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Morry Galonoy
Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

November 15th, 2022

Arts & Cultural Affairs Committee

This meeting was teleconferenced using Zoom

Attendees:

Thalia Karesia Batan, Chair
Anatole Ashraf
Kat Bloomfield
Kenneth Greenberg
Ryan Smith
Akello Thomas

Absentees:

Gianna Cerbone
Stephen Cooper
William Garrett
Benjamin Guttmann
Badrun Khan
Karla Perez

Guests:

Andre Irving, Co-Founder Cucala Dance Studio
Alexandra Owens, CB4 member and Cucala Dance Studio student
David McDonough
Maggie Gavin, Woodside Arts Collective

Community Board 2:

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager

Karesia Batan, Chair welcomed everyone to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee meeting.

Karesia Batan introduced Andre Irving, Co-Founder Cucala Dance Studio

- The dance studio is located at 32nd Place and 47th Avenue, 2nd floor. Two blocks from LaGuardia Community College.
- Grand opening was on September 10th, 2022.
- They are new as a company but have been performing around the world with other companies over the years.
- There are four partners in this dance studio.
- They primarily focus on various styles of salsa.
- They also offer educational workshops on the cultural significance and history of the dances they teach. Karesia noted the importance of this context and offering from a dance studio.
- They provide rentals and children classes.
- The dance studio is 3500 sq. ft. of space.

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

- The studio consists of 3 rooms as well as a café.
- They have events once a month.
- The largest room is 1100 sq. ft. - \$100 an hour to rent.
- The smallest room is 225 sq. ft. - \$40 an hour to rent.
- The medium size room is 670 sq. ft. - \$60 an hour to rent.
- The rooms can be used for rehearsals, to train or teach a class of their own.
- The first class would be free. They are also on Groupon.
- \$21 per class, and they are all drop-in classes except their holiday boot camp.
- Specialty workshops are \$25 on the weekends.
- Karesia Batan, Chair of the Arts & Cultural Committee shared with Andre Irving tips for more community involvement.
- Kat Bloomfield offered some advice as far as grants and funding are concerned.
- A question was asked about the need for volunteers. The Dance Studio does have students volunteering
- They hold special events for the community. For more information visit: <https://www.cucaladance.com/>
- The Dance Studio will also have classes for seniors.
- The Dance Studio is also wheelchair accessible.

Karesia Batan shared that the Queens Art Fund which was previously run by the Queens Council on the Arts is now going through New York Foundation of the Arts (NYFA). This grant fund is specific to Queens artists. For more information visit <https://www.nyfa.org/>

Discussion on grants and applying for them and fiscal sponsorships.

Anyone interested in doing public programming in the NYC Parks, their portal is now open. Dates tend to get booked up quickly. The link is: <https://nyceventpermits.nyc.gov/parks/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fParks%2f> Parks is basically interested in knowing the impact your event would be having on the park and their space. Other points to consider are how are you loading in your equipment, how will you be powering your event, advertisement of this event, medical plan, will there be security on site, are you charging for your event, are you using amplified sound. Amplified sound would require an additional sound permit from the local precinct. Parks permits are \$25.50. Non-refundable. The parks administrator for the park you are interested in, is helpful information to know.

Karesia Batan went around the room with the guests to share any announcements they might have.

Maggie Gavin, Woodside Arts Collective, shared information about up-coming events.

- Pop up class every other Saturday starting December 19, 2022 at 11:30am at PS 361Q until Christmas. Classes will be in the cafeteria, arrive early, open to the public.

- They will be launching a full 13-week semester starting January 22, 2023 which will culminate with a performance at Windmuller Park.
- Woodside Arts Collective is having a holiday event on December 18, 2022 at Moore Jackson Community Garden. There will be a market, caroling and arts & crafts. Art vendors can participate and sell their wares.

Old Business / New Business

- Little Library was started last year. There is one now at Culture Lab.
- LIC Corner Café located at 45th Rd and 21st Street have been approved for another site for a Little Library.
- Discussion with Anatole Ashraf concerning how people can get a calendar alert regarding the meeting they are interested in.
 1. Go to the CB2 site calendar page.
 2. Click on the arrow on the top right and select only Arts & Culture Calendar
 3. From the bottom right, click Add to Google Calendar.
 4. The link is: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/queenscb2/calendar/calendar.page>
- Discretionary funding – Non-profits who have been non-profits for at least two years are eligible to ask for funding from city councilmembers. For further information visit : <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nyc-discretionary-funding-application-workshop-tickets-460100461867>
- Applications open in January 2023 for the discretionary funding.
- Teen Art Salon – they are having a call for young artists, 9th to 11th graders. Visit their website for further details.
- Karesia Batan has drafted a proposal letter to NYC Parks & Recreation regarding the two Bulletin Boards in Woodside that are not presently being used. The painted shut one to be repaired, and the other Bulletin Board to be relocated to Noonan Park in Sunnyside or Windmuller Park in Woodside.

Karesia Batan, Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting and encouraged the committee and the guests to share with arts and culture friends and groups about the Arts & Cultural Arts Committee. The committee can be an effective resource for everyone and advocate for needs.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kim Waber