

A vibrant autumn-themed photograph featuring a variety of pumpkins and gourds in shades of orange, yellow, and white. The display is adorned with warm, glowing string lights and scattered autumn leaves in red, orange, and yellow. The background is a clear, light blue sky. The overall composition is dense and celebratory, typical of a fall festival or pumpkin patch.

**DOWN
TOWN
ALLIANCE**

FALL 2021



FALL SNAPSHOT

Art installation “XO World” debuted at One World Trade in October. The 12-foot-high sculpture is the handiwork of New Jersey-based artist Daniel Anderson. It features an “X” — a jack laying on its side — and an “O,” or a globe. You can spot a second Anderson sculpture, “XO Play,” inside the Oculus.

DID YOU KNOW?...

New York State has the longest fall foliage season in the United States! You can see changing colors in Lower Manhattan starting in early October and lasting through mid-November; head to Bowling Green Park, Elizabeth H. Berger Plaza and Mannhatta Park for prime leaf-peeping.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

DEAR NEIGHBOR



Fall is New York's most romantic period — there's a reason so much of the Nora Ephron filmverse is set in the turtleneck-and-pumpkin-spice season, after all. As the weather cools, the leaves change and the sun sets earlier, a walk around Lower Manhattan feels like a warm hug, one paired best with a hot drink, a cozy sweater and a hearty meal at an outdoor cafe.

Of course, though things are cooling down in the city, they're heating up Downtown. This fall, the Alliance has a number of exciting projects on tap. Thanks to our Economic Development department's placemaking program, we're leaning hard into public art this year. This allows us to support local artists while making the streets of Lower Manhattan a little brighter after a challenging few years amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

If you walk along Broadway this fall, you'll probably spot two of our exhibitions. One, in conjunction with NYC art non-profit Art on the Ave, consists of works from 27 local artists mounted in multiple vacant storefronts along Broadway, including 120 Broadway, the former Century 21 and the Fulton Center. The second, a joint effort with non-profit ArtBridge, features artwork posted on dozens of lampposts in Lower Manhattan. Both exhibitions explore the theme of resiliency, a fitting topic for a neighborhood that has confronted its fair share of crises and challenges in recent history. They're on view through November.

We've also launched an exciting new marketing campaign, Do You. Downtown — you may have seen our colorful 1970s-inspired ads posted across the district and at subway stations around the city. The campaign illustrates how our neighborhood is a special place where you can pursue your passions and write your own adventure. We've also partnered with Spotify to make playlists to help you soundtrack those adventures with fun tunes from everyone from Olivia Rodrigo to Tracy Chapman.

So that's fall — romance, art, adventure, great music and a chance to slow down and reconnect with yourself, your neighbors and your favorite spaces. We hope you find this season as lovely as we do. Until we meet again in the winter, stay safe and cozy, and enjoy all the pumpkin-spiced treats Downtown's café's have to offer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Lappin". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J".



WHAT'S UP DOWNTOWN

Lower Manhattan Top Fives For Fall

With the end of summer came the end of our time with Explorer in Chief Josh Katz, a Bushwick-based street photographer who spent three months living Downtown documenting all the ins-and-outs of the neighborhood. He was kind enough to compile a list of his favorite spots in Lower Manhattan — you can find all of them on our website. We all have our own favorites we can add but Josh's lists are a good place to get you started.

Top Five Budget Eats

Kuu Ramen

These bowls of noodles are generous, affordable and immensely flavorful. This is lowkey one of the best ramen spots in the city.

Pisillo

Pisillo is run by a first-generation Italian couple who come from a long line of sandwich makers. Their ingredients are fresh, the bread selection is top-notch and the portions are *massive*. Come hungry and bring a friend – you won't need more than half of one of these beauties!

Blue Park Kitchen

Downtown is heavily supplied with fast-casual bowls, but dishes at Blue Park Kitchen (photo above) are smart, healthy and filling. You can customize as much or as little as you'd like. And while it's so slick you'd expect them to have hundreds of locations nationwide, there is the first and only location.

Bombay Kitchen

This Indian cuisine is unbearably good. Stop by for their lunch buffet, grab takeout or come for dinner.

Squire's Diner

Nestled within Southbridge Towers, a co-op full of longtime residents, the community here is palpable.

Five Manhattan Bars Where You Should Probably Become A Regular

Five & Dime

You can't beat live music every night. Located inside the iconic Woolworth Building, with a name and design that's a tasteful homage to the skyscraper's history, the atmosphere here is perfect: relaxed coffee shop by day and lively

cocktail bar by night. Stop in on a Wednesday evening for live opera. (*8 Park Place*)

White Horse Tavern

White Horse Tavern has been open for 88 years, and still has maintained its unpretentious decor — you'll often end up with an Irish bartender. There's always a fun assortment of people here, so you can have a quiet drink on one level or dance around upstairs. It doesn't hurt that they have some of the cheapest drink prices in the neighborhood. (*25 Bridge Street*)

The Dead Rabbit

This place has surpassed being an Irish Bar; they are now an institution. Their attention to detail is ever present, from their menu that doubles as a graphic novel to their international award-winning cocktail program. While everything here is excellent, they still keep a modest, friendly atmosphere that's welcoming to locals and tourists alike. (*30 Water Street*)

Ulysses

Noted for its impressive wraparound bar, hospitable bartenders and tasty eats, Ulysses carries a relaxed energy amid the weekday regulars and a raucous scene on weekends. There's something for everyone here. Obligatory mention that it's on Stone Street and has great outdoor seating. (*95 Pearl Street*)

Jeremy's Ale House

Overly massive plastic cups of beer, a locals scene, a menu of unpretentious American staple bites and bartenders that tell it like it is — Jeremy's is a cherished neighborhood staple. During the pandemic, Jeremy's son took over the bar. He's a great guy, makes cool collage art and runs this bar with a healthy respect for its legacy.

(228 Front Street)

Top Five Places To Eat Outside

Pier 15

On a sunny day, the grassy fields up top are havens for a picnic at any hour. On a rainy day, the bleachers below will keep you dry and full surrounded by a summer's storm as it hits the water. You also catch a fantastic breeze, making for the most satisfying, scenic shade when it's too hot out.

Preferred meal: Leo's Bagels @ 3 Hanover Square

Ferry Terminal Bleachers

These bleachers, located in line with Wall Street, are designed for you to look at what matters most, the water. You have a great view of the Pier 11 ferries shuttling back and forth, and at high tide, the water comes up onto the lower steps. Most spots keep you nice and separate from the water. Here, you're perfectly immersed.

Preferred meal: Aroi Dee Thai @ 20 John Street

Battery Park

The people-watching in Battery Park is unbeatable. Over by the East Coast Memorial, you can sit by the water to watch fantastic street performers and Statue of Liberty cruisers come and go. Go a little further east along the water, just outside The View Restaurant, and you'll be surrounded by fishermen. Sunrises and sunsets with the Statue of Liberty in the back never disappoint, either.

Preferred meal: Mad Dog & Beans Mexican Cantina @ 83 Pearl St

Elevated Acre

Ride the discrete escalators up from Water Street to this secluded haven with an opulent garden, pristine astroturf field and views overlooking the East River.

Preferred meal: Tacombi @ 74 Broad St

Battery Park City Esplanade

The esplanade is lined with benches, and there's not a single bad seat along this entire lengthy stretch. No matter what, you're in a land of leisure, perfectly situated for watching a sunset over the Hudson. Though it's tough to pick a bench, my favorites are at the end of Rector Place. The benches form an offset arch beside the Esplanade, providing an optimal angle for people-watching without the rapid head-turning that comes with facing the water.

Preferred meal: Benvenuti Pizzeria @ 235 South End Avenue

There Are Now 35 Citi Bike Stations South Of Chambers Street



Lower Manhattan is slowly but surely turning into a bike commuter's paradise. A new Citi Bike station recently opened at Church and Vesey Streets, right next to the Oculus Beer Garden — with this new addition to the neighborhood, according to a recent count on Citi Bike's NYC map, there are now a total of 35 Citi Bike stations located south of Chambers Street.

And, to facilitate Citi Bike (and regular bike) trips back and forth from Brooklyn, the new Brooklyn Bridge bike lane opened Tuesday, September 14. At long last, cyclists and pedestrians have their own lanes, making crossing the bridge easier and safer for everyone. Getting from Brooklyn to Manhattan and back is about to be a breeze — plus, bike commuters get great views of the Lower Manhattan skyline on the way in.

Watch Where You're Going! Don't Miss Lower Manhattan's Famous Sidewalk Clock



What time is it? Time to look down into the sidewalk and into a unique piece of Lower Manhattan's history.

Visitors to the corner of Broadway and Maiden Lane may walk right by — or over — one of the neighborhood's hidden treasures without even realizing it: it's Barthman's clock, a timepiece embedded in the sidewalk, dating back to 1899.

The clock, lined with Roman numerals and lodged in a brass compass rose circle directly in the sidewalk, was originally an advertising gimmick. It was installed in the late 19th century to draw customers into William Barthman Jewelers, which was located right behind it.

The original William Barthman Jewelers location is gone — it now has two locations, at 20 Broad Street and in Brooklyn, respectively — but the clock has remained. It's been rebuilt over the years: first because the original clock's designer, Frank Homm, died in 1917 and was the only one who knew how to fix its original unique mechanical jump design with numbered tablets. Then, in recent years, the clock showed wear and tear from street use and damage from deliveries rolling over top. In 2018, it underwent major repairs, with contractors entering through the former jewelry building and working just inches from the busy street above, according to NY1.

"How many millions of footsteps have walked along that clock face?" Tom Bernardin, founder and president of Save America's Clocks, asked NY1 in 2018. "It's a way to visit the past. Not to sound too corny or drawn about it, but it's a way to say hello to those people. You can't beat that."

Time To Visit Stone Street, Lower Manhattan's Original Open Street



Long before the Covid era's outdoor dining, there was Stone Street.

The curved, cobblestoned alleyway lined with restaurants and shops looks like it was airlifted in from the tightly packed streets of a European city like Edinburgh. But it's pure Manhattan — and the Downtown Alliance helped create it.

The block is now home to vibrant local restaurants and bars with picnic tables that sprawl across the cobblestones and bring life to the narrow corridor. Stone Street was the first paved street in Manhattan, and its architecture harkens back to the days of Dutch New Amsterdam; plus, it's a rare street in Manhattan lacking both through traffic or parked cars.

Neighborhood favorites on the street include The Dubliner, a recreation of a classic Dublin pub, Route 66 Smokehouse and Stone Street Tavern, all places where you could get a drink and enjoy street seating long before outdoor dining turned citywide in 2020.

The street wasn't always so picturesque. It dates back to 1996, when the Downtown Alliance began a major streetscape program aimed at animating and transforming public spaces into more comfortable, pedestrian-friendly environments.

The Alliance collaborated with the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission to completely overhaul Stone Street. That involved installing bluestone sidewalks (made of a dense, fine-grain sandstone found in the tri-state area), new light fixtures, bollards, signage and other streetscape elements. All that added up to the vibrant enclave seen today.

The street gives a look into Manhattan's past — and, as outdoor dining and open streets continue to reclaim roadways for the people, a glimpse of what it could be again.



ALLIANCE UPDATES

It's been a few months since our last update, and things at the Alliance have gotten busy. Lower Manhattan's filling back up, and we're doing our part to ensure returning workers, residents and visitors get their best experience yet.

In keeping with our dedication to supporting local artists and public art, this fall our Economic Development and Operations teams worked with two NYC-based art non-profits, Art on the Ave and ArtBridge, to bring two exhibitions to Lower Manhattan. Through November, you can see art from dozens of local artists in vacant storefronts and on lamp posts along Broadway, all themed around the concept of "resiliency." Take a peek next time you're taking a walk, and if you see anything you like, note all the art is for sale!

Over the summer, the Communications team collaborated with Lower Manhattan-based ad agency F&B to create a new marketing campaign — Do You. Downtown. The three-part campaign illustrates how our neighborhood is a special place where you can pursue your passions

and write your own adventure. You can spot our colorful print and digital ads across the district and city, including on MTA LED screens. To make the campaign more interactive, along with the Spotify playlists, the Alliance has populated Instagram with filters that allow users worldwide to bring Lower Manhattan into their backyards, and will be hosting a contest to see who can post the best virtual Downtown images. Winners will get a free trip to Lower Manhattan.

Most recently, to help new Lower Manhattan businesses get off the ground, the Downtown Alliance launched a new program called Lower Manhattan Jump Start: A Free Program Providing a Path Toward Small Business Success. Working with consultancy Streetsense, the program will provide 20 new retailers and restaurateurs with customized business plans and consultancy sessions to put them on the right path, a \$10,000 value provided by the Alliance. Acceptance is on a first-come, first-served basis, and applications are now open on the Alliance's website.

Dine Around Downtown: Cooking At Home Edition **Launches New Fall Season**

Learn to Cook with Lower Manhattan Chefs!

DINE AROUND DOWNTOWN

COOKING AT HOME EDITION

A Cook-Along Series Hosted by Rocco DiSpirito

FREE

CHINAH
Thursday, Oct. 28, 4:00pm

MALIBU FARM
Thursday, Nov. 18, 4:00pm

THE BAR ROOM AT THE BEEKMAN
Thursday, Dec. 16, 4:00pm

Presented by
DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE

The Downtown Alliance's popular "*Dine Around Downtown: Cooking at Home Edition*" series is back for a fifth season, and they've whipped up an exciting lineup for you. Hosted by award-winning chef and author Rocco DiSpirito, this season kicked off with Chinah on October 28th; upcoming editions include Malibu Farm on November 18 and a holiday special with The Bar Room at the Beekman on December 16.

The series is free, and all donations go directly to a food-security charity of the restaurant's choice. Since its inception in June 2020, this program has engaged 3,600 registrants, benefiting 11 unique charities chosen by the 14 featured restaurants.



Although it feels like our final Summer Friday was just last week, it's actually almost time to "fall" back an hour for daylight savings. So what have you been up to this fall? LMHQ has been busy, hosting seven events (both in-person and virtual), welcoming members new and old back into the workspace, and helping other organizations host their first gatherings since March 2020.

LMHQ's workshops have focused on helping the community kick back into gear and thrive, covering topics such as public speaking, project management tools, the case for a four-day work week, resume design and more. They encouraged folks to come back to Lower Manhattan by hosting a postcarding happy hour to educate New Yorkers on the upcoming city elections and a watch party for September's Women's Breakfast.

Miss an event? You can always tune into the recordings in LMHQ's event archive. And make sure you check out some of their upcoming events: learn how to land a job in social impact (November 3), hack the process of innovative thinking (November 11), survive a toxic work environment (November 18) and more. Find out more at <http://lmhq.nyc>.



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BACKPAGE INTERVIEW:



Meet The Man Who Works Every Night To Keep The 9/11 Memorial Pools Spotless



We marked an important milestone in Lower Manhattan this year — the 20th anniversary of 9/11, a tragedy that changed the landscape of the neighborhood, the city and the world. In anticipation, Katz and documentary filmmaker Josh Charow interviewed James Maroon, pool cleaner for

the 9/11 Memorial, in a video that was picked up by Time Magazine and netted thousands, if not a million views.

The 9/11 Memorial was dedicated 10 years ago, and even if you still can't bring yourself to go inside, you've probably at least seen the reflecting pools. The pools mark the footprint of the towers with a sense of inverse space: each is nearly an acre in size, filling the footprints of the North and South Towers with the largest manmade waterfalls in North America. Where the skyscrapers once started their ascent into the sky, water plunges 30 feet into a square basin, then drops another 20 feet into a center void.

The design, by Michael Arad and landscape architect Peter Walker, is called "Reflecting Absence." All told, it's a lot of water. And someone has to keep it clean, or else the droves of visitors each year couldn't do much reflecting. Enter: James Maroon, pool cleaner for the 9/11 Memorial. Charow and Katz visited Maroon on an overnight shift and talked to him about what it's like to climb into a pair of waders, drag out the vacuum and push a broom across the surface of the pools five nights a week.

Maroon's been around the site his whole life. His father worked in and around the Towers; on September 11 itself, Maroon was working at the Mercantile Exchange building when the planes hit. "I spent most of my life down here," Maroon says. "This is a great opportunity to try to give back."

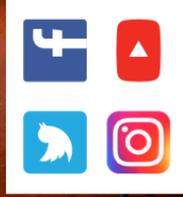
Head to downtownny.com/news to watch the video to see what it takes to keep the reflecting pools clean every night, and what it's like to see the sun rise over the historic memorial every morning.

It may be "bad history," Maroon says, "but we're trying to make it better every day here."

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