

Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

**PANYC**

## NEWSLETTER

No. 138

March 2009

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Next Meeting:

March 11, 2009  
Neighborhood Preservation Center  
232 East 11th Street  
New York, NY  
6:30pm

Newsletter Editor:

Christopher Ricciardi  
4110 Quentin Road  
Brooklyn, New York 11234-4322  
Phone/Fax: (718) 645-3962  
Email: Ricciardi@att.net



PANYC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2008, 6:30 P.M.

Neighborhood Preservation Center (NPC)

232 E.11th Street

*Notice of upcoming meeting, January 21, 2008, 6:30 pm  
Neighborhood Preservation Center, 232 E. 11th Street, NYC*

**Present:** Stone, Spritzer, Linn, MacLean, Schuldenrein, Rakos, Pickman, M. Smith, Wall

**1) Treasurer's Report:** Nothing has changed since last report in September.

**2) President's Report:**

- 1) Amanda Sutphin continues to look for repository funding. If anyone knows of a granting organization willing to support such a project, please contact her.
- 2) No response has been received from our letter to the Department of City Planning, but Stone will follow-up.
- 3) Final vote on developers parking garage project Riverside Houses, Brooklyn Heights Historic District was held November 18th. Landmarks approved project. Developer, for a second time, has misrepresented archaeology in his public comments by announcing he had "hired Geismar to monitor" archaeology. Stone will confirm that neither Geismar nor LPC recommended monitoring and will write another letter about this issue.
- 4) Still exploring "re-introduction" letter to Governor Paterson. Cantwell is unable to locate original PANYC award letter, but Geismar has photographs of actual award and Paterson receiving the award from Wall. Letter won't ask for anything specific, just introductory. Wall asked if there are aids in his administration that are known to be sympathetic to archaeology so we can cc them if any issues arise. She will contact Cynthia Copeland for suggestions.
- 5) Stone sent introductory letter to Therese Braddick, new Deputy Commissioner for Capital Projects at Parks on behalf of PANYC asking for a meeting. Stone called her office to follow up on Monday and spoke with Eric Peterson (chief of staff) who said "that meeting is on hold for now". He said that Braddick knows about PANYC and if we have specific issues we can address them with Parks as they arise. Stone will explore this further.
- 6) Dorothy Miner's passing was discussed. Miner was instrumental in getting NYC archaeology to where it is today. PANYC board proposed sending \$100.00 checks to the two preservation organizations identified by her estate for donations in her honor, along with a letter acknowledging her contributions to NYC archaeology. Geismar will give introduction at this year's public program about Miner. It was suggested she might be a good candidate for NYAC's "Founders Award." Geismar will contact them to see if this is true. Rothschild or Wall will try to locate a copy of the PANYC award nomination letter. It was requested that Wall, Geismar, and Rothschild draft a version if one cannot be found. A vote was taken and unanimously passed to send \$100.00 checks in Miner's honor to the two preservation organizations.

**3) Committee Reports:**

Awards: (Cantwell) Cantwell has put together an award announcement that will go in next newsletter. Wall proposed publishing nomination letters of award recipients in newsletter to have permanent record.

Blog: (Rakos) The purpose of this committee is to build a constituency in like-minded and already established online-forums and use them to disseminate PANYC issues rather than creating and maintaining our own blog. Rakos has compiled several examples of blogs dedicated to industrial and community history that include individual, real estate, neighborhood, and newspaper blogs. She concluded that depending on the issue we want to get out, we'll need to select which is the most appropriate online blog and send them the information. She'll share list with anyone interested.

Curriculum/Education: None

Election: (President) None

Events: (Martin) Martin will have list for next newsletter.

Government Affairs: (Schuldenrein) Reported on conversation held at SAAs that regardless of who gets elected in the presidential race, cultural resources will be in a much better position. It is thought there might be something like WPA being proposed in current economic climate. Wall commented that it would be important to help shape the program if something like this does get implemented. She proposed writing a letter to the Mayor, Quinn, and the Governor outlining who in NYC is sensitive to these issues should a WPA-like program be developed as it's likely to happen quickly if it does go forward. Schuldenrein will compile list of ideas to consider in future and will send to Stone.

Landmarks: (Geismar) None

Membership: (Secretary) None

Met Chapter NYSAA: (Cantwell/Wall) 13 new members have joined. Programs have been put together for year although there are still a few gaps to be filled. Speaker suggestions are welcomed. Still looking for location, but the NYPL at Jefferson Market is looking like a positive option. Will use PANYC secretary to disseminate Met Chapter information to PANYC members.

Municipal Arts Society: (Geismar) Stone reported on behalf of Geismar that there are some industrial sites MAS is trying to stay on top of to develop protocols, such as the Gowanus Canal.

Newsletter: (Ricciardi) None

NYAC: (Stone)

- 1) Urban Standards Subcommittee of NYAC will be working on issues related to Phase 1As. This section will be led by Louise Basa and Joan Geismar.
- 2) Working group headed by John Bonafide of SHPO has met with NYAC and concluded there are some tasks his office can work on while there are others NYAC should work on such as: a) best practice for project maps and reports; b) documenting and testing disturbances, what is fill and what's not; c) Phase 1B, how to handle stray finds; and d) revising current site forms and creating a short form for smaller sites.

Outreach: (Freeman) Secretary will get Freeman a list of past members for renewal letter.

Parks Dept.: (Geismar) None

Public Program: (Vice President) Will be held Sunday, April 19th, from 1–3 pm at the City Museum of New York. The program will have a Greenwich Village theme. Speakers are in negotiation.

Research and Planning: None

Repository: (Geismar): None

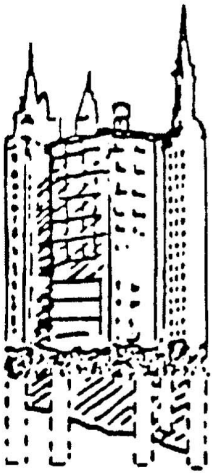
Website: (Pickman) Our former website no longer exists and Pickman will look for possible host sites and costs. We have the content for a website. General consensus is we must have website.

**4) Old Business:** None

**5) New Business:** A concerned citizen contacted Stone wanting to know if there was archaeology being done at Chambers Street between Broadway and Church at former location of Ralph's Discount. Stone has contacted Amanda Sutphin at LPC and is waiting to hear back from her.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted by J. MacLean, PANYC Secretary



## Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

January 28, 2009

The Honorable David A. Paterson, Governor  
State Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224

**PANYC**

Dear Governor Paterson,

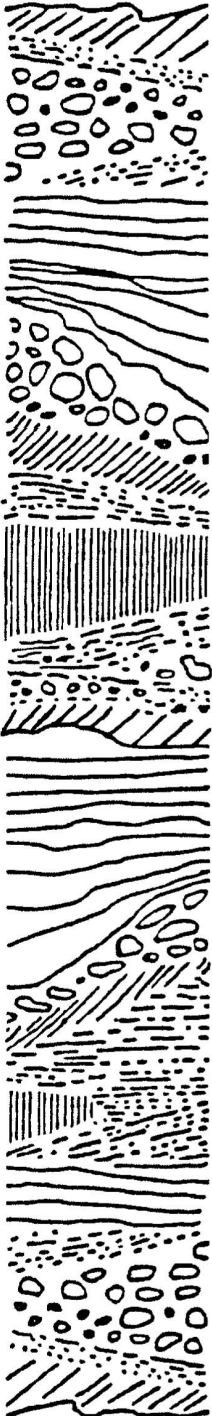
I am writing on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc. (PANYC). In advance of our annual symposium on the archaeology of New York City, our thoughts take us back to 1993 when you accepted our *Special Award for Outstanding Contributions Made by a Non-Archaeologist to New York City Archaeology* (see attached). Your efforts in regard to the African Burial Ground proved you appreciate the importance of archaeological investigations that balance the needs of development and history. We believe archaeology has a friend in the State House.

If we could be of any help, we would be honored to confer with you on archaeological matters you think appropriate.

Sincerely,

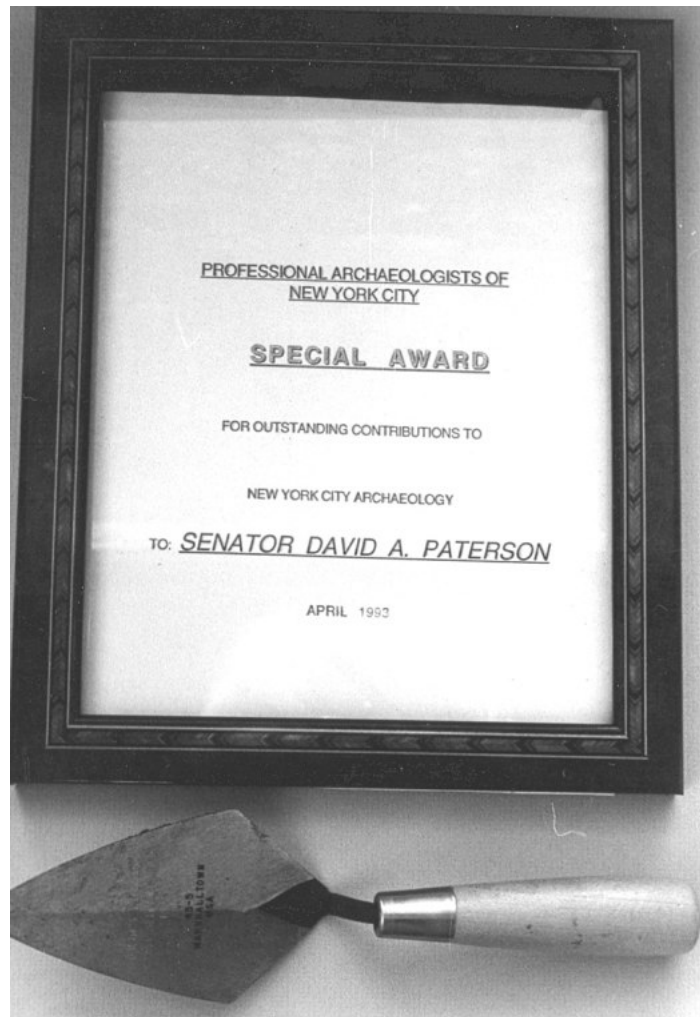
Linda Stone  
PANYC President  
249 East 48th Street, #12B  
New York, New York 10017  
212-888-3130  
PANYC2006@yahoo.com

cc: Arana Hankin, Assistant Secretary to Governor  
Michael Bloomberg, Mayor  
Patricia Harris, Deputy Mayor

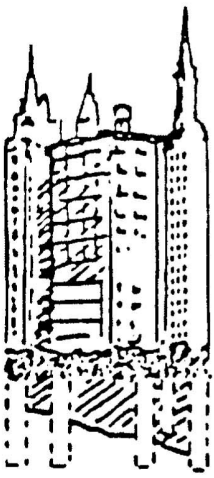




Senator David A. Paterson with PANYC Awards Committee members Nan Rothschild (left) and Anne-Marie Cantwell (committee chair).



Certificate and Trowel



## Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

January 27, 2009

The Advocate for New York City's Historic Neighborhoods  
232 East 11th Street  
New York, New York 10003

*Re:* Dorothy Miner Donation

**PANYC**

Dear Advocate,

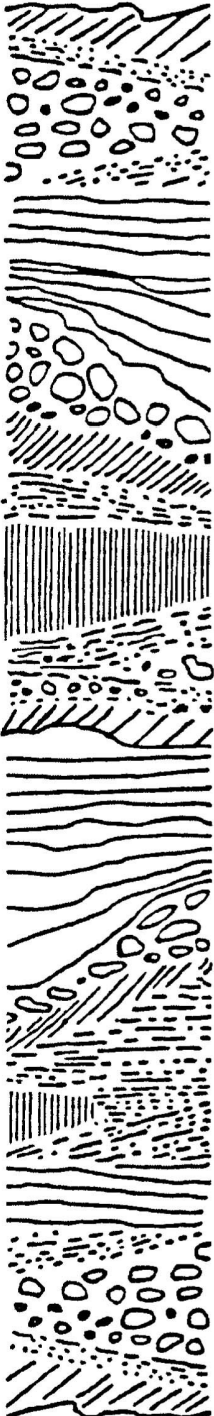
I am writing on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) to offer the enclosed \$100 donation in the name of Dorothy Miner. As you know, she was a tenacious and fierce advocate for what she believed in. Thankfully, that included archaeology, perhaps as a result of what she learned during archaeological field school while in college. As you may also know, Dorothy Miner, as counsel for the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, successfully argued for the mandatory inclusion of procedures in the City's Environmental Quality Review regulations that considered mitigation of the impact of construction on historic and archaeological resources. This paved the way for numerous archaeological projects in New York City that have provided us with knowledge of the City's past that would not be possible otherwise. For this we are eternally grateful. Even after she left the Commission and entered academia, PANYC continued to seek her excellent advice. She is sorely missed.

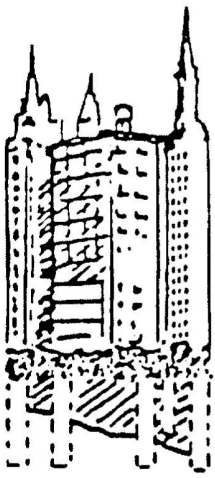
Please accept the enclosed donation in Dorothy's name.

Sincerely,

Linda Stone  
PANYC President  
249 East 48th Street, #12B  
New York, New York 10017

cc: Robert Dwight Miner  
Richard Thomas Miner





## Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

January 27, 2009

The Dwight C. Miner Scholarship Fund  
Columbia University  
2960 Broadway  
New York, New York 10027

Re: Dorothy Miner Donation

**PANYC**

Dear Dwight C. Miner Scholarship Fund,

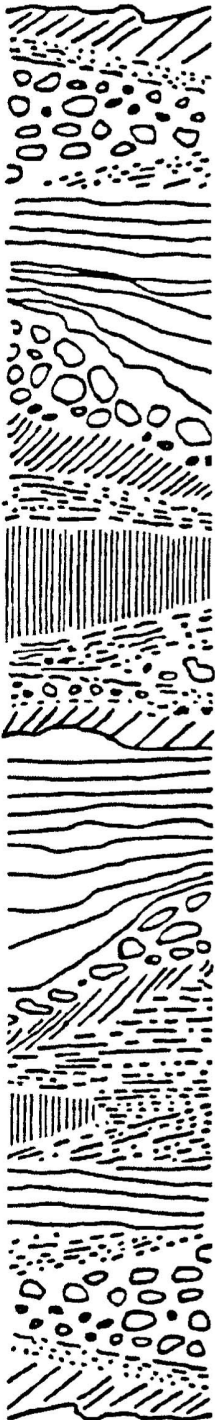
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Please accept the enclosed donation in Dorothy's name.

Sincerely,

Linda Stone  
PANYC President  
249 East 48th Street, #12B  
New York, New York 10017

cc: Robert Dwight Miner  
Richard Thomas Miner







# ROEBLING CHAPTER

Society for Industrial Archeology

[www.roeblingSIA.org](http://www.roeblingSIA.org)

Reply to 40 W. 77<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York 10024. [PreserveIA@aol.com](mailto:PreserveIA@aol.com). 212-769-4946

March 5, 2009

John F. Cryan  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation  
Region 2 Headquarters  
47-40 21st Street  
Long Island City, New York 11101

Re: Application I.D. 2-6103-00710/00001

Dear Mr. Cryan:

I am writing to disagree with the determination that no registered, eligible or inventoried archaeological sites or historic structures will be impacted by the proposed Whole Foods Market at Third Street and Third Avenue in Brooklyn.

I do so on behalf of the Roebling Chapter, Society for Industrial Archeology, a not-for-profit organization committed to the study, preservation and dissemination of information on our region's industrial past. Of the chapter's over 450 members, nearly 170 live in New York City. Our members—both professional and amateur—are experts on historic industrial areas like the Gowanus Canal.

We are aware, for instance, that the *National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Evaluation and Cultural Resources Assessment for the Gowanus Canal...*, prepared for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 2004, determined that the Gowanus Canal itself, was eligible for the National Register as an important engineered inland waterway. In addition, its timber bulkheads and some concrete wall sections were separately determined eligible due to their ability to inform us about historic construction methods.

Also, the Litchfield Office Building, built as the New York and Long Island Coignet Stone Company, is a pioneering example of concrete construction and is the only above-ground remnant of a five-acre factory complex that ran along the Fourth Street Basin from Third Street to Sixth Street. It was determined to be a contributing resource in the National Register-eligible Gowanus Historic District.

These known historic resources are directly adjacent to the project site.

In addition, the site was, in an earlier era, part of Denton's Mill Pond. Although the approximate site of the mill is believed to have been on the far side of the pond, the above-referenced report noted, "... while the approximate locations of Denton's and Freeke's mills are known, the presence and/or integrity of any buried remains is not." Additional research will assist you in determining the need for archeological investigations.

We trust that you will re-examine the SHPA determination in light of this information and work with the State Historic Preservation Office to identify appropriate archeological monitoring of and mitigation for any impact upon the historic resources.

Sincerely,

Mary Habstritt, Chair  
Preservation Committee

cc: Douglas Mackey, New York State Historic Preservation Office  
Kathleen Howe, New York State Historic Preservation Office



**The New York Times** - Tuesday, February 3, 2009

[New York and Region](#)

CITY ROOM BLOGGING AT NYTIMES.COM/CITYROOM.

By DAVID W. DUNLAP

Published: January 20, 2009

UNDER BUS DEPOT, An Old Cemetery?

Are traces of the original Harlem settlement -- including an African burial ground -- awaiting discovery during the replacement of the Willis Avenue Bridge and the planned rehabilitation of the 126th Street Bus Depot?

There will be no way to know until the soil is dug up, but the prospect of such a discovery is being greeted anxiously and eagerly by a couple of stewards of Harlem history. The farming village once known as Nieuw Haarlem is in its 350th anniversary year.

"What an awesome way to celebrate!" said Christopher Paul Moore, a member of the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the research coordinator for the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of the New York Public Library. "Seems like a cultural bonus could be reaped from this."

The area around the depot and bridge was the original location of the Reformed Low Dutch Church of Harlem. This body, founded in 1660, is perpetuated today as the Elmendorf Reformed Church, 171 East 121st Street.

The site of its first, rudimentary building -- a plot bounded by First Avenue, East 126th Street and East 127th Street -- "was afterward used as a negro burying ground," according to a 1910 historical sketch by the Rev. Dr. Edgar Tilton Jr.

This would make it one of the few remaining African-American historical sites from the colonial period. The Rev. Patricia A. Singletary, pastor of the Elmendorf Church, said she and the church elders were "concerned about the coming community outcry," should there be no plans to commemorate or protect the site.

The replacement of the bridge by the City Department of Transportation began last year. The agency has established a monitoring zone around the First Avenue side of the project, Seth Solomonow, a spokesman, wrote in an e-mail message.

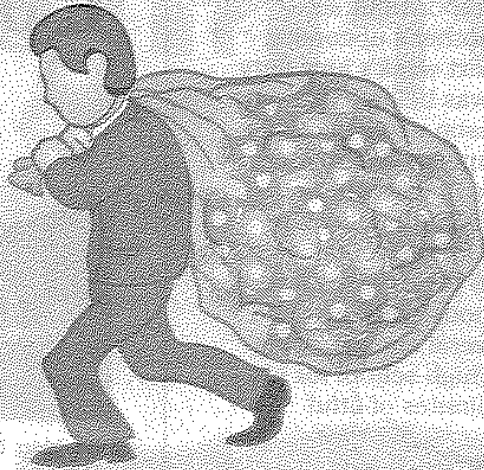
"We have committed to having an archaeologist on site in the unlikely event that excavation reveals any artifacts," he said.

But he also noted that the bridge project is "well outside" the burial ground site and that the entire vicinity has been excavated many times, reducing the chance that any colonial remnants survive. The depot is to be rehabilitated around 2014.

Robert B. Tierney, the chairman of the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission, is "very interested in a careful review to determine the appropriate level of recognition," said his spokeswoman, Elisabeth de Bourbon. That will depend in part on whether any burial plots can be found.     DAVID W. DUNLAP

STATSHOT

## How Are We Making Ends Meet?



- 12% Falling back on Archeology degree
- 17% Doing more with less cheese
- 20% Selling state secrets to that Chinese guy who keeps calling
- 11% Drilling holes under upstairs neighbor's shower
- 21% Pretending to work two jobs until rich parents feel sorry for us
- 19% Stretching Insulin with a little water, Splenda

The Onion,  
Vol. 45, No. 10, March 4 – 11, 2009

<b>EVENTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST - Compiled for March, 2009</b>			
<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Speaker</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
A Walking Tour: The Civil War Draft Riots	Barnet Schecter	11am	03/28/09
Exhibit: Murray Hill: 1750-2008 - Images of the Historic Manhattan Neighborhood		Mon-Sat 9am-6pm	until 3/35/09
Exhibit: "Brooklyn Redrawn: The architectural face of Brooklyn is in constant flux. Older buildings crumble and are torn down as new developments proliferate, sometimes seemingly overnight. Brooklyn artists Sarah Bostwick, Rebecca Layton, and Karla Wozniak all draw upon Brooklyn's past and present urban structures to convey the visual complexity of competing commercial, architectural, and real estate interests in the borough in which they work and live."			1/07/09-4/26/09
Brooklyn and the History of Chinese Immigration. Investigates how Brooklyn residents responded to Chinese immigration in the 19th century and the 20th century development of a Chinatown in Sunset Park			May – August 2009
Lecture: Atlantic Port Cities in the Age of Discovery: Join three scholars of the Atlantic for an interdisciplinary discussion about slavery and urbanity, empires and modernity.	Jean Howard, Alejandro de la Fuente, and Jennifer Morgan	4pm	03/30/09
Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meeting			4/22/09-4/26/09
Gotham Center History Forum -- "The Role of Public History in NYC's Cultural Life"	The Gotham Center for New York City History	6:30-8:30 pm	04/06/09
Archaeology Magazine 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary – AIA Benefit Gala			04/28/09
"Celluloid Idols: Swords, Sandels and Sex or How the Movies Made my Career"	Sponsored by the AIA with moderator Peter Herdrich	10am-5pm	03/29/09
"The Public Framing of Science: A Conversation" Co-Sponsored by the Anthropology Section of the New York Academy of Sciences and the Wenner-Gren Foundation	Organizers: Maria-Luisa Achino-Loeb (New York University), and William P. Mitchell (Monmouth University)	6-9pm	03/30/09
"The Early History of Chocolate" This talk explores recent research, including her own work in Honduras, that has pushed the origins of human use of cacao back before 1100 BC.	Speaker: Rosemary Joyce, Professor of Anthropology, U. of California at Berkeley	6:30pm	03/11/09

Sheet1

<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Contacts</u></b>	<b><u>Fee</u></b>
address given at time ticket order confirmation	New York Historical Society, SmartTix at (212) 868-4444.	\$15, \$10 for students and seniors
CUNY's Graduate Center, 365 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave. at 34 <sup>th</sup> St.		free
Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont St.		free to members, \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors and students
Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont St.		free to members, \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors and students
CUNY's Graduate Center, 365 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave. at 34 <sup>th</sup> St., History Lounge room 5114	RSVP to <a href="mailto:csmithro@umich.edu">csmithro@umich.edu</a>	free
Atlanta, GA		
The Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Ave., 9 <sup>th</sup> flor	212-817-8215	free
New York City	617-353-8709, see website for more information: <a href="http://www.archaeological.org/gala/">http://www.archaeological.org/gala/</a>	
Anthology Film Archives, 32 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave.	<a href="http://www.archaeological.org">www.archaeological.org</a> , <a href="http://www.archaeologynewyork.org">www.archaeologynewyork.org</a>	\$8, free with student ID
The Wenner-Gren Foundation 470 Park Ave, South, 8 <sup>th</sup> flr.	Register at 212-298-8600	free
The National Arts Club, 15 Gramercy Park South		

MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER/INFORMATION:

If you are interested in joining PANYC or if you would like to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter, please complete the form below and return it to:

Jessica Striebel MacLean  
160 Bainbridge Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11233

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP (+FOUR): \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate preferred mailing address and check below as appropriate.

I wish to apply for membership to PANYC and would like to receive the application form \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter (Fee \$10) \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to make an additional donation to PANYC \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive the PANYC Newsletter in digital (e-format) \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive the PANYC Newsletter in printed (mailed) form \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions please email: [panyc2006@yahoo.com](mailto:panyc2006@yahoo.com)