

Queens Name Explorer Launches at McGoldrick Library, 2022

Queens Name Explorer Edit-a-Thon joins Open Data Week programming lineup

Calling hacktivists and historians: Join us to uncover the stories behind Queens' named streets, schools, buildings, parks, and monuments 🗺️

Wikimedia NYC, OpenStreetMap US, and Urban Archive have joined forces with the Queens Memory Project to produce an edit-a-thon focused on raising awareness of Queens' diverse local heroes. This is an opportunity for the tech-savvy to learn about Queens history and for the history-savvy to hone their open data skills. 🙌

This edit-a-thon is part of NYC's Open Data Week and will be centered on the Queens Name Explorer dataset of over 1,200 people whose names grace the parks, streets, schools, and other public spaces in the borough of Queens. Participants will learn how to create and edit entries in Wikidata, Wikipedia, and OpenStreetMap to bring this dataset to international audiences. There will be refreshments and prizes. 🍷

This program is made possible by the generous support of NYC Councilmember Julie Won. 🙌

📷 courtesy of Leo Sano.

📅 **Saturday, March 16**
🕒 **11 - 4pm EST**
📍 **Queensbridge Tech Lab**



COVID-19 Third Anniversary Screening in Long Island City, 2023

Remembering the First Wave: A Pandemic Discussion and Film Screening

Join the Queens Memory Project and the Queens World Film Festival to commemorate and reflect on the fourth anniversary of the city-wide shutdown during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

We will hold space for sharing memories of loss and gratitude from that time and screen videos from the Queens World Listening Tour and the Queens Memory COVID-19 Project.

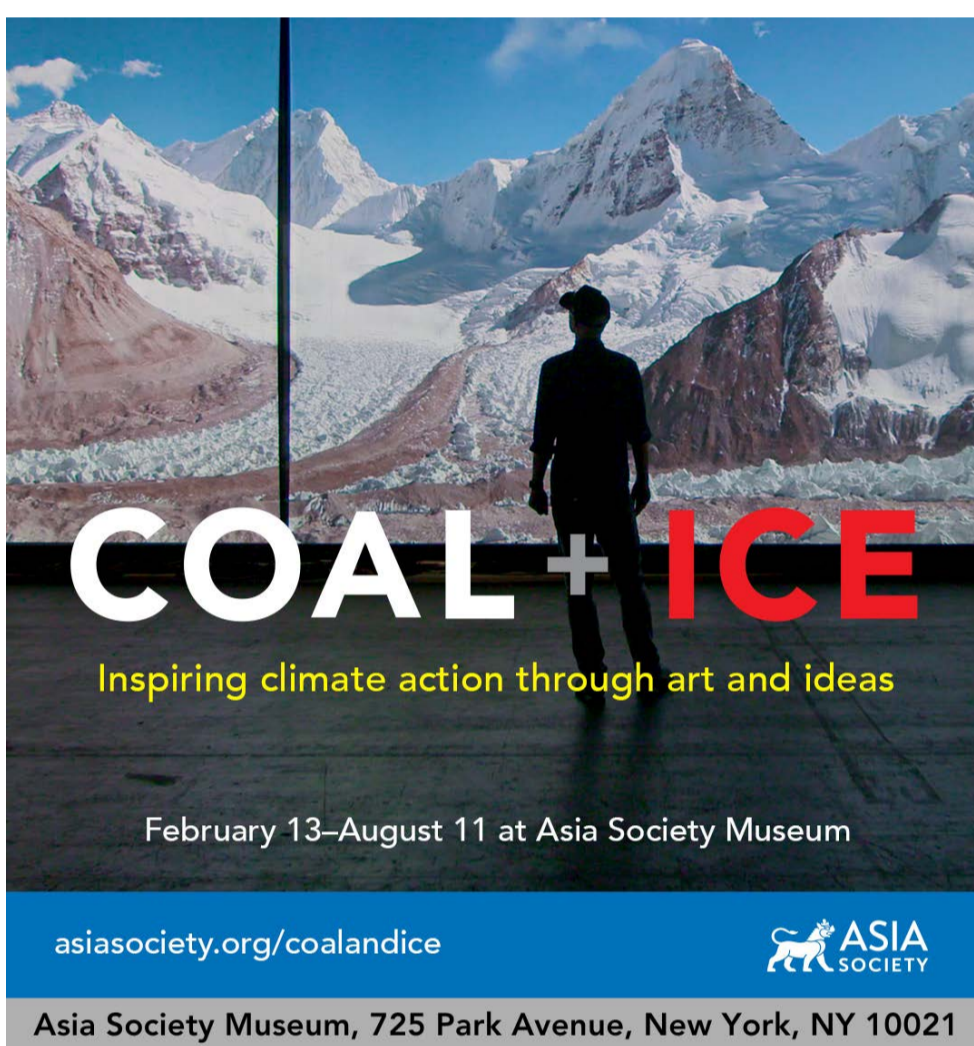
📷 courtesy of Leo Sano.

📅 **Saturday, March 16**
🕒 **2 - 3:30pm EST**
📍 **Queens Public Library at Elmhurst**

Job Alert: We are Hiring a Temporary, Part-Time Community Librarian

The Queens Memory Community Librarian is responsible for developing and coordinating the public programming and publications of the Queens Memory Project, under the strategic guidance of the Director of the Queens Memory Project. This temporary position is funded through the end of June 2024. Candidates must have a MLS/MLIS degree from an ALA-accredited library school.

Detailed job description is [here](#).



Asia Society Museum, 725 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021

Asia Society Partner Event

COAL + ICE is an immersive photography and video exhibition and series of related events that visualizes the causes and consequences of the climate crisis and proposes creative solutions. From February 13 through August 11, 2024, climate change takes center stage at Asia Society in New York through a series of speaker events, performances, films, and more.

Queens Public Library is proud to be a COAL + ICE Climate Action Partner! Our climate-focused programming aims to inspire deeper engagement and meaningful dialogue on how the climate crisis affects our global and local communities.



Ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Wilson Rantus Rock, 2022

Queens Name Explorer Spotlight On

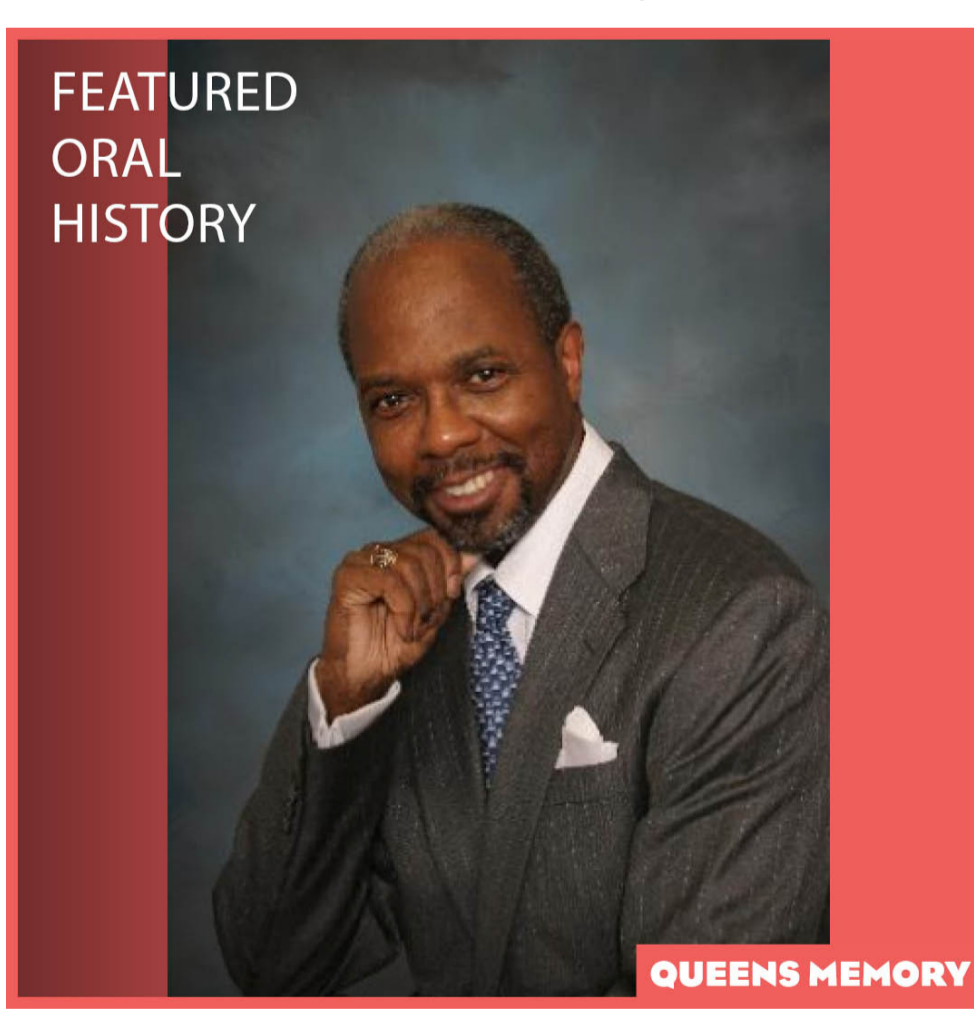
Our February Name Explorer spotlights Wilson Rantus of [Wilson Rantus Rock](#), located on the Queens College campus.

Wilson Rantus (1807-1861) was a free African American businessman, farmer and civil rights activist who owned land in both Flushing and Jamaica in the mid-1800s. He built a school for Black children and took part in the struggle for equal voting rights in New York State, seeking to end property requirements for African American citizens. He also was a financial backer of Thomas Hamilton's "Anglo-African" magazine and newspaper.

The Rantus family farm and cemetery were located adjacent to the site on the Queens College campus, where this commemorative boulder is found.

📷 courtesy of Jacqueline Colson.

February Oral History Spotlights an Attorney, Author, and Queens College Alum



Hwesu Samuel Murray is an attorney and author with a distinguished academic career and a history of involvement in student activism at Queens College in the late 1960s. Murray discusses his experiences growing up near the Coney Island neighborhood of Brooklyn and later in the St. Albans neighborhood of Queens.

Murray was interviewed by Obden Mondesir, as part of the Queens College SEEK History Project.

[Listen to his interview here.](#)

Upcoming Events

February 22 & 29 – What Makes this a good neighborhood? – Join the last two sessions of our Douglaston/Little Neck story-sharing series, where neighbors are invited to listen to each other and reflect on what they cherish about their neighborhood. Queens Public Library's Douglaston / Little Neck branch has partnered with community members, the Zion Episcopal Church and Carly McCollow of Holding Space, Inc. to present this story-sharing and discussion series. (6 - 7:30pm EST)

February 27 – At our oral history interviewing workshop, you will learn how you can contribute to Queens Memory and help us record interviews with fellow Queens residents. Together we will review tips for oral history interviews, from initial outreach to recording to transcription. Register [here](#). We will follow up with a confirmation and event link. (12 - 1pm EST)

April 18 – At Home With Queens College Presents the Musical Heritage of Queens: A Virtual Walking Tour – What do classical composer Karol Rathaus, jazz great Louis Armstrong, hip-hop pioneers Run-DMC, and punk paragons The Ramones have in common? They all lived in Queens! And they all have public places named to honor them in their home borough. Join Lori Wallach, Queens Memory Outreach Coordinator at Queens College, for a virtual walking tour that explores a sampling of the diverse musicians who've practiced their art in our borough. Register [here](#). (4 - 5pm EST)

