

QUEENS MEMORY

NEWS FROM QUEENS MEMORY PROJECT

New Season of Queens Memory Podcast Premieres!

The Queens Memory team is thrilled to announce the debut of our podcast's third season, "Our Major Minor Voices," on Monday, April 11. This multilingual podcast seeks to document the experiences of Queens' diverse Asian communities in residents' own voices.

From the tale of Chinese newcomers struggling to find affordable housing to Bangladeshi families trying to pass on their native language to the next generation, each episode will feature stories about identity and belonging told by people from various immigrant communities, making valuable contributions to the borough through their cultural traditions, belief systems, and linguistic diversity, while also facing numerous challenges.

The season's 10 episodes will be released weekly on Mondays beginning April 11 on the [Queens Memory website](#). They will also be available on Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, Google Play, Spotify, and other major podcast platforms. You can listen to the introductory trailer [here](#).



In addition to the season introduction and finale, the series includes eight bilingual episodes representing some of the most widely spoken Asian languages in Queens: Bangla, Hindi, Korean, Mandarin, Nepali, Tagalog, Tibetan and Urdu. The host will be Queens Memory Curator [J. Faye Yuan](#), and the season's executive producer is [Melody Cao](#).

Every week, Queens Memory will host listening parties to celebrate the Queens residents featured in each episode. See the Upcoming Events box below for more information on these events.

Elmhurst Exhibit Honors Loved Ones Lost to COVID-19

As we pass the two-year anniversary of pandemic shutdowns across New York City, Queens Memory is proud to partner with artist Hannah Ernst and the Queens Covid Remembrance Day Committee to present an exhibition of portraits depicting those we have lost during the pandemic. The exhibit will be on display at the [Elmhurst Library](#) through April 30; you can also view a video of the exhibit and the story behind it [here](#).

If you would like to honor a loved one lost to COVID-19, we are gathering memorials that will appear in an ongoing tribute on [QueensLib.org/covid](#). You can contribute memorials [here](#).



Upcoming Events

April 12 – Join Queens Memory's Natalie Milbrodt and Meral Agish along with teaching artist Shereese Francis for **A Way Into Conversation: Centering Personal Narrative in History-Making**. This creative writing and story-sharing session is part of the Arts in Education Roundtable, held in-person at the [Queens Museum](#); it will explore how the Queens Memory team captures history for the archives, one story at a time. Register [here](#). (1:30 - 3 pm EDT)

April 13 – How has the experience of immigrants entering the United States and settling in New York City changed over the past century? Join Deputy Director in the National Political Advocacy Department at the American Civil Liberties Union, Anu Joshi, and writer and artist Carole Turbin for **The Immigrant Experience: 1922-2022**, a conversation moderated by Queens Memory Director Natalie Milbrodt, to discuss what has changed, and what hasn't. Watch it live on the [Queens Memory Facebook page](#); no registration required. (7 - 8:30 pm EDT)

Queens Memory Podcast Listening Parties

Please join us at the following in-person events to celebrate and take a deeper dive into the weekly episodes of our podcast, "Our Major Minor Voices":

April 23 – Queens Memory Presents: Halmoni's Kimchee

With producer Heidi Shin; Euginia Paik, LCSW; and Grace Choi, founder of the New York Coalition of Asian American and Pacific Islander Churches, we will discuss this podcast episode – a nostalgic look at what life was like for Korean Americans in New York in the 1980s. At [Hunters Point Community Library](#) (2 - 3:30 pm EDT)

April 28 – Queens Memory Presents: I Thought I'd Won

Join producers Peter Gill and Shradha Ghale to celebrate their episode, focused on Nepali Americans living in Queens. Special guests will be Namrata Pradhan from Adhikaar and Pasang Sherpa, poet and owner of Pasang's Striking Style barber shop in Jackson Heights, who will do a live reading. At [Diversity Plaza](#), Jackson Heights (6 - 7:30 pm EDT)

May 5 – Queens Memory Presents: What Gets Lost in Translation

Hear from episode producer Syma Mohammed and featured guests Aelya Askary and Sabir Ali, who will share what it has been like to leave Pakistan and make Queens their home. At [Fresh Meadows Library](#) (6:30 - 7:30 pm EDT)

May 12 – Queens Memory Presents: Invisible Homeless

Join producer Stella Gu and special guests Flora Ferng, NYC's Commission on Human Rights East Asian Communities Liaison, and affordable housing expert Chen Xiao Jun for the premiere of this episode, which explores housing challenges faced by many Queens residents, including the Chinese community. At [Elmhurst Library](#) (6 - 7:30 pm EDT)

May 19 – Queens Memory Presents: Seeing Signs

Producer Rosalind Tordesillas welcomes special guests Jaclyn Reyes of Little Manila Queens Bayanihan Arts, Joe Castillo of Phil-Am Food Mart, and nurse and artist Potri Ranka Manis Queano Nur. This episode focuses on stories of the Filipino community in Little Manila, in Woodside. At [Woodside Library](#) (6 - 7:30 pm EDT)

May 26 – Queens Memory Presents: Mother Tongue

Join producer Tenzin Tsetan Choklay with special guests Tenzin Dorjee, Jamyang Norbu and Rinchen Dolma for the premiere of this episode, focused on the Tibetan community in Queens. At the High Asia Research Center (basement of 41-34 75th St., Elmhurst; 7 - 8:30 pm EDT)

June 2 – Queens Memory Presents: Looking Ahead

Producer Indranil Choudhury will welcome special guests to discuss this episode, centered on the Indian community of Queens. At [Jackson Heights Library](#) (6 - 7:30 pm EDT)

June 9 – Queens Memory Presents: The Greatest Inheritance

Join producer Trisha Mukherjee and special guests for the premiere of this episode, focused on the Bengali language. At [Diversity Plaza](#), Jackson Heights (6 - 7:30 pm EDT)

May 4 – In the webinar **Stories from the Field: How We Built the Queens Memory Project**, Natalie Milbrodt, Director of Queens Memory, will tell the story of establishing the program with a diverse set of stakeholders and challenges the team has faced that might be helpful to others in the process of growing their own oral history programs. Sponsored by Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY). Register [here](#) for the Zoom webinar. (1 - 2 pm EDT)

May 18 and 25 – Join teaching artists from the What Will the Neighbors Say? theater company for the **My Pride Story Writing Workshop**, celebrating queer life and joy in Queens to kick off Pride 2022. This workshop, hosted on Zoom, will serve as a space for community healing, honoring lived experience, and connection as we come together to celebrate the strength and humanity of all LGBTQIA+ folks. Participants will have the opportunity to contribute their writing to an original theatrical work that will be presented as a reading by an all-queer cast and director as a kickoff to Pride weekend on June 4 in Jackson Heights (see below). Register [here](#) for either the May 18 (3:30 - 5 pm EDT) or May 25 (6 - 7:30 pm EDT) session.

June 1 – In the webinar **Stories from the Field: Volunteer Management at the Queens Memory Project**, Meral Agish, Queens Memory Community Coordinator, will discuss the importance of volunteers to many collecting institutions and the need for well-organized volunteer outreach and engagement, training and retention programs. Sponsored by Documentary Heritage and Preservation Services for New York (DHPSNY). Register [here](#) for the Zoom webinar. (1 - 2 pm EDT)

June 4 – The **My Pride Story Showcase** will serve as a kickoff to Queens Memory's **My Pride Story Writing Workshop** with a staged reading of an original work by the What Will the Neighbors Say? theater company. This production features the writing and lived experiences of participants from the My Pride Story writing workshops (see above). The performance will be presented by an all-queer cast and director as a celebration of the strength and humanity of all LGBTQIA+ folks. At the [Jackson Heights Library](#) (3 - 4:30 pm EDT)

Queens Memory in the Professional Community

QM staff are frequently invited to discuss our innovative programs with our colleagues in the library and archives communities. On April 11, Queens Memory Director **Natalie Milbrodt** will speak on the **We Are Living in History: Lessons from the Pandemic** panel at the Museum Association of New York's [Annual Conference](#) in Coral Gables, NY. On April 29, Queens Memory Community Coordinator **Meral Agish** will present "Documenting Spaces of Relief in Central Queens, NY, through Oral Histories," along with Queens Memory collaborators Bridget Bartolini, Pedro Cruz-Cruz and Oscar Zamora Flores, at the Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) [Annual Conference](#) (virtual).

On March 30, Queens Public Library Digital Archives Manager **Dacia Metes** presented "Crowdsourcing Collection Development" at the Visual Resources Association's [Annual Conference](#) in Baltimore. In addition, Dacia, Meral and Natalie recently remotely guest-lectured in the Digitization of Cultural Heritage class offered by Sweden's [Linnaeus University](#).