



QUEENS PUBLIC LIBRARY

QUEENS MEMORY

NEWS FROM QUEENS MEMORY PROJECT

QM Podcast Wraps Season With Special Bonus Episode; Get Early Access Here!

The third season of Queens Memory's podcast, "Our Major Minor Voices," concluded on June 13. The 10-episode series features stories from Queens' diverse Asian American communities in their own voices. Bookended by the season introduction and finale, the podcast includes eight bilingual episodes representing the most widely spoken Asian languages in Queens: Bangla, Hindi, Korean, Mandarin, Nepali, Tagalog, Tibetan and Urdu. Each episode features stories about identity and belonging from this broad array of people who have made valuable contributions through their cultural traditions, belief systems and linguistic diversity.

But we're not quite done yet! As a subscriber to the Queens Memory newsletter, you get early access to a newly produced bonus episode, "Behind the Music with Elias Ravin," featuring a discussion with the Queens Memory podcast's resident composer. To listen to the episode, click or copy this link: <https://queensmemory.org/season3-bonus/> and enter the password **Season3Podcast** at the prompt. Then sit back and enjoy!

The bonus episode won't be available to the general public until next week. In the meantime, however, feel free to forward this newsletter to family and friends who may be interested in listening in and [signing up for the newsletter](#) themselves!

The full season, as well as seasons 1 and 2 of our podcast, can be found on the [podcast page](#) of our website. "Our Major Minor Voices" was made possible by a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Elias Ravin, resident composer for the Queens Memory podcast, is the featured guest in the special bonus episode, "Behind the Music."

Meet Our Summer Interns!

Queens Memory is happy to welcome three undergraduate students as interns this summer. **Alina Willis** is a rising junior at Wellesley College (Wellesley, MA), studying psychology and biochemistry. She is interested in the intersection of science and history, especially the history of Black and immigrant populations. She is excited to be working on an upcoming Queens Memory-Urban Archive collaborative project this summer -- stay tuned!

Elle Murray is a Long Island-raised rising junior at Queens College, majoring in East Asian studies. Through her work with Queens Memory, she hopes to engage in the diversity of Queens and learn about the borough's history, especially her four grandparents' residency in Queens before her parents' births.



Alina Willis



Elle Murray

We are also glad to be rejoined by **Kareen Pierre-Louis**, a returning CUNY Community Outreach Intern and a rising junior studying design at Queens College. Kareen conducts oral history interviews and brings attention to Queens Memory's archives through social media and Urban Archive stories. She is excited to immerse herself in our physical archives this year!

In her work with us as a CUNY Cultural Corps Intern during the 2021-22 academic year, Kareen wrote and curated a City Story on Urban Archive titled [Urban Nature](#), using photos from the Queens Memory and other digital collections. In Kareen's words:

Urban Nature. Sound like a paradox? To some, yes. While New York City is generally known for its huge buildings and concrete, we can't overlook the beaches, parks, and general nature that beautify it. We'll be taking a historic look at some of these sites in Queens that folks can't get enough of. So when you want to get away from endless car horns and hear the song of the American Avocet, come back to this guide!



A 1969 image of Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, from the Urban Nature City Story



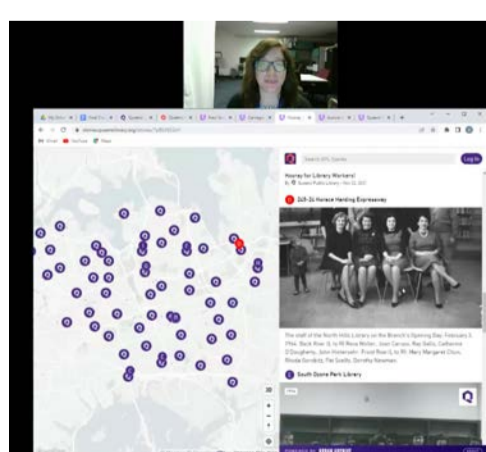
Kareen Pierre-Louis

Catching Up With Friends of Queens Memory...

Queens Memory collaborator and artist **Angela Miskis** currently has a survey exhibition on view at the Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning (JCAL). "It's a Luxury to Look Back" is a show of mixed-media works containing more than 50 pieces, including paintings, drawings and collages. The exhibition is an overarching journey of empowerment, from the artist's making of the works featured in the show to the individual who bears witness to the art.

The exhibit, displayed within JCAL's Miller gallery and curated by Teri Henderson, explores Miskis' journey growing up in America distant from her roots in Guayaquil, Ecuador, as the only child of a single parent battling undiagnosed mental illness.

One more public programming event remains for the show, on Saturday, July 23, from 12 to 5 pm. See [It's a Luxury to Look Back](#) for more details and ticket information.



QM's Aimai Reporter leads this 6-minute virtual tour of Queens Public Library's Digital Archives

QPL's Digital Archives Featured in Virtual Tour

In the weeks leading up to its 50th anniversary meeting in October, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) is showcasing a different member institution each week through virtual archives tours. This week, MARAC is featuring the Queens Public Library's Digital Archives. Our very own **Aimai Reporter**, Metadata Librarian at QPL and Queens Memory team member, leads the tour! Watch it here: [MARAC Virtual Archives Tour](#)

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 July 14, **Prof. Johnathan Thayer** of Queens College's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies presented a paper, "Oral History and Rhizomatic Documentation of Cultural Heritage," on his classes' collaboration with Queens Memory on the Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground project. The paper was part of a panel at the virtual [Archival Education and Research Institute \(AERI\)](#). On August 25, Queens Memory Director **Natalie Milbrodt** will participate in the "Centering Community Collaboration: Perspectives on Participatory Archiving" virtual panel discussion at the [Society of American Archivists annual conference](#). Queens Memory Community Coordinator **Meral Agish** and **Jerrie Grantham**, Volunteer Services Manager at Queens Public Library, will present "Leading Oral History and Community Archiving Projects with Library Colleagues and Friends Groups" at the virtual [Urban Librarians Unite conference](#) on September 16.

In addition, Queens Memory will be represented in at least four sessions at the [Oral History Association's annual conference](#) in October -- see our next newsletter for details!