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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

Youth, Education and Libraries Committee
The Ramaz School, 125 East 85th Street (Lexington-Park)
March 12, 2018, 6:30 PM

Members Present: Sara Solomon, Debbie Teitelbaum, Ed Hartzog, Peter Patch, Matt Feather, Lynne Shinozaki

Minutes

Presentation by Art Connects New York: Stuart Anthony and Rebecca Pristoop

- Art Connects New York is a community based non-profit organization that brings curated art to agencies around the city.
- Their work is in the Isaacs Center After School Learning Center on 93rd Street.
- Since 2014, they have been bringing after-school programming for students in K-5th grades on an annual basis.
- Students develop specific art skills as well as aesthetic awareness and inquiries.
- It is a partnership with the International Print Center, which provides the artists who teach the students a variety of printmaking techniques.
- Contemporary artists from around the city have donated their work to community centers throughout the city.
- They want to expand the workshop program at the Isaacs Center Youth and Family Division.
- The new initiative is to include families. The parents or guardians would interact with the students.
- 50 students participate in the Isaacs After School program; all live in the Isaacs or Holmes housing development and all attend Yorkville Community School.
- The program is from 3-6pm, Monday through Friday and free of charge.
- The committee agreed to write a letter to CM Kallos to support Art Connects' application for discretionary funding to be able to expand services and afford a more robust family program.

ThriveNYC: Youth Mental Health First Aid

- James Gibaldi from the Mayor's Office spoke about ThriveNYC, the comprehensive mental health program for NYC.

- Youth Mental Health First Aid is a free, full-day certification class that helps individuals recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness, mental challenges and crisis situations.
- The course is for high school and college students 17 years old and up.
- There will be an adult module public training on May 10 at the Yorkville Library.
- The training offers 6 1/2 hours of content and is provided by the Department of Health.
- Programs are usually from 9am-5pm or 10am-6pm, with breaks.
- They aim for 20-45 participants per training session.
- The Department of Education has fully embraced the training. ThriveNYC tailors training to teachers' needs.
- There is also a trauma program that is in alignment with the mental health training.
- The citywide initiative has been around for two years and has served 50,000 people. The outreach team is very new.
- The age of 17 was changed. Initially it was 18, but ThriveNYC felt it was important to get the high school seniors involved so they were able to lower the age.
- The youth module is geared toward high school seniors and college-aged kids in order to understand what depression and anxiety looks like in people that age.
- There is a lot of role playing and simulations during the training.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm

Sara Solomon and Debbie Teitelbaum, Co-Chairs