



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As Chair of the Aging Committee, I sponsored a legislative panel with the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens to discuss services like the Home Sharing and Respite Care Programs, which make it possible for seniors to stay in their homes and age-in-place. We passed legislation through the Aging Committee this week expanding senior programs, rent increase exemptions, and establishing a financial exploitation awareness campaign, of which I am the lead sponsor.

This week, we advocated for Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises in New York State, calling for the extension and expansion of Article 15-A on MWBE Advocacy Day at the Capitol.

The Empire Report featured my op-ed "A Heavy Toll: The Calamity of Elder Fraud and the Ways We Can Better Protect Older New Yorkers," about a constituent who lost her life savings in her seventies in a matter of hours to a scammer. My public awareness bill would spread the word about elder financial exploitation to older New Yorkers where they live.

In the Assembly, I am the lead sponsor of legislation to extend fare discounts for senior riders. My op-ed highlights how the bill aligns compassion and common sense. As a matter of equity and access, reduced fares should not be limited to the afternoons and evenings.

Memorial Day is on Monday, May 26. Our office will be closed in observance of the legal federal holiday and will re-open on Tuesday, May 27, at 9:30 am.

Please join us for a community event our office is pleased to sponsor:

- **No-Cost Notary Public Service** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets)
  - Mon, Wed, Fri from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
  - Tues, Thurs from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Thursday, May 29, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm: **No-Cost Community Shredding** at 1495 York Avenue (NW corner of York Ave./79 Street).
- Tuesday, June 3 at 3:30 pm: **No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets). To make a reservation, please call 212-288-4607.
- Wednesday, June 4, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm: **MetroCard Sales/OMNY Bus** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets). Refill your MetroCard/OMNY card or apply for a reduced fare card.

As always, please consider our office your resource.

Phone: 212.288.4607  
Email: [SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov](mailto:SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov)

Sincerely,

*Rebecca A. Seawright*

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

Seawright Op-Ed Featured In...

# ***EMPIRE REPORT***

## **A Heavy Toll: The Calamity of Elder Fraud and the Ways We Can Better Protect Older New Yorkers**

By Assembly Member Rebecca A.  
Seawright | May 19, 2025



Share



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The Elder Fraud bill would mandate stronger protections within financial institutions so that an anomalous activity, such as atypically large cash withdrawals by an elder client, over

two consecutive days, would trigger a freeze on the banking activity. My public awareness bill would spread the word about elder financial exploitation to older New Yorkers where they live. We have also co-sponsored shredding events, a reliable method to help protect against identity theft.

[Read More](#)

## **Seawright, Lead Sponsor of Legislation to Extend Fare Discounts for Senior Riders, Authors Op-Ed**

### **The Journal News**

#### **Why NY must extend Metro-North and LIRR fare discounts to peak hours | Opinion**



*"Compassion and common-sense align in A.5384, a bill that I introduced in the Assembly. This legislation would expand half fares for aging adults, people with disabilities (PWD), and those eligible for Medicare to the morning peak hours on Metro-North and the LIRR."*

[Read More](#)

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## **Chairs of Aging Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Senator Cordell Cleare Host NY Foundation for Senior Citizens' Aging-In-Place Legislative Update**



Assembly Member Judy Griffin, Senator Robert Jackson, Chair of Aging Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Senator Kristen Gonzalez, Assembly Member Stefani Zinerman, Assembly Member Karen McMahon, Assembly Member Al Taylor, Board Chair of the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens Linda Hoffman, Chair of Aging Senator Cordell Cleare, Assembly Member Yudelka Tapia, and Assembly Member Larinda Hooks.



Chairs of the Assembly and Senate Committees on Aging: Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright and Senator Cordell Cleare.

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**Aging Committee Convened by Chair Seawright Advanced Legislation Expanding Senior Programs and Services, Broadening Rent Increase Exemptions, and Creating a Financial Exploitation Awareness Campaign**





The following legislation was advanced through the Assembly Aging Committee by Chair Seawright:

- **A384** - to increase transparency by requiring area agencies on aging to collect and report unmet need.
- **A1863A** - to require certain agencies and individuals to provide notice regarding the rent increase exemption for low-income elderly persons and persons with disabilities programs to tenants upon the occurrence of certain events.
- **A7907** - to provide for expanded non-medical in-home services, non-institutional respite services, case management services, and ancillary services without a prescription or physician's order.
- **A8447** - to establish an elder financial exploitation public awareness campaign.

## Class of '92 Alumna and Chair of the CUNY Law Board of Visitors Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Congratulated the Class of 2025



Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright delivers remarks at the CUNY Law Graduation.



Jay Hershenson, Vice President for Communications and Marketing and Senior Advisor to the President of Queens College, Natalie Gomez Velez, Interim Dean of CUNY Law, and Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright.



Professor Gregorio Mayers, member of the CUNY Law Board of Visitors and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

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## **Seawright Calls for the Expansion of Article 15-A on MWBE Advocacy Day at the State Capitol**

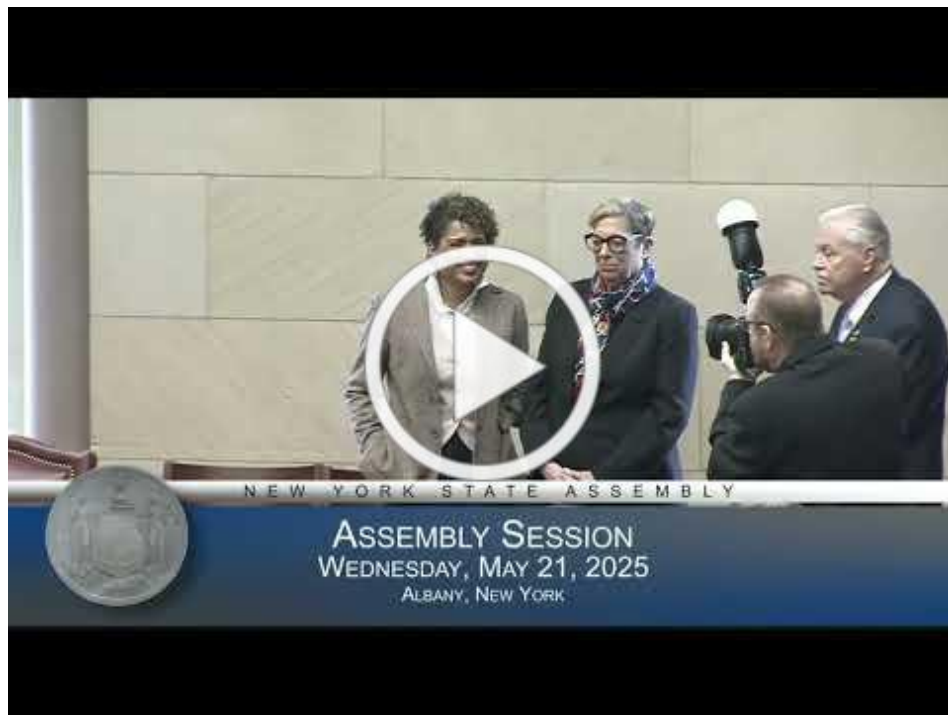


This week, Seawright advocated for Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises in New York State, calling for the extension and expansion of Article 15-A on MWBE Advocacy Day at the Capitol. Watch her remarks at the press conference.





Yenisei Bell, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Sandra Wilkin.



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**Seawright Responded to the “ALICE” Report at Capitol Press Conference: "Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed" Seniors Leading Households Living in Poverty**





In 2023, based on the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), 14% of New York households were defined as being in poverty. Yet this measure failed to account for an additional 33% of the state's households—more than twice as many—who were also experiencing financial hardship. These households are ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed—earning above the FPL, but not enough to afford basic expenses in their communities.

Older Americans: With the Baby Boomer generation aging, households headed by people age 65 and over were the fastest-growing age group in New York (up 40% between 2010 and 2023). They were also the age group with the most substantial increase in the number of households below the ALICE Threshold (reaching 57% of all 65+ households in 2023).

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Chair of the Aging Committee, said, "This report is eye-opening. The financial security crisis engulfing our communities, particularly aging New Yorkers, across the state is deeply upsetting. Here in Albany, we fought for a state budget that asserts our foundational values of compassion and fair play by expanding health services, reducing disparities, and protecting our most vulnerable neighbors. But this report quantifies a truth that all of us here share: We have so much more to do. As Aging Chair, I will continue to fight alongside champions for everyday New Yorkers like United Way to provide older New Yorkers and their families with the affordable and equitable city and state they deserve, AND that they have earned."

Read more in the full "State of Alice Report" [here](#).

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## Seawright Votes to Strengthen Equal Opportunity on Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day

New York has long been a place where diversity is celebrated. One of our core values is treating all individuals with dignity and respect, no matter their background or circumstances. Yet, with ongoing federal efforts to roll back rights and cut crucial programs, life has become more challenging for many, especially individuals with disabilities. Now, more than ever, we must support the more than 3 million New Yorkers with disabilities who live in our great state. All New Yorkers should have the opportunity to live fulfilling, independent lives. Seawright and her Assembly colleagues are committed to championing measures that strengthen protections and create more opportunities for those with disabilities. To that end, she recently helped pass meaningful legislation that would make New York safer and more accessible for all. From day-to-day challenges to emergencies, this comprehensive package of bills would help eliminate many of the barriers faced by the disability community.



**Disabilities  
awareness  
matters.**

The Assembly Majority  
passed meaningful  
legislation to address  
the challenges of those  
with disabilities.

Seawright said, ***"In these uncertain times, I'll keep fighting to make New York a more equitable and inclusive place where all individuals have the chance to thrive."***

A package of bills cosponsored and strongly supported by Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, former Chair of the Assembly People with Disabilities Committee:

- A.33 - to create a task force to promote the employment of people with disabilities
- A.688 - to establish specialized training procedures for firefighters to effectively assist and protect individuals with physical or developmental disabilities during emergencies
- A.2589-A - to restore the rights of state employees to sue New York State for damages due to violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993
- A.3404 - to allow an interpreter to remain with a deaf, hard-of-hearing, or nonverbal patient during admission to a hospital until appropriate hospital staff is assigned to interpret
- A.6021-A - to establish a blue-ribbon commission, with at least one-third of its membership comprised of individuals with disabilities or their parents or guardians, to investigate, report on, and suggest changes to the developmental disabilities service system about how to better address

## Consider Our Office Your Resource

### Were You Denied SSD or SSI Benefits? Need Free Legal Help?

Legal Services NYC's Disability Advocacy Project (DAP) helps low-income people with disabilities who were denied benefits by the Social Security Administration (SSA) at all stages of appeals, including:

- Requests for reconsideration
- Appeals Council
- Federal Court
- Hearings before administrative law judges

Call Our Access Line at (917) 661-4500\*  
Open Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 4:00pm.  
\*Help subject to availability

LEGAL  
SERVICES  
NYC



## sanitation

### No Trash, Curbside Composting, or Recycling Collection on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2025

The New York City Department of Sanitation announced that in observance of Memorial Day, **Monday, May 26, 2025**, there will be NO trash, curbside composting, or recycling collection on the holiday.

- Residents who normally receive **Monday trash, curbside composting, or recycling collection** may place their material at the curb Monday evening for collection beginning **Tuesday, May 27**.

NOTE: All residents should understand collection delays may occur after a holiday. We appreciate patience as we work to collect the backlog of material.

For questions about Sanitation services and holiday schedules, contact 311 or visit [nyc.gov/sanitation](https://nyc.gov/sanitation).



## NO-COST NOTARY PUBLIC SCHEDULE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10AM-1PM	10AM-12PM	10AM-1PM	10AM-12PM	10AM-1PM



**ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**



# HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY**

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY  
AT 3:30 PM ATTORNEYS FROM  
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE  
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL  
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-  
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-  
COST FOR CONSTITUENTS OF  
THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

**A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL  
HOST A ONE -ON-ONE SESSION  
WITH ATTENDEES.**

**RSVP REQUIRED:  
CALL: 212-288-4607**

**EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**



**SCAN ME TO  
RSVP!**

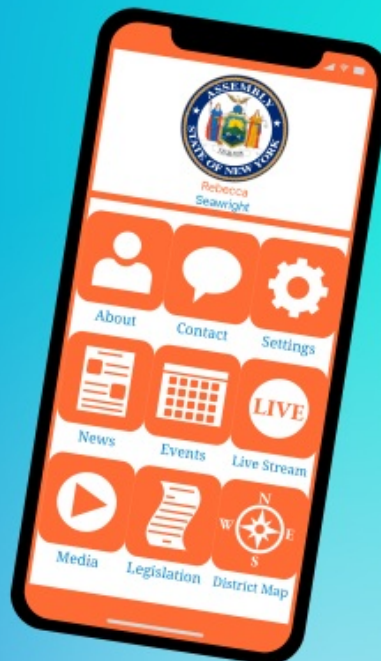
*The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlord- tenant law.  
The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorney- client relationship.  
Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise  
constituents in any legal matters.*

# Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's App is Live!

Stay Up-To-Date with the latest:

- News
- Events
- Legislation
- Livestream
- Media

Available on iPhone and iPad



## Resources

At [GoodCauseNYC.org](https://GoodCauseNYC.org), a brand-new website, NYC tenants can enter their address and answer a short set of questions to determine if their apartment unit is eligible for protections, and access resources to fight back against an unjust rent hike or lease nonrenewal. The site also includes a rent increase calculator to help renters determine if their rent hike is considered "unreasonable" by the law.

**The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** can cover the cost of fans and air conditioners for eligible New Yorkers. To find out if you qualify, visit: [otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/#cooling-assistance](https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/#cooling-assistance).

### Cash Assistance Benefits Skimming Alert

Beware of attempts to steal your EBT benefits electronically through skimming or phishing. To learn more and file an online claim for stolen Cash Assistance benefits, go to [nyc.gov/site/hra/help/benefitreplacement.page](https://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/benefitreplacement.page)

### New York's Paid Family Leave Program

Since first launching in 2018, New York State Paid Family Leave has provided critical benefits to improve the lives of tens of thousands of working New Yorkers and their families. In addition to ongoing enhancements, the wage replacement benefits continue to increase in line with the New York State Average Weekly Wage. Click here to learn how Paid Family Leave may be able to help you and your family in 2025. Visit: [paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/2025](https://paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/2025)

### Empire State Child Credit

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance is issuing supplemental Empire State Child Credit payments to over 1.5 million low- and moderate-income New Yorkers. The 2024–2025 New York State budget provides for an additional payment to eligible taxpayers based on the Empire State child credit. If you qualify for a payment, you don't need to do anything; we will automatically calculate and send you a check for the amount you're entitled to. For more details, visit [the Additional Empire State Child Credit Payments](#).

### Energy Affordability Programs

The NYS Energy Affordability Program provides income-eligible consumers with a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills. You may be enrolled automatically if you receive benefits from a government assistance program. For more information, visit [this ConEd webpage](#) and click the "download form" button in the Energy Affordability Program box (or click [this link directly to download the pdf](#)). Or call 800-752-6633; the seniors-only direct line is 800-404-9097, M-F, 8:30 am–5 pm.

### Regular HEAP Benefit

The 2024-25 Regular HEAP benefit reopened January 25, 2025. Find out if you may be

eligible to apply for programs and services. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year to help you pay for heating your home. Visit: [otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/](https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/)

### **Health Insurance**

New Yorkers can enroll in a Qualified Health Plan by the 15th of the month for coverage starting the 1st of the following month and benefit from new cost-sharing reductions for additional savings. Visit [nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage](https://nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage) or call 347-665-0214 to connect with an enrollment counselor and get more information.

### **HIICAP**

Approximately 500 trained HIICAP counselors located in local offices for the aging across the state are available to answer New Yorkers' questions about Medicare, Medicare Advantage programs (managed care), Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medigap, and other health and long-term care insurance. Counseling is also available through a toll-free HIICAP helpline at 1-800-701-0501. Visit: [aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap](https://aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap)

### **Renters Rights**

In New York City, tenants have many rights relating to the safety and quality of their housing. Tenants should expect to live in safe, well-maintained buildings that are free from vermin, leaks, and hazardous conditions. [Laws protect tenants from harassment and discrimination](#). For more information on tenants' rights, please see the [Tenant Bill of Rights](#).

### **Homeowner Handbook**

Homeowner Help NY offers a comprehensive guide to help New York homeowners navigate the responsibilities of homeownership and access available resources in their time of need. To view the handbook, visit [homeownerhelpny.org/handbook](https://homeownerhelpny.org/handbook).

### **Property Tax Exemptions**

It's time to renew property tax exemptions, including SCHE, DHE, and the Clergy Exemption, for the 2025-26 tax year. The deadline to renew is March 15, 2025. Visit [nyc.gov/contactdof](https://nyc.gov/contactdof) or call 311 for details.

### **Mental Health Hotline**

There's a three-digit phone hotline, 988, for mental health. Call 911 for mental health emergencies.

### **Mobile ID**

Ever forget your wallet and wish you had your ID on you? Now you can with New York Mobile ID! Just download the app, and a highly secure digital version of a state-issued driver's license, learner's permit, or ID will be on your smartphone whenever you need it. [More info here](#).

### **NYCDOT Street Work Permit Maps**

The NYC DOT provides a street work permit map for our district so New Yorkers can have access to any active street work information in real time. You can view the map here: <https://nycdot.info/>

### **Attention MTA Reduced-Fare customers**

Your half-fare benefit is moving to OMNY! Look for your new Reduced-Fare OMNY card in the mail soon, and [check this page for updates](#). Continue to use your Reduced-Fare MetroCard in the meantime.

### **MTA Mobile Sales**

Services offered at mobile sales vehicles

- Get help with a Reduced-Fare application
- Get more information about OMNY and sign up
- Transfer MetroCard balances (full-fare and Reduced-Fare to OMNY account)
- Report a lost/stolen Reduced-Fare MetroCard
- Ask our team about any OMNY-related issues

Note: Mobile sales buses and vans are making credit card transactions for OMNY only. You can still buy a MetroCard using cash. Check this site for the sales bus schedule:

[www.mta.info/fares/mobile-sales](https://www.mta.info/fares/mobile-sales)

### **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits**

New changes include providing a simplified one-page application form, allowing older New Yorkers to recertify their benefits for 36 months instead of 24 months, and eliminating the interview requirement for recertification. To learn more about SNAP and apply for benefits,



[click here.](#)

### Unclaimed Funds

Check to see if you or someone you know may have unclaimed funds via this tracker by NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli: [osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?fbclid=IwAR2JRsjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQibQIoud2O141dOUBqPWOjooIlaO8Qi7xxTFw](https://osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?fbclid=IwAR2JRsjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQibQIoud2O141dOUBqPWOjooIlaO8Qi7xxTFw)

### Community Service Society of New York

Need healthcare assistance or an advocate on your side when dealing with a medical bill, insurance denial, or a confusing notice? Call the Community Health Advocates hotline at 1-888-614-5400 and receive help today!

### Congestion Pricing Discounts and Exemptions

Vehicles entering Manhattan streets at or below 60th St. will be tolled. Most E-ZPass users will pay \$9 during peak hours or \$2.25 overnight, once daily. Discounts and exemptions, such as the Low-Income Discount or Disability Exemption plans, are available—learn more at [mta.info/discounts](https://mta.info/discounts). Update your E-ZPass account to ensure accurate toll rates and credits. For details, visit [congestionreliefzone.mta.info](https://congestionreliefzone.mta.info).

### Animal Care Centers of NYC need your help!

Due to a temporary suspension of dog intake, they're calling on the community to step up and adopt. If you're ready to welcome a furry friend into your home, visit a local ACC Center or [check out their website for more details](#).

### Emergency Preparedness

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) will keep you informed and prepared during emergencies through the Notify NYC alert system. Sign up at [nyc.gov/notify](https://nyc.gov/notify) or by calling 311.

### Curbside Composting

Curbside Composting service is now available to ALL NYC residents citywide. Compost is picked up every week on your recycling day.

Visit: [www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/residents/curbside-composting.page](https://www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/residents/curbside-composting.page)

## Upcoming Events

### First Avenue Street Fair

East 70 to 79 Streets

Saturday, May 31 from 10am-5pm



# UNBANNED

Exploring Censorship in Books, Art & Media

## CENSORSHIP & THE FIRST AMENDMENT



FREE  
EVENT!

**LEE  
ROWLAND**  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR, NCAC



THURSDAY  
MAY 22, 2025  
5:00 PM



FDR Four Freedoms  
State Park

Free speech lawyer and advocate Lee Rowland will give a broad overview of free expression values, the contours of the First Amendment, and a deeper dive into censorship threats in America today.



**Rebecca**  
**Seawright**  
ASSEMBLY MEMBER



# **NO - COST COMMUNITY SHREDDING 2025**

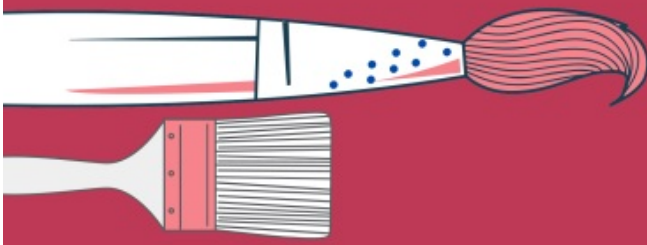
**THURSDAY, MAY 29TH  
9 AM - 12 PM**

**1495 YORK AVENUE  
NW CORNER OF YORK AVE & 79TH ST**

**NO NOTEBOOKS, BINDINGS, OR X-RAYS**

**OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT  
1485 YORK AVENUE  
212-288-4607  
[SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV](mailto:SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV)**





 [cb8m.com](http://cb8m.com)

 [@CB8M](https://twitter.com/CB8M)

 [@CB8Manhattan](https://www.instagram.com/CB8Manhattan)

**Saturday, May 31, 2025**  
**11 am to 4 pm**  
Rain Date: June 01, 2025

# **ART SHOW**

## **on the East Side**

**James Cagney Place**  
**East 91st Street, Between 2nd and 3rd Avenues**  
**Presented by Community Board 8 Manhattan**





Roosevelt Island  
Operating Corporation



# Pride Flag Raising

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June 2, 2025

11:00 AM

Blackwell House

500 Main Street

# ROOSEVELT ISLAND DAY

Saturday,  
June 7, 2025

50

**Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
Residents Living on Roosevelt Island!**

**Games | Inflatables | Kids Activities  
Food | Music | Community Booths  
Giveaways | And More!**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH**



**JUNE 7TH**

Rain Date: June 8th



**11AM-4PM**



**FIREFIGHTERS  
FIELD**



**Roosevelt Island  
Operating Corporation**

[Community Update: May 16, 2025](#)

[Community Update: May 9, 2025](#)

[Community Update: May 2, 2025](#)

[Community Update: April 25, 2025](#)



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