



## The Importance of Summer Camp



Summer camp has been an important part of Grand St. Settlement's history since our founding in 1916!

Dear Friends,

One of the many wonderful ways that Grand St. Settlement improves the lives of our neighbors is by providing a fun, educational experience for over 1,800 low-income Lower East Side and Brooklyn youth at our summer camp. Our campers are currently enjoying day trips to museums, baseball games, teaching farms, and amusement parks--as well as developing skills in leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, service, and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

Summer camp has been an integral part of Grand St. Settlement since the very beginning. After all, our founder Rose Gruening established Camp Moodna in upstate New York in the early 20th

century in order to, in her own words, provide city youth with "two weeks' respite from the hot streets of New York."

Our summer camp today still provides that respite, but also aims to level the playing field for the youth that we serve. Studies show that a large portion of the achievement gap between lower-income and higher-income youth can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities.

I am proud of the work the Grand St. Settlement family has done to create welcoming, vibrant programs for all of our neighbors, including our young people, all year long. Thank you!

Best Regards,

Kenneth W. Liebman, President, Grand St.  
Settlement Board of Directors

## Happening Now

### **BOLD INITIATIVES**

GrandLo Café is now open on weekends from 7am-3pm! Try new brunch items such as pizza and avocado toast-- and support our job training program for NYC youth.

### **GRAND STRATEGY**

We co-hosted an event with #CLOSErikers at our Unity Plaza Community Center where community members discussed how they would use the money saved by closing Rikers Island to improve their neighborhood!

### **INSPIRED WORK**

We co-sponsored an Immigration Accompaniment Training held by New Sanctuary Coalition of New York

City--participants learned how to help support families going through the immigration process.

## Moments of the Month



### What an Honor!

We are so proud to be named one of the finalists for the New York Community Trust 2018 Nonprofit Excellence Awards. The Nonprofit Excellence Awards recognize innovative and replicable nonprofit management practices. Learn more about the awards [here](#).

### Jewelry Celebration

Our Grand Coalition of Seniors showed off the clay jewelry they created during a gallery event at GrandLo Café!



### Music to Our Ears

Musical IQ delighted our youth with an interactive music and drumming session in the 80 Pitt Street gym.

### "Soles for Peace" Event

We partnered with the Mayor's Office to Prevent Gun Violence and Kick Your Game for an event at Bushwick-Hylan Community Center. Our youth used sneakers as canvases to speak out against

violence and to call for peace in their neighborhood.



### Terrific Tai Chi

Our seniors are enjoying tai chi classes on the terrace of our Essex Community Center. We love seeing our seniors stay fit and active!

### Taking a Tour

Women in Housing and Finance hosted a reception for its members at Essex Crossing Community Center.



## Grand St. Shoutouts

**Happy Birthday** to Valerie Agostini, Rashel Ali, Zulia Arias Palacios De Mor, Marysol Ayala, Sophia Brown, Willing Chin, Christy Chu, Tenisha Cleveland, Rosa Cuzco, Nicole Diaz, Monica Gomez Duran, Janice Guzman, Kristen Holness, Bridgette Laviscount, Joanna Liu, Melick Lopez, Kelsey Luks, Brian Maldonado, Lonniece McDonald, Natasha McIntosh, Karen Michue, Taurice Moore, Melissa Ortiz, Lisbeth Peralta, Maurice Rawls, Jimmie Sams, Lauren Santorso, Evanellys Santos Goris, Krista Shabtaie, Ethel Simpson, Nimcy Torres, Shahnaj Uddin, and Kevin Zhou.

**Happy Anniversary** to Muriel Abeledo, Martina Adames, Frederick Adutu, Maritza Bermudez, Woodly Bien-Aime, Gailann Blenman, Charon Brabham, Owen Brow, Altagracia Cabrera, Xuezhen Cao, Tenisha Cleveland, Stephanie Cuevas, Rosa Cuzco, Jermaine Diaz, Trisha Diaz, Tydezya Dixon, Oshea Feliciano, Linda Flores Rivera, Jacquana Foxworth, Juana Frias, Javonti George, Anayely Grande Davila, Brightwan Harold, Diana Hernandez,

Yan Huang, Bodrun Islam, Gariel Ivey, Chelsea Jackson, Daquan Jones, Taijah Jones, Chun Kang, Ashley Layne, Raheem McColley, Shanaa Mitchell, Terrence Morales, Jason Moran, Rosalie Moran, Tasheem Muhammad, Miles Neil, Natasha Ortiz, Tonia Parker-Gordon, Lisbeth Peralta, Kevin Rios, Christina Rivera, Desiree Rivera, Marnelcy Rosario, Carlos Sanchez, Evanellys Santos Goris, Palwasha Sharwani, Krystal Shipman, Monique Smalls, Destiny Thomas, Tanisha Thompson, Sabrina Veintimilla, Arnold Webb, XiaoJun Wei, and Denise Yopez.

Thank you for your service and dedication to the communities of the Lower East Side and Brooklyn.



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