summer 2018

johnson avenue block festival

we are so excited for our fall johnson avenue street festival on sunday, september 16th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

we have a stellar line-up of world-class music. street performer adam auslander will be there entertaining the kids, along with face painters, a bounce house, and other engaging and fun children’s activities.

john webber, an acclaimed jazz bassist and bronx resident, is bringing his band "salsa unlimited" to the johnson avenue festival. "salsa unlimited" features samuel torres. originally from bogota, colombia, samuel, a classically trained percussionist, has toured with a “who’s who” of the jazz, latin pop, and salsa world, including such luminaries as arturo sandoval, tito puente, and chick corea. the band also includes grammy nominated jazz pianist, composer and producer, silvano monasterios. silvano was born in caracas, venezuela. he began his professional career at the age of 18 by performing and recording with some of the most prominent venezuelan artists of the time. silvano has continued to write and evolve while performing and recording with an impressive mix of artists. this summer, savant records will release his brand new cd “party sunny”. rounding out the band is grammy award winning trombonist noah bless. noah received his bachelor’s degree in classical and jazz performance from cincinnati conservatory of music and a master’s degree from manhattan school of music. since arriving in new york city in 1990, mr. bless has contributed his authoritative sound to over 50 albums for various artists including paquito d’rivera, mario bauza, don braden and celia cruz.

traditional irish musician singer/songwriter mary courtney and fiddler patrick madden will be performing. mary’s music is an engaging collaboration of traditional irish music and a progressive social conscience born of a political education in the united states. her bodhrán (irish hand-held drum) playing offers another dimension to her exceptional performance. courtney has used her music to spread irish culture and to educate her audience about the struggles of the irish people. from rock ‘n roll to the ethereal strains of some ancient celtic bard, mary can sing anything, and sing it unforgettably.

come on out and enjoy the day with your family, friends and neighbors. krvc is proud to offer these free events that give everyone a chance to get to know their community better and make meaningful, lasting connections.

the businesses on johnson avenue are invited and encouraged to support and participate in this special community event. restaurants are encouraged to serve food specials for the day. find out more about sponsoring this event by contacting our development director, shari hall, at 718-543-7100 or at sharikrvc@gmail.com. make a donation to support this event and the other great krvc projects at krvcdc.org/donate or by mailing a check to krvc development corp to: krvc, 505 west 236th street, bronx, ny 10463.
the concert on the stunning rooftop, held on April 26, 2018 at The Allen Hospital was a beautiful evening. We were very excited to produce this event in collaboration with The Allen Hospital as they have been KRVC’s top sponsor since 2015. We are appreciative of their support and our continuing partnership with them. This jazz concert was a celebration of The Allen’s newly designed Rooftop Garden, which is a beautiful and relaxing community space that is available for their patients and their families as well as for the general public to enjoy.

We also want to extend a special thank you to Shannon Smith, Program Coordinator/Volunteer Services and Community Relations, Rose Mary Cortez, Program Administrator/Director of Health Outreach, Kevin Curtin, Vice President of Operations and Julio Batista, Director/Community Affairs for their teamwork on this unique event and for all the other ways they work together with us.

Jazz vocalist Emily Braden led her band including Misha Piatigorsky on piano, Barry Stephenson on bass and Henry Conerway on drums. Emily is a powerhouse vocalist with a striking stage presence, and the crowd loved her. The nearly 100 guests included hospital staff, KRVC supporters, small business owners, community leaders, jazz lovers, and people from the area who were excited to see the rooftop. We had perfect weather, delicious food, and a warm and inviting atmosphere.

NewYork-Presbyterian/Allen Hospital is a community hospital that serves Northern Manhattan, Riverdale, other communities in the Bronx, Westchester and Northern New Jersey. They also provide services in Spanish to their Spanish speaking patients and their families. The Allen Hospital offers leading care in the intimate setting of a community hospital. All Allen Hospital physicians are also on the staff of New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center, one of the nation’s major medical centers. NYP/Allen Hospital is located at Broadway and 220th Street on the northern tip of Manhattan.
Susan Kaplan, a local filmmaker, started off her new series "Docs in the Bronx" at KRVC. Susan plans to introduce us to more documentary films that are in the final stages of development for our audiences to screen. KRVC is excited to be hosting this new program. We had a packed house to view "BROTHERHOOD: America's First Muslim Fraternity," a new film by Wheeler Sparks and Dylan Hollingsworth. It was a moving and provocative look into a world we would not otherwise have access to.

"BROTHERHOOD: America’s First Muslim Fraternity" tells the story of the founding members of the first Muslim fraternity in the U.S., and how they carve out an identity in the midst of their faith’s modern turmoil. A secret marriage, the death of a father and the birth of a child help young men form character and understand community.

As a 2007 Thomas J. Watson fellow, Wheeler Sparks sought remote, conflicted and often oppressed communities, throughout Europe, Africa and Asia to document the human story of music. He discovered in himself an aptitude for communicating complex experiences and celebrating human diversity through art. His work has been featured nationally and internationally by the Atlantic, the New York Times, Forbes Magazine, Huffington Post, Fox News, ABC and more. Dylan Hollingsworth is a photojournalist and storyteller, seeking narratives that combat otherness and social barriers. He documents around the globe, having worked with Holocaust Survivors, Palestinian Refugees, sex trade workers in Central America, the Occupy Movement and the Mental Health System in America. He currently shoots on assignment for New York Times and Wall Street Journal. His work was published in the NYT 2017 Photo of the Year awards.

Thank you to documentary filmmaker Susan Kaplan for kicking off her new series "Docs in the Bronx". This is a showcase for documentaries in their final stages of production, offering filmmakers a perfect place to screen their works with a "test" audience before locking picture for festivals, television, online and theatrical venues. At the end of each screening, "Docs in the Bronx" offers drinks and light fare to continue the conversation. These evenings are a perfect catalyst to foster new friendships, work alliances and community.

Sarah is a Bronx resident and renowned pianist. She was the 1st Place Winner of the internationally acclaimed 17th Annual Great American Jazz Piano Competition held in Jacksonville, Florida on November 11, 1999. Sarah has performed with numerous jazz legends such as Clark Terry, Etta Jones, Anita O’Day, Della Griffin, Ralph Lalama, Alan Harris, Carmen Leggio, Dr. Lyn Christie, Bucky Pizzarelli, Don Braden, and many others. Her debut CD, Indeed! features alto saxophonist Antonio Hart, drummer Tony Reedus and other young jazz giants. Her second CD Moon Song was released internationally on the Naxos Jazz label in May of 2000 featuring Phil Palombi, Chris Potter and Billy Hart. Moon Song was the 4th best selling Modern Jazz album in Japan in 2000, and reached number 15 on the U.S. Gavin Reports. Her third CD, Summer Night reached number 12 on the Yellowdog Jazz Charts. Sarah can be seen performing in premiere New York City jazz clubs.

Robert Mitchell and Bill Weisbach played a gorgeous set of originals and covers in their own utterly unique world-music style. It was a beautiful spring night. The door to the Club was open and folks wandered in and out to take in the music.
Dozens of kids happily created their masterpieces for mom at our Truckin’ with KRVC Card & Corsage Mother’s Day event in Marble Hill on Friday, May 11th. The budding artists used a mix of glitter, tissue paper and imagination to honor moms on their special day. This all took place in front of Flowers By Zenda at 5217 Broadway. We even had a visit from Senator Marisol Alcantara to mark the occasion. These events are possible because of the generous support we receive from the NYC Small Business Services and we were pleased to welcome our program manager Sean Dennihy-Bailey. A special thanks to Orlando Kross, owner of Flowers By Zenda, for supporting all the work that we do.

On Tuesday, June 26th, we parked our truck in front of Flowers By Zenda from 2 to 4pm, and celebrated the end of the school year with arts and crafts and face painting for children. For the Marble Hill businesses, we had a first display and presentation of the new logo and campaign posters, part of a new branding effort to support the Marble Hill Merchants Association, made possible by a grant from NYC Small Business Services. Several merchants were quick to display the new logo and poster in their entrances. Thank you all for your continued support! We were happy to also receive a visit from NYC SBS Neighborhood 360° Program Manager La-Toya Niles and Angel Vasquez representing State Senator Marisol Alcantara’s office during this event.

June 26th concluded with a celebratory Marble Hill Merchants and Community Leaders Dinner held at Montezuma. We were honored to have as guests several Marble Hill and Riverdale community leaders including Sergio Villaverde (Chair of Economic Development for CB8), Anthony Edwards (President of the Marble Hill Tenants Association), Carol Hendricks (representing Promenade Tenants Association), Orlando Kross (Flowers by Zenda) and other merchants. KRVC’s work to support commercial revitalization, beautification and branding on the Marble Hill commercial corridor will expand over the next months with on-the-ground research, observation and interviews with merchants, to be carried out by our new NYC SBS Neighborhood 360° Fellow Camelia Tepelus (KRVC’s Marble Hill Project Director), towards compiling a Marble Hill Community District Needs Assessment document. This comprehensive document will highlight the specific needs of the merchants, and will be used as a tool for advocacy and further addressing the needs of the Marble Hill commercial corridor. We would like to thank again all local merchants, community leaders, elected officials, city agencies and the whole community of residents supporting KRVC’s work in Marble Hill.
Camelia Tepelus is the NYC Small Business Services Neighborhood 360° inaugural fellow placed at KRVC, focusing on improving the Marble Hill business district. She is a highly accomplished non-profit manager with experience working at the intersection of business and human rights in the US and internationally, specializing in corporate responsibility strategy, grant writing and program management. Before joining NYC SBS, she served as State Policy and Program Development Director at ECPAT USA (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking) in Brooklyn, supporting businesses to develop socially responsible policies and strategies to combat human trafficking. A Romania-native also fluent in Spanish, Camelia traveled the world before finding her home in NYC since 2004. Camelia lives in Riverdale with her family and is excited about the NYC SBS Neighborhood 360° opportunity to support business development in our community and the KRVC overall program.

Bailey Playground Movie Night

On Thursday, June 21st, the first day of summer and the longest day of the year, we held our first movie night in Bailey Playground at West 234th Street and Bailey Avenue. Many excited families attended to watch the feature presentation of “Akeelah and the Bee.” Before the movie there was also a screening of “The Invaders,” a webisode by Bronx Filmmaker Mark Cabaroy. There was plenty of free water and snacks to go around as well as chalk spray art and glow sticks – always a favorite of kids for night time fun. Riverdale Family Orthodontics, one of our top sponsors, brought along free bags and sunglasses to give away as well. We also want to give thanks to the Auxiliary Police from the 50th Precinct who came by to help out. It was a good time for all!
The weather was perfect ... on Saturday. But even a little drizzle on Sunday couldn’t stop the fun at the 9th Annual, first-ever two-day Riverfest. Or rather, RiverFestBX to be precise.

KRVC, now in its fourth year running the festival, tweaked the name this year in an effort to fully embrace its Bronx roots. Executive Director Tracy Shelton declared, “it was our intent to supply art, music and food that were 100% BX.”

KRVC also shifted the festival grounds slightly to a more river-centric location on the campus of the College of Mount Saint Vincent. KRVC’s lead RiverFestBX organizer Cliff Stanton had this to say about the move, “the Hudson River has always been the focal point of the festival, but this year, we moved the main stage to the river’s edge so that more people could enjoy the view and feel the gentle breeze coming off the water as they listened to the music.”

And with new acts like the Cynthia Soriano Quartet and Salsa Unlimited joining RiverFest veterans like Mary Courtney and Seeing Voices, the main stage became the “main event” ... for the festival’s land based activities.

While the music is the most salient sound of RiverFest, it’s the tall ships that create the iconic image. The South Street Seaport-based Pioneer carried over 300 passengers aboard eight sails over the course of the weekend. Long-time RiverFest volunteer Linda Hirlehy described the experience of being aboard the Pioneer. “Being out on the water was so calming, the city seemed a thousand miles away. It was like a mini-vacation, a chance to relax, connect with friends and experience the incredible natural beauty of the Hudson up close.”

But the weekend wasn’t just about music and the river. Renowned Bronx artist Daniel Hauben curated an art show - another RiverFest first - featuring 13 other Bronx artists. “Art is important because we are all creative creatures,” said Hauben to thisistheBronX.info website at the festival. “We’re here to express something, to process our multi-faceted experience of living, and to share some inspiration. It’s the human spirit.”

Finally, for the history buffs, each day wrapped up with a Greenway Talk on the Marillac athletic field by Bronx historian Lloyd Ultan.

KRVC wishes to express its sincere thanks to the many volunteers and participants that make RiverFestBX such a special Bronx event.
We now have a plan to build the Hudson River Greenway in the Bronx as described in the recently completed feasibility study by the Metropolitan Transit Authority!

While the MTA plan outlines many challenges facing our community, not the least of which is the price tag ($80-120 million), it’s still a cause for optimism and a time for celebration. Consider how far we have come in the last few years. As a community we have a) coalesced around an all waterfront plan, b) memorialized it with a Community Board 8 resolution, which was c) echoed by a City Council resolution sponsored by Councilmember Andrew Cohen, d) achieved support for it by all of our local elected officials, which led to e) the MTA study.

The MTA plan is most notable for the fact that it is an actual plan. For the first time, thanks to funding by State Senator Jeff Klein, our community asked for and has now received an actual blueprint to build what it has clearly said it wants ... an all waterfront Greenway.

Will it be cheap? No. Will there be devils in the details? Yes. Will it be achieved quickly? Unlikely. But, does this represent a golden opportunity for a borough that has been separated from its most majestic river for over a decade? You bet!

“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.” Winston Churchill’s words could easily apply to the MTA study.

We are at a moment in history when we are preoccupied with challenges and obstacles greater and more imminent than those outlined in the MTA plan. Surely there is a temptation to wait for a sunnier day to take this on. But I would argue that when it comes to the Greenway, we can make the weather.

What our community, borough and city stand to gain from an all waterfront multi-use path along the Hudson River in the Bronx is undeniable. It would bring nothing short of a cultural, economic and recreational renaissance to our area.

So, in the weeks and months to follow you will be hearing more about the MTA plan. We will have disagreements over the details. We will have to figure out how to pay for it. We will have to provide answers to the pessimists among us. We will have to entertain our own doubts and we will need to remind ourselves that it’s all worth it. But we will not miss this opportunity. - Cliff Stanton
Beautifying The Bronx BLOCK BY BLOCK

Including KRVC’s own Backyard!

KRVC has a long-standing community beautification program, but we now have a new Beautification Director! Nancy Moukas is working with local businesses and elected officials to assess the commercial corridors, organize community clean ups, mulch the tree pits, install tree rails and plant flowers. Businesses who are willing to water the flowers themselves receive a KRVC watering can. Other businesses just have mulched tree pits. In the coming weeks and months, Nancy will continue to expand our community beautification program, reach out to stakeholders and agencies and focus on more ways to make our commercial corridors more attractive and inviting.

Nancy has also been hard at work beautifying KRVC’s backyard space. The KRVC patio is already being used for meetings and as a workspace. It has also been used for crafts during our Halloween Party and for other smaller events. This summer, we are excited to share the space with the community for a Bingo Event, on August 1st at 6:30pm. Join us!
FROM LINKED OUT TO LINKED IN
Maximizing Your Use of LinkedIn for Networking

KRVC Workshop Series

KRVC’s May 1st workshop for Job Seekers was well attended by people interested in deepening their understanding of the purpose of LinkedIn, the benefits of using LinkedIn and the best way to build an effective profile on LinkedIn. Lavie Margolin, MA, author and consultant on utilizing LinkedIn, offered a lively and interesting presentation on the scope of LinkedIn and maximizing the benefits of being on LinkedIn. Mr. Margolin began by highlighting that 92% of recruiters google potential employees and that LinkedIn is likely to be the first result in that search. LinkedIn is the world’s largest database of professionals so a profile on LinkedIn is both important and valuable. A profile should include a professional photo, a title that reflects one’s expertise and abilities and information that you want a prospective employer to know. Relevant, detailed experience that brings value to your profile should be included. It is vital to be an active participant in LinkedIn, by checking messages, sharing professional updates, viewing others’ updates and inviting and connecting with others. When reaching out to others, messages should be genuine and personalized. Finally, LinkedIn Groups may be a way to grow one’s visibility so joining a relevant group can be effective. From Linked Out to LinkedIn continued the series of informative and valuable workshops offered by KRVC.

KRVC’s upcoming workshops will focus on Credit and Credit Repair, to be presented by Ana Gonzalez-Ribeiro in English and in Spanish, at the Kingsbridge Library on Wednesday, September 19th, from 6-7:30pm (Spanish) and on Wednesday, September 26th, from 6-7:30pm (English).

WORK LOCAL
HIRE LOCAL!

CONNECT WITH LOCAL JOB SEEKERS

JOBS NETWORKING EVENT
Tuesday October 23, 2018, 7-9pm
The Riverdale Y at 5625 Arlington Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471

• Excellent opportunity for Bronx businesses and nonprofits to showcase employment opportunities, network, meet with potential recruits and gather promising resumes
• Free to participants with tables and chairs set up in advance, parking available and light refreshments provided
• Event publicized widely with business and nonprofit logos displayed
• 2017 KRVC Jobs Networking Event attracted 200 job seekers from a wide variety of employment and academic backgrounds and resulted in interviews and hires

To participate at KRVC’s Jobs Networking Event, please contact KRVC’s Jobs Program Director, Holly Makin, MSW at hollykrvc@gmail.com or (718) 543-7100

Our KRVC Works program maintains and promotes an online Jobs Board and Resume Board for local businesses and community members. Currently, KRVC’s Jobs Board has many Kingsbridge/Riverdale/Van Cortlandt area jobs posted including receptionist positions, party planners, health workers, nurses, sales associates, custodial positions, child care positions, musicians, dog walkers, etc. There are also 40+ resumes listed on the KRVC Resume Board from a varied background of job seekers, with a wide diversity of ages, educational qualifications and work experience. KRVC Works! Jobs Listings and Resumes can be viewed at www.krvcde.org/krvc-works. To post a position or resume please contact KRVC’s Jobs Program Director, Holly Makin, at hollykrvc@gmail.com
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2018
Marble Hill Clean Up and Beautification Day, 1pm-3pm.
Meet in front of Flowers by Zenda, 5217 Broadway, Bronx, NY 10463

THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018
South Riverdale Movie in the Park @ 8pm.
Seton Park, 232nd Street & Independence Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018
Backyard BINGO at KRVC @ 6:30pm.
KRVC, 505 West 236th Street, Bronx, NY 10463

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018
Kingsbridge Art & Music Festival, 4pm-8pm.
234th Street & Bailey Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463
This festival is held with the 50th Police Precinct to celebrate the National Night Out Against Crime.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2018
Club KRVC Cultural Event @ 7pm.
KRVC, 505 West 236th Street, Bronx, NY 10463

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2018
Johnson Avenue Block Festival, 1pm-5pm.
Johnson Avenue, 235th-236th Street, Bronx, NY 10463

MIERCOLES, SEPTIEMBRE 19, 2018
Entendiendo Su Credito, 6pm-7:30pm.
NY Public Library Kingsbridge Branch,
291 West 231st Street, Bronx, NY 10463

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018
Understanding Your Credit, 6pm-7:30pm.
NY Public Library Kingsbridge Branch,
291 West 231st Street, Bronx, NY 10463

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2018
Club KRVC Cultural Event @ 7pm.
KRVC, 505 West 236th Street, Bronx, NY 10463

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2018
KRVC Jobs Networking Event, 7pm-9pm.
Riverdale Y, 5625 Arlington Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2018
Halloween Party, 4pm-7pm.
KRVC, 505 West 236th Street, Bronx, NY 10463

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018
Club KRVC Cultural Event @ 7pm.
KRVC, 505 West 236th Street, Bronx, NY 10463

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2018
Truckin’ with KRVC Event, 2pm-4pm.
Flowers by Zenda, 5217 Broadway, Bronx, NY 10463
Celebrate Small Business Saturday at our Shop Local & Save Event in Marble Hill.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2018
Marble Hill Holiday Trolley of Fun, 1pm-4pm.
Flowers by Zenda, 5217 Broadway, Bronx, NY 10463

KRVC also maintains an online community calendar and news page.
Link out to both at krvcdc.org/community.
Contact Ana Gonzalez Ribeiro at anagrkrvc@gmail.com to post a community event or news item.

CHECK krvcdc.org/events FOR MORE DETAILS FOR THESE EVENTS
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our Summer 2018 Newsletter is overflowing with exciting news! We are thrilled about everything described in this publication including our new and improved KRVC backyard, our new Marble Hill Project Manager, Camelia Tepelus, the success of RiverFestBX 2018 and so much more.

We are also excited about our upcoming events this summer including our Movie in Seton Park, Bingo in our Backyard and the Johnson Avenue Festival.

None of what we do at KRVC would be possible without the generous support of all our sponsors, elected officials and community leaders. Extra special thanks to State Senator Jeff Klein. At RiverFestBX 2018, he announced a generous allocation of funding for KRVC. This is the fifth year in a row that Senator Klein has supported KRVC at a high level. The funds allocated by the senator make all our great work possible, have enabled us to move to a new office, purchase a truck, purchase event equipment, increase our staff and expand all our programs, events and initiatives.

We are also grateful for the support we have received for the last several years from the New York City Small Business Services/SBS for our work in Marble Hill. Since 2014, KRVC has been able to serve that community at a high level thanks to SBS. Recently, in addition to general program funding, KRVC received a grant through SBS to create a new logo and branding for the Marble Hill Merchants Association and we now have a dedicated Project Manager for Marble Hill placed at KRVC through the NYC SBS Neighborhood 360° program. We look forward to further developing our Marble Hill program with these additional resources.

Team KRVC is known for our dedicated community service and we look forward to continuing to serve for many years to come.

Thank you for your support!

Tracy McCabe Shelton
THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

KRVC’s JOHNSON AVENUE BLOCK FESTIVAL FUNDRAISING DRIVE UNDERWAY!

KRVC has a team of staff and board members dedicated to community service. We work together to produce large and small cultural events and programs; promote and plan for Hudson River access and a more beautiful Broadway corridor for the Bronx; implement a local jobs program; organize merchants; decorate our community with festive holiday lights and more! All the events, programs, and services we provide are free and open to the public.

Please give as generously as you can to support our Johnson Avenue Block Festival fundraising drive. Sponsors receive logo exposure through our printed and online materials that reach tens of thousands of people and may participate in our community events. Our team will work with our supporters to develop a specific sponsorship package based on the amount of the donation and the needs of the donor. However, the main reason for businesses, foundations, individuals, organizations, and elected officials to continue to support and donate to KRVC is because they believe in KRVC, our team, our great work, and wish to join us in serving tens of thousands of Bronxites at the highest level. The Johnson Avenue Block Festival is a special community event.

Please support it as generously as you can. Contact our Development Director, Shari Hall, for more sponsorship details: sharikrvc@gmail.com

KRVC’s Johnson Avenue Block Festival Fundraising Drive is targeted to sponsor donations from $300-$1,000. However, all donations of any amount are needed to support our great work.

Make your donation online at krvcddc.org/donate or make checks payable to KRVC Development Corporation and mail them to: KRVC, 505 West 236th Street, Bronx, NY 10463. KRVC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, EIN 133097905.

All donations to KRVC are tax deductible to the extent the law allows.