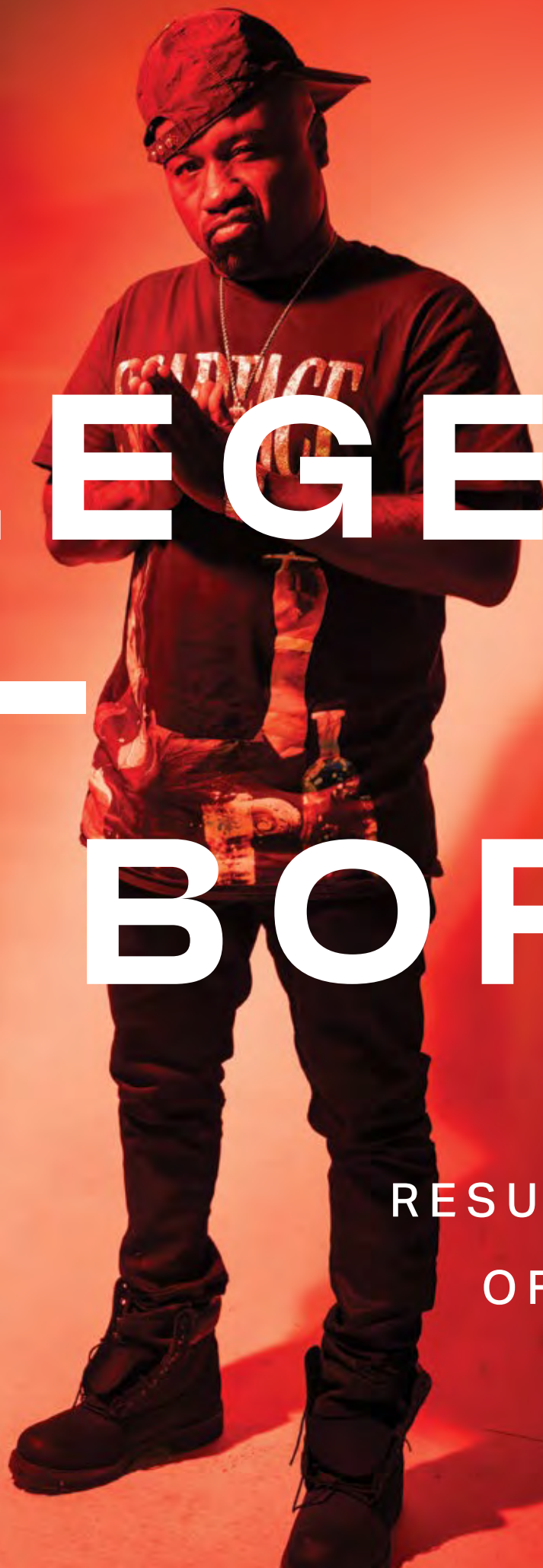
- "I'm Shady" - Eminem
- "Pills & Potions" - Nicki Minaj
- "Dead Presidents II" - Jay-Z
- "Best I Ever Had" - Drake
- "Bad Business" - 21 Savage



Photo by: VDot

# A LEGEND RE- BORN

THE  
RESURGENCE  
OF HAVOC



WORDS BY KEITH NELSON  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY PAUL GALLAGHER

**A legacy is the nexus between what people say about you and what you tell people about yourself. Mobb Deep is an example of this—as a rap duo minted in 1991 that remains relevant in people’s minds and music. But, with a new era of Havoc’s 30-plus-year career beginning with the first Mobb Deep album since Prodigy’s passing, he wants to set the record, and their legacy, straight.**

Kejuan Waliek Muchita wouldn’t have become Havoc without Queensbridge Houses. Fifty-year-old Havoc can recount memories of Queens rap forefather MC Shan riding through the projects in a BMW, rocking different colored PUMA sneakers like he was still that 10-year-old who first saw it. Hip-hop luminaries and local natives like Roxanne Shanté and Marley Marl walking the same blocks he did made where he lived less of a place and more of a lineage he could join.

“To see the legends from my neighborhood with all the fame, notoriety, love, and respect they got, and see how close I was to that made me say to myself, ‘I could do that,’” he says. “From that moment on, seeing them, it clicked in my head that I may be able to do what they were doing.”

Later, when he saw his hunger for more reflected in the eyes of his high schoolmate Albert Johnson, a brotherhood known forever as Mobb Deep was born. At 20 years old, Havoc created their sound of soulful, grime-covered angst with drums that feel like your brain is being stabbed by your nose bone. This could only come from Queensbridge’s survivalist mentality. He made nightmares that knocked, and their music has resonated with millions across generations. Their words of unrelenting perseverance from “Shook Ones Part II” have been heard on the lips of punk band Sublime in 1996 (“April 29, 1992 (Miami)”), Eminem in 2002 (in the film *8 Mile*), Lin-Manuel Miranda in the Broadway play *Hamilton* in 2015 (“My Shot”), Common and Pete Rock in 2024 (“Dreamin’”), and hundreds of other artists who needed Mobb Deep to make sense of the world around them.

Mobb Deep is bigger than one song or album, but even Havoc admits their seminal 1995 album *The Infamous* “gave us the groundwork to do everything we’ve done.” Beyond the group’s multiple platinum and gold plaques across eight albums, Havoc is most proud of the longevity of the Mobb

Deep sound. “I’ve seen our legacy persevere through so many different levels. People have been trying to figure out the [‘Shook Ones Part II’] sample. ‘Shook Ones’ and ‘Quiet Storm’ might be the most freestyled-on hip-hop tracks of all time,” he boasts. “Also, [Rock The Bells] naming ‘Shook Ones’ the greatest beat ever [for hip-hop’s 50th anniversary] is crazy to me.”

The group’s legacy has been molded in rhyme and cemented by time. Halfway crooks will never be in style,



and duns still roam the Earth. Seven years after Prodigy's passing broke hip-hop's heart, Havoc is crafting the first Mobb Deep album of all original music in over a decade. He currently has 14 unreleased Prodigy verses from the late rapper's estate, and longtime collaborator Alchemist will be producing on the album slated to drop later this year. He's confident that's merely "the tip of the iceberg," and there may be enough unearthed verses to "make two or three more Mobb Deep albums after this one." And Prodigy is still his closest collaborator for it all.

"Every time I hear his voice, I feel like he's in the room. It feels like he's going to walk out of the bathroom and come into the studio and be like, 'Yo, I'm back.' I get a weird feeling he's playing a trick on us."

While that's in the works, he's also planning an upcoming collaborative album with fellow Queensbridge legend

Cormega. The album features a collaboration with Marley Marl, a full-circle moment for a Queensbridge kid who was inspired by the epochal producer in the same way he hopes their musical union can inspire others. "It shows the people in Queensbridge that it's never over. You can have a long-lasting career if you are committed."

The product of 41-15 12th Street, Havoc continues to remain a pillar in his society and donate to local churches and community-building causes. He intends to keep the Mobb Deep sound in listeners' ears as long as there's air in his lungs, and, above all else, he takes Queens wherever he goes.

"The 'dun' language never left me. I don't think I speak like your average 50-year-old. I'm quintessentially Queens because I'm always on point."

**FOLLOW HAVOC @MOBBDEEPHAVOC**

||  
**I'M QUINT-  
ESSENTIALLY  
QUEENS  
BECAUSE  
I'M ALWAYS  
ON POINT.**  
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Photo by: Edwin Ascencio eddieprods. | Queens Village

# NEW



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# MEMBERS

# FORM AND FUNCTION

WORDS BY GEO HAGAN

LICHEN CREATES INNOVATIVE INTERIORS AND FURNITURE BY COLLECTING, RECONTEXTUALIZING, AND FORMULATING NEW THOUGHTS ON DESIGN WITH THE SUPPORT OF THEIR SURROUNDING COMMUNITY.



# WE'VE GOT OUR FINGER ON THE PULSE OF WHAT'S NEXT AND HOW TO CORRELATE IT TO THE PAST



Lichen is one of those really rare and special companies where the product fully mirrors the ethos and sensibilities of its founders. It was founded in 2017 as a design incubator and studio specializing in furniture, spatial design, and inventive homeware objects.

Photography Credits: Lichen NYC



The business was co-founded by Ed Be and Jared Blake—they met on Craigslist by happenstance when they were both buying and selling furniture independently. They instantly bonded over their respective tastes in furniture, style and music, and as they say, the rest is history.

To date, Lichen has worked on a series of projects with noteworthy clients and collaborations. As the duo states, “It’s been great to highlight fellow small businesses/artists on the rise and to work with established companies like Ford and Warby Parker. Everything we’ve worked on has been memorable.”

After originally being based in Brooklyn, Lichen relocated their studio to Ridgewood, Queens. The founders were already living in the area, so it made sense for them to move their studio to the neighborhood they called home. “Ridgewood is great because it’s a little bit further than your average New Yorker wants to travel to,” Blake says. “When

you come through, you almost have to make a day of it. We’re always plugging other shops in the community to fill in the rest of the day. There are so many talented independent artists, small restaurants, tailor shops, and so much more.”

When asked about their future goals for Lichen’s evolution, the founders express a thoughtful vision and brand philosophy: “We’re learning every day. We didn’t come from a design background - so going in blind is both a gift and a curse. We’re here because we want to show the other side of design happening in America beyond Herman Miller, Knoll, etc. We’ve got our finger on the pulse of what’s next and how to correlate it to the past.”

The next time you’re planning a day trip to NYC, definitely add Ridgewood to your itinerary and be sure to check out the latest designs from Ed and Jared at Lichen.

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## Augmented Reality Instructions

Scan QR code to experience this artwork on your mobile browser.

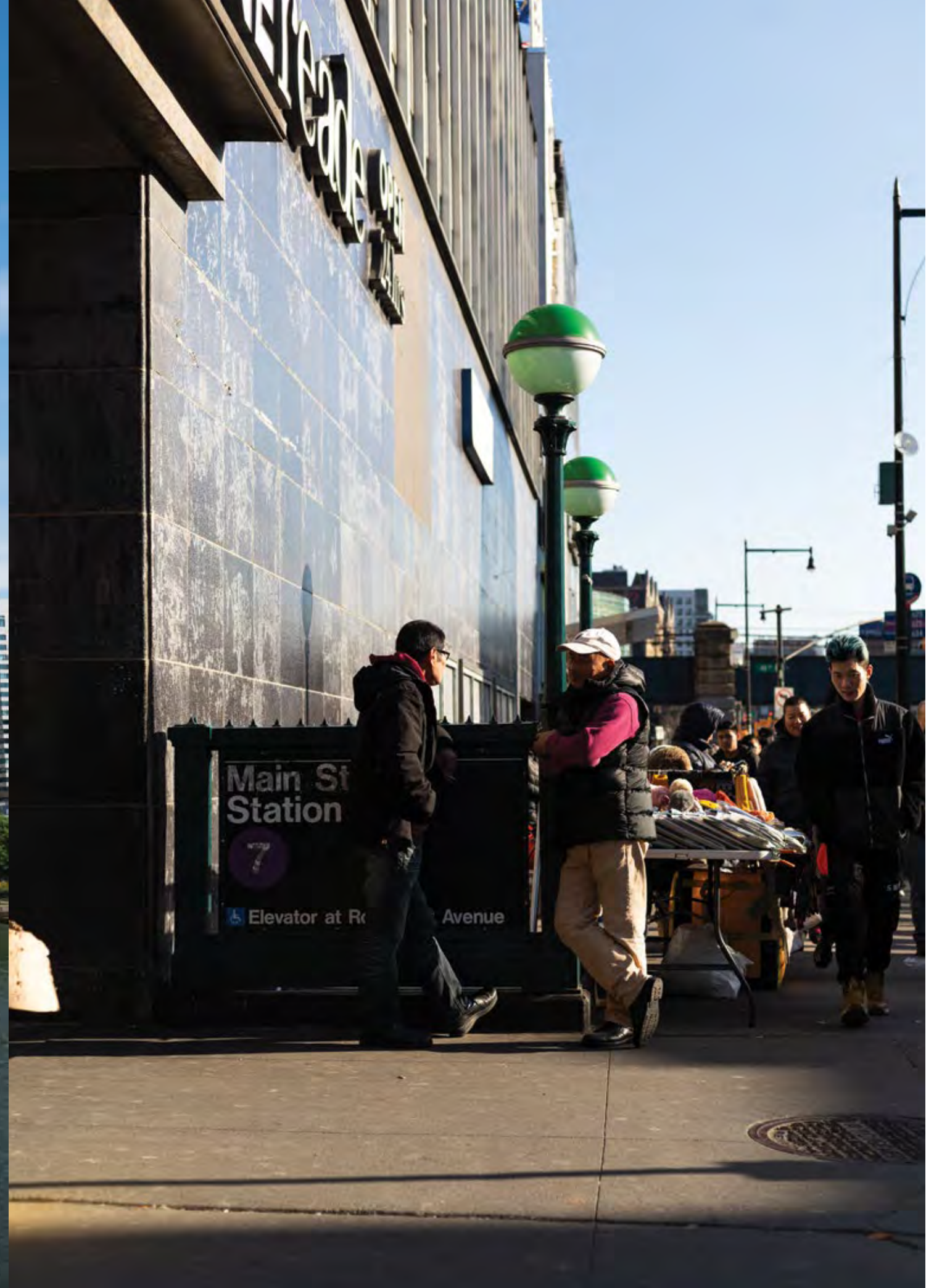
- Open the camera on your mobile phone.
- Point it at the QR code and open the link "lens.snap.com."
- Click "Allow" to give browser access to your camera.
- Point your camera at the artwork.

**Denise 'deLaSNP' Coke**  
**Bodega (Just Another Day)**  
 2022

Digital Illustration

Missing the old New York, I created the typical summer afternoon on the corner. Due to gentrification, many of the things I loved about my hometown are gone.

**FOLLOW @DELASNP.GRFX**





# The World is Ours

Queens is set to become home to one of the world's largest casinos, thanks to a multibillion-dollar expansion project that brings more than just glitz and gaming—it creates

**thousands of job opportunities for the community.**

Queens, New York, is on track to receive the hallmark it truly deserves with the expansion of Resorts World New York City (RWNYC). This ambitious project will not only create thousands of new jobs but will also solidify Queens' place on the global stage as the home of one of the largest casinos in the world. More than just an economic boost, this development positions Queens as a landmark destination, where world-class entertainment and local pride intersect.

The \$5 billion plan includes 2,000 luxurious hotel rooms, a state-of-the-art 7,000-seat entertainment venue, and more than 30 restaurant options, including new ventures with renowned chefs Scott Conant and Marcus Samuelsson. The casino floor itself will span 350,000 square feet, positioning it as one of the largest in the world, while a 3-acre shopping plaza featuring iconic art installations will add a touch of creativity and culture to the space.

# This transformational expansion isn't just about entertainment; it's about giving back.

Resorts World New York City has already generated \$4.5 billion for the state public education system, with more funds set to flow into the community. **RW Gives has also invested more than \$5 million into over 300 community, educational, arts, and other organizations throughout New York.** For Queens, this means enhanced educational opportunities and resources that will benefit generations to come.

Legendary rapper Nas, who grew up in the Queensbridge

projects, is one of the driving forces behind this expansion. His involvement is not just a nod to his roots but a testament to the impact this project is set to have on the neighborhood he calls home.

"This is an ambitious project that will give new opportunities to the hard-working families who call Queens home, attract top-tier talent, and build up the next generation of leaders. Clearly, with this project, the world is ours."



Expansion Rendering of : Resorts World Promenade



# 10,000

**5,000 permanent jobs,  
& 5,000 union  
construction jobs.**



Expansion Rendering of Resorts World Crockford Entrance

**7000-Seat Entertainment Venue:**

*A brand-new, state-of-the-art concert hall and entertainment venue that will attract the biggest stars and entertainers in the world. The space is designed to deliver an immersive sonic experience along with amazing panoramic views of the center stage. It will undeniably be a grand auditorium worthy of Queens and the Empire State.*



**Ayu Day Club:**

*An idyllic and stunning poolside oasis where the party starts and never ends. It will feature exhilarating party events and activations, along with energetic sets from the hottest DJs in the world. For relaxation and recovery, guests and partygoers can treat themselves to a luxurious pampering experience at the Awana Spa.*

Expansion Rendering of Resorts World - Crocford Entrance

# QUEENS THE ROLL CALL

WORDS BY **ASHLEY SIMPO**

*Roots can determine a life's direction, and these 12 heavy-hitters are no exception. With careers spanning film, TV, music, comedy, martial arts, and more, these Queens natives have honed their respective crafts and used them to leave a mark on the world. Honoring the plurality of the borough, their achievements underscore how growing up in a multiverse fuels creativity. Each person on this list reflects the spectrum of influences and experiences unique to Queens.*



## DAWN KELLY

@THENOURISHSPOT

Dawn Kelly and her daughter Jade Duncan own and operate The Nourish Spot Inc., a beacon of resilience and community in South Jamaica, Queens.

For the past seven years, The Nourish Spot has diligently provided fresh fruits, vegetables, proteins and roots to the community, offering a sense of stability amid uncertainty. Now expanded into BedStuy, Brooklyn, the family based business also provides corporate catering and serves as a concession at the US OPEN within the Billie Jean King International Tennis Center at Flushing Meadow Park.

## CURLEY'S @CURLEYS\_BAGELS

Mark Curley and his wife Bridget Kane have teamed up with Anne Muldoon and Killian Hunt of the Lowery Bar and Kitchen to launch Curley's Bagels in Sunnyside, Queens. Curley and Kane, who both worked in film and television, diverted their attention to opening a neighborhood bagel store during the SAG-AFTRA strikes, which gave the couple more time to explore other options.



## GRAFH

@GRAFH

Jamaica Queens' Grafh, born Philip Bernard, is a Hip-Hop artist famed for his wordplay, storytelling, and cinematic style. Rising from the mixtape scene, he's collaborated with major labels and artists like Wiz Khalifa. His latest project, God's Timing, produced by 38 Spesh, cements his industry legacy.



## HARI KONDABOLU

@HARIKONDABOLU

Hari Kondabolu, acclaimed by The NY Times, is recognized for his Netflix special Warn Your Relatives and the documentary The Problem with Apu. He co-hosts Snack vs. Chef and The Untitled Kondabolu Brothers Podcast. Hari holds degrees in politics and human rights and has been an Artist in Residence at NYU.



## PAULANA LAMONIER

@BLACKPEOPLEWILLSWIM\_

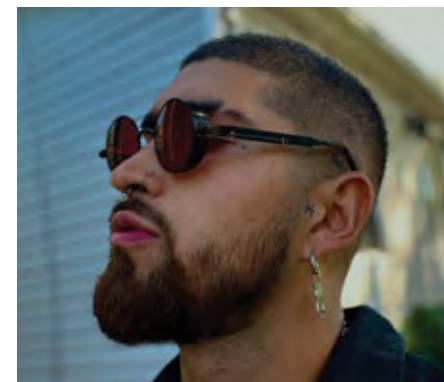
Paulana Lamonier is a journalist and founder of Black People Will Swim based in Queens, New York. BPWS is a purpose-driven organization working to smash the stereotype that Black people don't swim.

For over a decade, she has shared her passion for swimming by working with swim clubs, teams, and gyms to build a thriving community. BPWS has garnered praise nationwide, and a news segment on it won a local Emmy in 2023.

## JOY SAN AGUSTIN

@JOYCAPOEIRA

Joy San Agustin, "Mestra Joy," is the first Asian American capoeira mestra and one of 386 female masters globally. She runs a capoeira school in Queens, mentors upcoming teachers, and authors Capoeira Coffee Talk. With a Master's in Physical Education, she champions capoeira's transformative power.



## DORIAN VASQUEZ

@DORIRARANYC

Dorian Vasquez, a Colombian-American entrepreneur, owns Rara Studios, a vibrant Latino-focused beauty center specializing in hair, nails, and waxing. With 14 years of experience, Dorian blends artistic vision and expertise to help clients discover their unique, elevated look in a culturally rich atmosphere.



## SHERWIN BANFIELD

@SHERWINTHEARTIST

Sherwin Banfield, a Queens-based mixed-media artist, explores identity and ancestry through his work. He deconstructs the human experience, connecting personal stories with established culture. His recent projects, dubbed Sustainable Sonic Sculpture, blend mixed materials with lighting, sound, and solar power.

## DYNASTY BREAK DANCING

@DYNASTYBREAKINGNYC

Dynasty Breaking NYC, the only breaking school in Queens, has been teaching the art of breaking since 2015. Founders Stephen Difede and Anthony Pacheco, accomplished Bboys with global accolades, inspire youth with confidence, teamwork, and work ethic, keeping Queens' breaking culture alive.



## KAYLI REDDY

@EARTHANDME.NYC

Kayli Reddy launched Earth & Me in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic to focus on sustainability and environmental justice in Queens. The shop has expanded to multiple locations, hosted numerous small-batch makers, diverted tens of thousands of plastic containers, and won the "Climate Action is Our Business" award.

## BIG "STEVE" PEDONE

@BIGSTEVENYC

Born and raised in Queens, New York, 'Big Steve' Pedone's roots in the tattoo industry trace back to his apprenticeship with Jonathan Shaw at Fun City NY where he has been tattooing for over two decades.

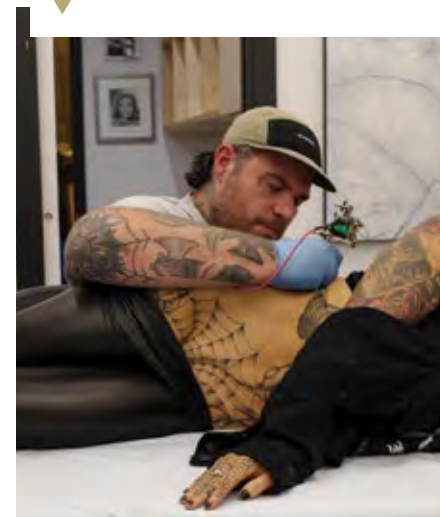
Having left his permanent mark on a number of today's most well known celebrities, Big Steve has come to be recognized as one of the top, and easily most versatile, tattoo artists in the world."



## JOHN WANG

@QUEENS NIGHT MARKET

John Wang founded the Queens Night Market, an open-air event showcasing NYC's cultural diversity with 100 vendors and performances. In its ninth season, it has launched 400 businesses and attracted over 3 million visitors. He co-authored The World Eats Here and leads This is NY, celebrating immigrant heritage.





# BALLIN' 4 PEACE

WORDS BY **KAHLIL HAYWOOD**  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **ANDREW LoPICCOLO**

**Haron Hargrave was inspired by his mother to serve his community. Now he uses basketball to cultivate life-saving bonds between his community and those entrusted to keep them safe.**

If Queens gets the money, then Southside's own Haron Hargrave puts his where his mouth is. Ballin' 4 Peace, his philanthropic and event initiative, which began after the tragic death of a close friend to gun violence, has grown into a community institution. The organization promotes unity among Queens' residents and its first responders.

Community activism at the local level is a cornerstone of positive change in our society, and Hargrave saw the need for it in his borough of Queens. As a physical education teacher, Hargrave understands the benefits of movement, imparting that knowledge and passion to youth daily.

Positive influences early in life can enhance our moral compass, and Hargrave's mother was the true impetus for Ballin' 4 Peace. "My mom, Rhonda Hargrave, has since passed," said Haron, "but she instilled a love for community from a young age." He went on to say that his mother not only encouraged him to play sports but also to fundraise. "We even sold ice cream to our community during the summer to help raise money for our back-to-school needs."



With these principles instilled in Hargrave, he took the initiative. After losing a good friend to gun violence in 2008, it became clear that change was needed. Gun violence hitting so close to home was compounded by watching the country mourn the senseless killings of Black people by law enforcement. "In 2014, when the Eric Garner and Mike Brown incidents happened, I wanted to put something together that the community could join in," Hargrave explained. "I wanted to bridge the gap between sports and

those who were entrusted to protect our community.”

Ballin' 4 Peace started under a for-profit organization he launched called H2O Basketball to train young kids in the sport. But seeing the socioeconomic challenges that can arise in team sports, he felt called to help alleviate the financial burden.

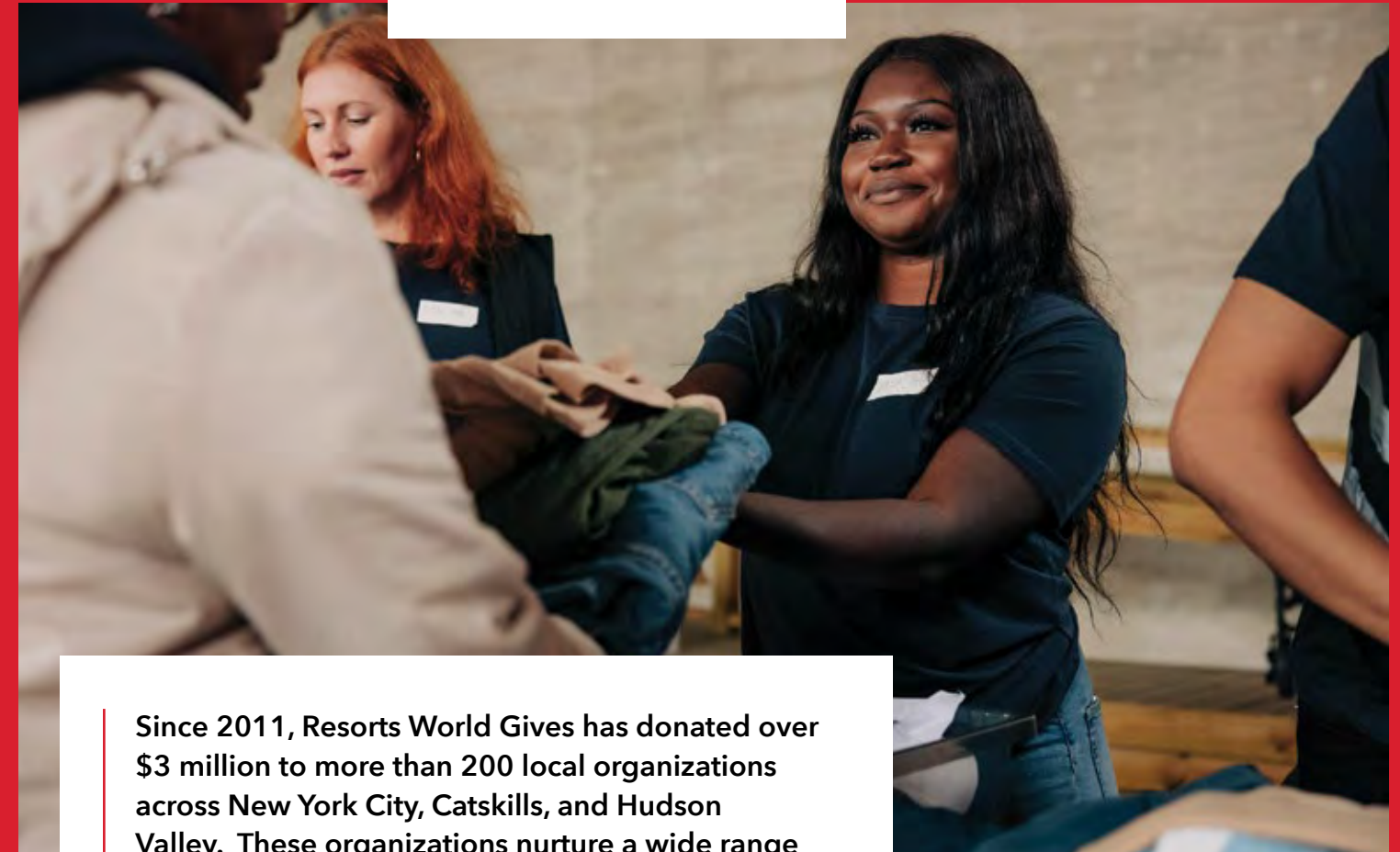
There was a clear need for a fresh approach to engage the community in social justice issues, and Hargrave saw sports as a great unifying force. Thus, the Ballin' 4 Peace Celebrity Basketball tournament was born. Held at Baruch College in 2015, the tournament garnered the support of New York Knicks legends Mark Jackson and the late Anthony Mason. With the presence of local celebrities like Jim Jones, Mack Wilds, and Lil' Mama, Ballin' 4 Peace captivated Southside and the surrounding communities, making a lasting impact.

In addition to the annual celebrity basketball tournament, Hargrave engages local first responders. The back to school flag football game with the FDNY and the “Battle of the Boroughs” bowling tournament with the NYPD are intended to strengthen relationships between community residents and law enforcement.

In terms of legacy, Hargrave doesn't spend much time thinking about it. “I'm so consumed with how I'd like to grow the program next.” Instead, he wants his organization to be seen for what it is—a form of community care rooted in kindness. With simple ambitions at heart, Hargrave envisions the future of Ballin' 4 Peace clearly. “The Peace Center is what I'd like to get off the ground next,” he said. He imagines the Peace Center as a space for the community to learn financial literacy and other important life skills.

Known around Queens as the “Face of Peace,” Haron Hargrave's job isn't close to done. But his efforts remind us that our duty to serve the very streets that raised us has no expiration date.

**FOLLOW @BALLIN4PEACE**



**Since 2011, Resorts World Gives has donated over \$3 million to more than 200 local organizations across New York City, Catskills, and Hudson Valley. These organizations nurture a wide range of cultural, educational, and community initiatives across New York, including arts festivals, museums, and programs that provide residents with creative platforms and vital resources.**

**Through Resorts World Gives, our philanthropy is focused around five key pillars, addressing a breadth of issues and needs. We support innovative organizations with clear goals and proven results.**

Our Corporate Social Responsibility efforts operate through the Resorts World Gives (RWG) program. RWG supports organizations, projects, and programs that create opportunities for economic and social progress. Contributions seek to support established, innovative and efficient non-profit organizations with clearly articulated goals that have proven to be successful at improving the neighborhoods of Queens, Monticello, Newburgh and their surrounding areas.

#### ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

- Jamaica Hospital
- Long Island Children's Museum
- City Harvest
- Queens Museum
- Jamaica Center For Arts and Learning
- Queens Public Library
- Queens Theater
- Queensboro Dance Festival

**APPLY FOR FUNDING**



# Retro Revival

*Record Room in LIC delivers groovy vibes and tasty cocktails.*

**Record Room, a speakeasy and vinyl listening lounge in Long Island City — has quickly emerged as a hidden gem, captivating the hearts of music enthusiasts and cocktail aficionados alike. It offers an unforgettable experience steeped in nostalgia, craftsmanship, and the power of vinyl.**

Founded by former NFL player, Aaron Weaver, Record Room was inspired by his childhood memories of listening to his grandmother's records in the small back room of her house. Weaver's experiences sparked his deep appreciation for music and the desire to create a similar experience for others. In partnership with hospitality veteran and longtime friend Shih Lee, Weaver brings his vision to life with Record Room's cozy, living room-like atmosphere, impressive audio equipment and warm, intimate lighting.

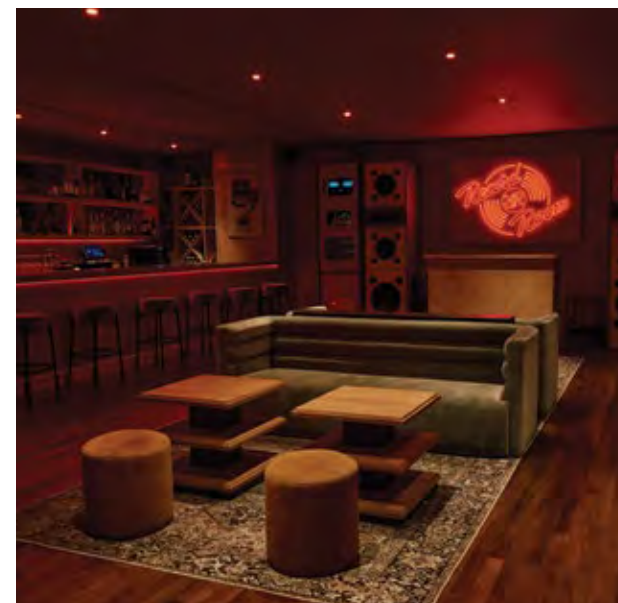
"There is a powerful connection between music and memories," says Weaver. "Our goal has been to create a comfortable and immersive experience that taps into that by providing our guests with exceptional music, meticulously crafted cocktails and shareable bites—in a way that still makes them feel right at home."

Central to the experience at Record room are the DJs who skillfully curate their sets solely using vinyl records. With an extensive collection spanning various genres and eras, these passionate and talented selectors infuse the room with an unmistakable and captivating energy.

Record Room hides behind Cafe by RR, a vinyl-themed cafe serving coffee, pastries and soft-serve ice cream. There, customers can enter Record Room through a secret door, making their way through an old vinyl collection before entering the lounge.

If you're looking for a neighborhood spot with a welcoming ambiance and a touch of nostalgia, this is the place.

**FOLLOW RECORD ROOM @RECORDROOMLIC**



Photograph by: **Fabien Desgroux** @fabiendesgroux



Photograph by: **Mitchell Louis** @trillionairy



Photograph by: **Fabien Desgroux** @fabiendesgroux

# SHOP The issue



## SILVER NY ENAMEL RING ~ \$200

GREG YUNA | [GREGYUNA.COM](http://GREGYUNA.COM)

925 Sterling Silver



## THE STANDARD CLOCK ~ \$199

LICHEN X ORDER | [LICHENNYC.COM](http://LICHENNYC.COM)

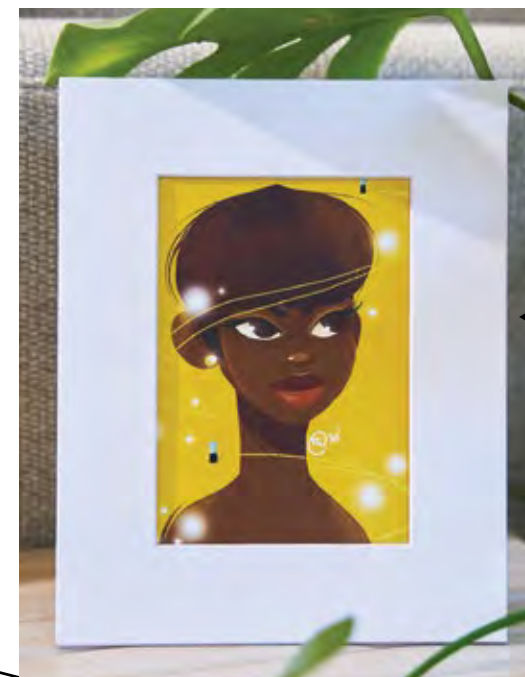
After a few conversations regarding how we'd approach each entity's disciplines, we came to the mutual conclusion that we should approach the concept of time in the form of a clock. This clock is meant to rethink how we approach the traditional wall/desk clock while functioning as a savvy way to keep time.



## NBA NEW YORK KNICKS HOODIE ~ \$100

SOPHIA CHANG X NBA NEW YORK KNICKS  
[ESYMAI.COM](http://ESYMAI.COM)

Launched at 2021 NTRWK Off Court  
Officially licensed by the NBA  
Limited edition  
Available in S, M, L, XL (Mens Sizing)



## HONEY (PRINT) ~ \$35

DENISE COKE | [DELASNP.COM](http://DELASNP.COM)

Brown skin dipped in honey. Digital illustration printed on high-quality digital paper. 8x8 matte framed, signed.



**THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE QUEENS RUG ~\$299**

MEANWHILE BACK IN QUEENS  
 MEANWHILEBACKINQUEENS.COM

Designed with symbols, icons and fun facts that represent the borough of Queens. Rug comes in the color Forest Park Green, with yellow/cream accents and measures at 48" x 48".



**ROSE FROM THE CONCRETE (PRINT) ~ \$175**  
 MR. FLOWER FANTASTIC | MFFSTUDIO.COM

Rose From The Concrete is a special edition print reproducing Mr. Flower Fantastic's original floral design. Each 18" x 18" print is created with 12 color pigment based archival inks, and printed on 100% natural grain cotton paper. Each Edition is embossed and authenticated by a hand-signed signature included within the Edition's custom packaging portfolio.



**HATTON GARDEN HOLDUP VINYL ~ \$60.00**  
 ROME STREETZ | ROMESTREETZ.STORE





QUEENS  
I HAVE  
SO MUCH  
TO THANK  
YOU FOR

**Legend**

The subway system is shown in red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. Lines are color-coded to match the text on the map.

**Particular notes:**

- Local stations only
- All lines are shown with their respective colors
- Transfer stations are marked with a double circle
- Stations with express service are marked with a double circle and a line through it
- Stations with express service are marked with a double circle and a line through it
- Stations with express service are marked with a double circle and a line through it

This map depicts typical service. On weekends and late nights, these routes change:

**Weekend and Late Night Service**

Line 7 (M) and Line 1 (N) have special routes on weekends and late nights.

**Late nights (from 12:00 AM to 4:00 AM)**

- Line 7 (M) and Line 1 (N) have special routes on weekends and late nights.

**Accessible Subway Stations**

<b>Manhattan</b>	<b>Queens</b>	<b>Brooklyn</b>	<b>Queens</b>	<b>Staten Island</b>
121 St. 0000	215 St. 0000	182 St. 0000	125 St. 0000	104 St. 0000
148 St. 0000	230 St. 0000	199 St. 0000	138 St. 0000	117 St. 0000
161 St. 0000	245 St. 0000	212 St. 0000	151 St. 0000	130 St. 0000
174 St. 0000	260 St. 0000	225 St. 0000	164 St. 0000	143 St. 0000
187 St. 0000	275 St. 0000	238 St. 0000	177 St. 0000	156 St. 0000
200 St. 0000	290 St. 0000	251 St. 0000	190 St. 0000	169 St. 0000
213 St. 0000	305 St. 0000	264 St. 0000	203 St. 0000	182 St. 0000
226 St. 0000	320 St. 0000	277 St. 0000	216 St. 0000	195 St. 0000
239 St. 0000	335 St. 0000	290 St. 0000	229 St. 0000	208 St. 0000
252 St. 0000	350 St. 0000	303 St. 0000	242 St. 0000	221 St. 0000
265 St. 0000	365 St. 0000	316 St. 0000	255 St. 0000	234 St. 0000
278 St. 0000	380 St. 0000	329 St. 0000	268 St. 0000	247 St. 0000
291 St. 0000	395 St. 0000	342 St. 0000	281 St. 0000	260 St. 0000
304 St. 0000	410 St. 0000	355 St. 0000	294 St. 0000	273 St. 0000
317 St. 0000	425 St. 0000	368 St. 0000	307 St. 0000	286 St. 0000
330 St. 0000	440 St. 0000	381 St. 0000	320 St. 0000	299 St. 0000
343 St. 0000	455 St. 0000	394 St. 0000	333 St. 0000	312 St. 0000
356 St. 0000	470 St. 0000	407 St. 0000	346 St. 0000	325 St. 0000
369 St. 0000	485 St. 0000	420 St. 0000	359 St. 0000	338 St. 0000
382 St. 0000	500 St. 0000	433 St. 0000	372 St. 0000	351 St. 0000
395 St. 0000	515 St. 0000	446 St. 0000	385 St. 0000	364 St. 0000
408 St. 0000	530 St. 0000	459 St. 0000	398 St. 0000	377 St. 0000
421 St. 0000	545 St. 0000	472 St. 0000	411 St. 0000	390 St. 0000
434 St. 0000	560 St. 0000	485 St. 0000	424 St. 0000	403 St. 0000
447 St. 0000	575 St. 0000	498 St. 0000	437 St. 0000	416 St. 0000
460 St. 0000	590 St. 0000	511 St. 0000	450 St. 0000	429 St. 0000
473 St. 0000	605 St. 0000	524 St. 0000	463 St. 0000	442 St. 0000
486 St. 0000	620 St. 0000	537 St. 0000	476 St. 0000	455 St. 0000
499 St. 0000	635 St. 0000	550 St. 0000	489 St. 0000	468 St. 0000
512 St. 0000	650 St. 0000	563 St. 0000	502 St. 0000	481 St. 0000
525 St. 0000	665 St. 0000	576 St. 0000	515 St. 0000	494 St. 0000
538 St. 0000	680 St. 0000	589 St. 0000	528 St. 0000	507 St. 0000
551 St. 0000	695 St. 0000	602 St. 0000	541 St. 0000	520 St. 0000
564 St. 0000	710 St. 0000	615 St. 0000	554 St. 0000	533 St. 0000
577 St. 0000	725 St. 0000	628 St. 0000	567 St. 0000	546 St. 0000
590 St. 0000	740 St. 0000	641 St. 0000	580 St. 0000	559 St. 0000
603 St. 0000	755 St. 0000	654 St. 0000	593 St. 0000	572 St. 0000
616 St. 0000	770 St. 0000	667 St. 0000	606 St. 0000	585 St. 0000
629 St. 0000	785 St. 0000	680 St. 0000	619 St. 0000	598 St. 0000
642 St. 0000	800 St. 0000	693 St. 0000	632 St. 0000	611 St. 0000
655 St. 0000	815 St. 0000	706 St. 0000	645 St. 0000	624 St. 0000
668 St. 0000	830 St. 0000	719 St. 0000	658 St. 0000	637 St. 0000
681 St. 0000	845 St. 0000	732 St. 0000	671 St. 0000	650 St. 0000
694 St. 0000	860 St. 0000	745 St. 0000	684 St. 0000	663 St. 0000
707 St. 0000	875 St. 0000	758 St. 0000	697 St. 0000	676 St. 0000
720 St. 0000	890 St. 0000	771 St. 0000	710 St. 0000	689 St. 0000
733 St. 0000	905 St. 0000	784 St. 0000	723 St. 0000	702 St. 0000
746 St. 0000	920 St. 0000	797 St. 0000	736 St. 0000	715 St. 0000
759 St. 0000	935 St. 0000	810 St. 0000	749 St. 0000	728 St. 0000
772 St. 0000	950 St. 0000	823 St. 0000	762 St. 0000	741 St. 0000
785 St. 0000	965 St. 0000	836 St. 0000	775 St. 0000	754 St. 0000
798 St. 0000	980 St. 0000	849 St. 0000	788 St. 0000	767 St. 0000
811 St. 0000	995 St. 0000	862 St. 0000	801 St. 0000	780 St. 0000
824 St. 0000	1010 St. 0000	875 St. 0000	814 St. 0000	793 St. 0000
837 St. 0000	1025 St. 0000	888 St. 0000	827 St. 0000	806 St. 0000
850 St. 0000	1040 St. 0000	901 St. 0000	840 St. 0000	819 St. 0000
863 St. 0000	1055 St. 0000	914 St. 0000	853 St. 0000	832 St. 0000
876 St. 0000	1070 St. 0000	927 St. 0000	866 St. 0000	845 St. 0000
889 St. 0000	1085 St. 0000	940 St. 0000	879 St. 0000	858 St. 0000
902 St. 0000	1100 St. 0000	953 St. 0000	892 St. 0000	871 St. 0000
915 St. 0000	1115 St. 0000	966 St. 0000	905 St. 0000	884 St. 0000
928 St. 0000	1130 St. 0000	979 St. 0000	918 St. 0000	897 St. 0000
941 St. 0000	1145 St. 0000	992 St. 0000	931 St. 0000	910 St. 0000
954 St. 0000	1160 St. 0000	1005 St. 0000	944 St. 0000	923 St. 0000
967 St. 0000	1175 St. 0000	1018 St. 0000	957 St. 0000	936 St. 0000
980 St. 0000	1190 St. 0000	1031 St. 0000	970 St. 0000	949 St. 0000
993 St. 0000	1205 St. 0000	1044 St. 0000	983 St. 0000	962 St. 0000
1006 St. 0000	1220 St. 0000	1057 St. 0000	996 St. 0000	975 St. 0000
1019 St. 0000	1235 St. 0000	1070 St. 0000	1009 St. 0000	988 St. 0000
1032 St. 0000	1250 St. 0000	1083 St. 0000	1022 St. 0000	1001 St. 0000
1045 St. 0000	1265 St. 0000	1096 St. 0000	1035 St. 0000	1014 St. 0000
1058 St. 0000	1280 St. 0000	1109 St. 0000	1048 St. 0000	1027 St. 0000
1071 St. 0000	1295 St. 0000	1122 St. 0000	1061 St. 0000	1040 St. 0000
1084 St. 0000	1310 St. 0000	1135 St. 0000	1074 St. 0000	1053 St. 0000
1097 St. 0000	1325 St. 0000	1148 St. 0000	1087 St. 0000	1066 St. 0000
1110 St. 0000	1340 St. 0000	1161 St. 0000	1100 St. 0000	1079 St. 0000
1123 St. 0000	1355 St. 0000	1174 St. 0000	1113 St. 0000	1092 St. 0000
1136 St. 0000	1370 St. 0000	1187 St. 0000	1126 St. 0000	1105 St. 0000
1149 St. 0000	1385 St. 0000	1200 St. 0000	1139 St. 0000	1118 St. 0000
1162 St. 0000	1400 St. 0000	1213 St. 0000	1152 St. 0000	1131 St. 0000
1175 St. 0000	1415 St. 0000	1226 St. 0000	1165 St. 0000	1144 St. 0000
1188 St. 0000	1430 St. 0000	1239 St. 0000	1178 St. 0000	1157 St. 0000
1201 St. 0000	1445 St. 0000	1252 St. 0000	1191 St. 0000	1170 St. 0000
1214 St. 0000	1460 St. 0000	1265 St. 0000	1204 St. 0000	1183 St. 0000
1227 St. 0000	1475 St. 0000	1278 St. 0000	1217 St. 0000	1196 St. 0000
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1266 St. 0000	1520 St. 0000	1317 St. 0000	1256 St. 0000	1235 St. 0000
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1305 St. 0000	1565 St. 0000	1356 St. 0000	1295 St. 0000	1274 St. 0000
1318 St. 0000	1580 St. 0000	1369 St. 0000	1308 St. 0000	1287 St. 0000
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1344 St. 0000	1610 St. 0000	1395 St. 0000	1334 St. 0000	1313 St. 0000
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1370 St. 0000	1640 St. 0000	1421 St. 0000	1360 St. 0000	1339 St. 0000
1383 St. 0000	1655 St. 0000	1434 St. 0000	1373 St. 0000	1352 St. 0000
1396 St. 0000	1670 St. 0000	1447 St. 0000	1386 St. 0000	1365 St. 0000
1409 St. 0000	1685 St. 0000	1460 St. 0000	1399 St. 0000	1378 St. 0000
1422 St. 0000	1700 St. 0000	1473 St. 0000	1412 St. 0000	1391 St. 0000
1435 St. 0000	1715 St. 0000	1486 St. 0000	1425 St. 0000	1404 St. 0000
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1461 St. 0000	1745 St. 0000	1512 St. 0000	1451 St. 0000	1430 St. 0000
1474 St. 0000	1760 St. 0000	1525 St. 0000	1464 St. 0000	1443 St. 0000
1487 St. 0000	1775 St. 0000	1538 St. 0000	1477 St. 0000	1456 St. 0000
1500 St. 0000	1790 St. 0000	1551 St. 0000	1490 St. 0000	1469 St. 0000
1513 St. 0000	1805 St. 0000	1564 St. 0000	1503 St. 0000	1482 St. 0000
1526 St. 0000	1820 St. 0000	1577 St. 0000	1516 St. 0000	1495 St. 0000
1539 St. 0000	1835 St. 0000	1590 St. 0000	1529 St. 0000	1508 St. 0000
1552 St. 0000	1850 St. 0000	1603 St. 0000	1542 St. 0000	1521 St. 0000
1565 St. 0000	1865 St. 0000	1616 St. 0000	1555 St. 0000	1534 St. 0000
1578 St. 0000	1880 St. 0000	1629 St. 0000	1568 St. 0000	1547 St. 0000
1591 St. 0000	1895 St. 0000	1642 St. 0000	1581 St. 0000	1560 St. 0000
1604 St. 0000	1910 St. 0000	1655 St. 0000	1594 St. 0000	1573 St. 0000
1617 St. 0000	1925 St. 0000	1668 St. 0000	1607 St. 0000	1586 St. 0000
1630 St. 0000	1940 St. 0000	1681 St. 0000	1620 St. 0000	1599 St. 0000
1643 St. 0000	1955 St. 0000	1694 St. 0000	1633 St. 0000	1612 St. 0000
1656 St. 0000	1970 St. 0000	1707 St. 0000	1646 St. 0000	1625 St. 0000
1669 St. 0000	1985 St. 0000	1720 St. 0000	1659 St. 0000	1638 St. 0000
1682 St. 0000	2000 St. 0000	1733 St. 0000	1672 St. 0000	1651 St. 0000
1695 St. 0000	2015 St. 0000	1746 St. 0000	1685 St. 0000	1664 St. 0000
1708 St. 0000	2030 St. 0000	1759 St. 0000	1698 St. 0000	1677 St. 0000
1721 St. 0000	2045 St. 0000	1772 St. 0000	1711 St. 0000	1690 St. 0000
1734 St. 0000	2060 St. 0000	1785 St. 0000	1724 St. 0000	1703 St. 0000
1747 St. 0000	2075 St. 0000	1798 St. 0000	1737 St. 0000	1716 St. 0000
1760 St. 0000	2090 St. 0000	1811 St. 0000	1750 St. 0000	1729 St. 0000
1773 St. 0000	2105 St. 0000	1824 St. 0000	1763 St. 0000	1742 St. 0000
1786 St. 0000	2120 St. 0000	1837 St. 0000	1776 St. 0000	1755 St. 0000
1799 St. 0000	2135 St. 0000	1850 St. 0000	1789 St. 0000	1768 St. 0000
1812 St. 0000	2150 St. 0000	1863 St. 0000	1802 St. 0000	1781 St. 0000
1825 St. 0000	2165 St. 0000	18		