

# Turtle Bay News

A Publication of the Turtle Bay Association

January 2017 Vol. 60, No. 1

## Dan Garodnick's Post-Election Call to Action Pulls in Large Local Crowd

Responding to the post-presidential-election worries expressed by citizens, Council Member Dan Garodnick hosted "A Call to Action: Advancing New York Values from Your House to the White House," on December 8, at the High School of Art & Design. The event, including an advocacy fair and presentation, was supported by Rep. Carolyn Maloney, State Senator Liz Krueger, and State Assembly Member Dan Quart.

A large crowd turned out seeking solidarity and ways to take personal action against the hatred and bigotry fuelled by president-elect Trump during the campaign, and the policies favored by him and his cabinet picks. There has been a 35% rise in hate crimes in the city since a year ago at this time. Another cause

for alarm is the possible Federal defunding, in the next four years, of critical social and environmental programs.

The advocacy fair had tables with representatives from 17 groups offering information about their missions, activities and needs. The presentation featured comments by Dan Garodnick, an appearance by Faiza Ali, Community Liaison at the City Council Speaker's Office, and a panel of four activists from Planned



Photo courtesy of Anthony Riotto.  
(l. to r.) Yasmin Safdié of The Anti-Violence Project, Meg Barnette of Planned Parenthood NYC, Rashida Richardson of New York Civil Liberties Union, Daniel Altschuler of Make the Road NY, and Council Member Dan Garodnick.

Parenthood NYC, the New York Civil Liberties Union, Make The Road New York and The Anti-Violence Project.

If you'd like to take an active part in protecting the rights and freedoms of our democracy, and the social programs that so importantly serve many citizens, please consider donating funds to and volunteering for one of the advocacy groups appearing on the TBA website.

## TBA Annual Meeting Is a Lively Gathering

Turnout was significant, on November 14, when an animated group of members came together at the Vanderbilt Y for the TBA's 2016 Annual Meeting.



TBA Vice President Dolores Marsh presided in the absence of President Bill Curtis. Directors gave reports on their individual areas of responsibility, including Finance, Membership, Special Events, Zoning, Grants, Parks, Environment, Newsletter and Social Media.

Council Member Dan Garodnick spoke, referencing Mayor Bill de Blasio's East



Midtown Rezoning Plan, which he and Manhattan Borough President Gayle Brewer supported, and which the TBA and Community Board 6 have protested in a public resolution (see Turtle Bay News, September 2016). Dan mentioned working with the 17th Precinct to eliminate idling tour buses, whose fumes are highly polluting, near the UN. He also said that he is responding to citizen complaints about construction noise by asking the Department of Environmental Protection to make corrective site visits when noise becomes too great.



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## Note the Event

### SAVE THE DATE

#### 33rd Annual Love Thy Neighborhood Valentine Party

Thursday, February 9, 2017  
6 - 9 pm

Chazz Palminteri Ristorante Italiano  
More information to come.



#### Spring Trip Sands Casino, Bethlehem, Pa.

Sunday, April 2, 2017  
More information to come.

## Editorial

This issue focuses on what you can do if you are concerned about the future following the outcome of the presidential election.

We offer information about local advocacy groups who work on protecting civil rights; providing for the homeless and hungry; assuring high-quality education; caring for the victims of violence; conserving the environment and its gifts; and supporting the continuation of the social programs, such as health, child and senior care, that many of us rely on.

We also report on Turtle Bay's locally-elected officials. All of them oppose bigotry, uphold civil rights, and actively sponsor programs that can help insure a good future for the "99%" to which many of us belong.

We have added a new pipeline between the TBA and its members. We invite you to write to us and express your views on community-related issues. We will publish the most relevant, space permitting, in the next issue of Turtle Bay News.

The Turtle Bay Association wishes a happy and healthy New Year to all our members and neighbors in and around Turtle Bay.

Lee Frankel  
Editor

## Newsorthy Notes

### Slow-Turn Box Installed at East 45th Street Intersection

Painted boxes with flexible posts called "slow turn boxes" are being installed in a pilot program at 100 crash-prone city intersections. One has been installed on Second Avenue at 45th Street.

The boxes slow down drivers making left turns with a 10-foot gap between crosswalks and where cars travel. Locations are based on a DOT study of intersections with the highest number of left-turn-related pedestrian and cyclist injuries. The DOT will be evaluating the outcome.

*(Based on an article in dnainfo.com, by Shaye Weaver, 12/15/16.)*

### Waldorf Astoria Owner Plans to Convert 31 Floors to Apartments

Anbang, the Chinese insurance giant that owns the Waldorf Astoria, has filed plans to convert 500 of the landmarked hotel's rooms into 321 apartments across 31 floors. The building would become residential from the 14th floor up; units on the fifth to the 14th floors would be left as hotel rooms.

Anbang expressed its willingness to respect the interior of the hotel's historic appearance, and said that it welcomed an interior landmark designation, which was sought by preservationists and approved by the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

*(Based on an article in dnainfo.com by Noah Hurowitz, 11/14/16.)*

### Trygve Lie Plaza Reopens in CB6 District

September 18 marked the reopening of the restored Trygve Lie (TRIG-vē I-EE) Plaza, which commemorates the legacy of the first UN Secretary-General. CB6 began calling for the renovation of the plaza almost 10 years ago.



Photo by Daniel Avila, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation.

Norway's Prime Minister was joined by elected officials and distinguished guests, including Trygve Lie's grandsons, and William and Arthur Zeckendorf, at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The plaza is located at the southwest corner of East 42nd Street and First Avenue. The hands of The Peace Clock, which is its centerpiece, form the peace symbol twice a day at 4:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Funding for the renovation was made possible by the Department of Parks and Recreation, City Council Member Dan Garodnick and private donations.

#### Editorial Committee

**Editor:** Lee Frankel  
**Layout:** Hilary Black  
**Photographs:** Vivian Gordon, Lee Frankel

## TBA Who's Who

### Turtle Bay Association

224 East 47th Street  
New York, NY 10017  
Phone: 212-751-5465  
Fax: 212-751-4941  
Email: office@turtlebay-nyc.org  
Website: www.turtlebay-nyc.org

Check our Bulletin Board:  
East side of Second Avenue  
between 48th and 49th Streets,  
outside wall of supermarket.

### Board of Directors

#### Officers

President: William E. Curtis  
Secretary: Mary Marangi  
Treasurer: Dick Irwin  
Vice Presidents: Millie Margiotta  
Dolores Marsh, Bruce Silberblatt

#### Directors

Ethel Bendove, Bunny Blei,  
Meryl Brodsky, Orin Buck,  
William E. Curtis, Lee Frankel,  
Phyllis Gitomer, Vivian Gordon,  
Denise Hamilton,  
Marie-Louise Handal,  
Bill Huxley, Dick Irwin,  
Florence Kelly, Mary F. Marangi,  
Millie Margiotta,  
Mark P. Markowski,  
Dolores Marsh, Pat McDougald,  
Michael Resnick, Carol Rinzler,  
Bruce Silberblatt

#### Honorary Emeriti

Barbara Connolly

### Community Calendar

#### 17th Precinct Community Council

Open Meeting  
Last Tuesday every month, 6 pm  
Sutton Place Synagogue  
225 East 51st Street  
212-826-3228

(No meetings July, August, December)

#### Community Board 6

Full Board Meeting  
Second Wednesday every month,  
7 pm  
NYU Medical Center  
550 First Avenue  
212-319-3750  
Now live online at  
<http://wp.cbsix.org/live>

## 30th Annual Toy Drive Is Festive and Generous



Manhattan Borough President Gayle Brewer.



City Council Member Ben Kallos.

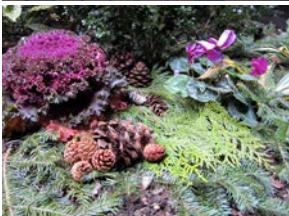


The TBA's Toy Drive and Holiday Party was a great success. Old and new friends arrived with toys and winter clothing to benefit The Single Parent Resource Center, Inc. Donations were also made to the Vanderbilt Y Scholarship Fund and God's Love We Deliver.

Guests enjoyed drinks and appetizers served in style at Parnell's Bar and Restaurant. We thank our members and neighbors for their generosity.



## Turtle Bay Building Gardens and Entryways Reflect the Seasons



Lovely garden designs adorn 321 E. 48th Street.



100 UN Plaza reflects Autumn glories.



Playful Christmas ornaments brighten 319 E. 51st Street.



Simple, evergreen garden at 335 E. 51st Street is winter-perfect.



Christmas garland welcomes people to 336 E. 50th Street.

## Arts & Culture in Turtle Bay

### Japan Society

333 East 47th Street  
212-832-1155 [japansociety.org](http://japansociety.org)  
Call or visit website for Box Office and Gallery hours. Gallery Admission: \$12; students and seniors \$10; members and children under 16 free. Free to all on Friday nights, 6 pm - 9 pm.

### Films Screening & Artist Talk Friday, Jan. 27, 7 pm

**Cutie and the Boxer.** Celebrate the 2016 Emmy award win for this documentary, which traces the personal and artistic struggles of artists Ushio and Shinohara since their arrival in NYC in the late 1960s. The Shinoharas are no strangers to Japan Society: Ushio-san's one-man show Tokyo Bazooka produced shockwaves back in 1982, while the couple's contributions to the 2007 exhibition Making a Home received widespread acclaim. Post-screening talk and Q&A with the artists. \$15/\$10 members.

### Talk + Tasting

Monday, Jan. 30, 6:30 pm

**Chef Mikuni: Umami and Other Japanese Culinary Secrets.** Celebrated restaurateur Kiyomi Mikuni understands the secrets of shokuiku, the Japanese concept of conscious eating through an understanding of where our food comes from, how it is made, and how it affects us. One of the top French chefs in Japan, he has been running Tokyo's prestigious Hotel de Mikuni for the past 30 years, blending French technique with Japanese flavors. He will discuss how to incorporate unique Japanese culinary concepts into our eating habits and daily life. Followed by a tasting reception. \$19/\$15 members, seniors and students.

### Theater

Thursday - Saturday  
Feb. 16, 17, 18, 7:30 pm

**Girl X.** The original Japanese production written and directed by Suguru Yamamoto, performed by his company, Theater Collective Hanchu-Yue. The story weaves a tapestry of complex emotions that unfold through the dialogue and highly physical performances of two actors onstage, combined with carefully crafted onscreen projections which, together, mirror a text messaging-obsessed contemporary society. This unsettling comedy offers a glimpse into an anxiety-ridden post-3/11 Japan. In Japa-

nese with English titles. Tickets: \$30/\$25 members.

### Upcoming Exhibition March 10 - June 11, 2017

**A Third Gender: Beautiful Youths in Japanese Prints.** In Edo-period Japan (1603-1868), gender was defined by more than just biological sex, encompassing also age and appearance. Fundamental to this were attractive male youths termed wakashu. Neither men nor women, wakashu constituted a distinct "third gender," occupying their own place within the social hierarchy. This exhibition will focus on the portrayal of wakashu in Japanese art and the complex rules that governed gender constructs during the Edo period. It will present more than 65 woodblock prints, as well as paintings, luxury objects and personal ornaments.



### St. Bart's

325 Park Avenue at 51st Street  
Purchase tickets at <http://mmpaf.org> or box office, 212-378-0248.

### Great Music

Wednesday, February 1  
8:30 pm, Church

**John Zorn: Candlemas Eve and the Hermetic Organ.** Modern music icon John Zorn returns to St. Bart's with a performance marking a new chapter in his epic organ improvisation, praised by Lou Reed as one of "culmination and conquest." Players: Barry Crawford, flute; Isabel Gleicher, flute; Al Lipowski, vibraharp; Sae Hashimoto, vibraharp assistant; John Zorn, organ. \$25/\$15 students and seniors.

Friday, Feb. 17

7:30 pm, Church

**Jason Roberts Accompanies "The Gold Rush."** Roberts will improvise a live accompaniment to Charlie Chaplin's great silent film classic on St. Bart's mammoth Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ. The film features some of the most memorable scenes in cinematic history. Experience what it was like for its first viewers in 1925. \$20/\$10 students and seniors.

Sunday, March 5

1:30 pm: Interview of composer

2:30 pm: Concert

Chapel

**The Apple Hill String Quartet.** Première of "Presences," a new work by John Harbison for cello, string quartet and string bass. The concert will also include Haydn's String Quartet in C Major, Op. 54, No. 2 and Ahmed Adnan Saigon's String Quartet #1. Players: Elise Kruder and Colleen Jennings, violin; Mike Kelley, viola; Rupert Thompson, cello; Tony Rymer, cello soloist; Max Zeugner, bass. \$25/\$15 students and seniors.

Tuesday, March 28

6:45 pm: Pre-concert talk

7:30 pm: Concert

Church

**J. S. Bach's St. John Passion, BWV 245.**

Renowned period-instruments ensemble The English Concert, and the Choir of New College Oxford perform Bach's timeless setting of the Passion according to St. John, first heard in Leipzig in 1724, and now an established masterwork of the choral repertoire. The choir, established in 1379, comprises sixteen boy choristers and fourteen adult clerks and is one the most acclaimed choral ensembles in the U.K. The English Concert enjoys an unsurpassed reputation for inspiring performances of Baroque and Classical repertoire. Preceded by a talk by Michael Marissen, the Daniel Underhill Professor Emeritus of Music, Swarthmore College. Angel Club Seating: \$100 which includes a tax-deductible contribution of \$60 to Great Music at St. Bart's. Tickets: \$40/\$25. Students and seniors receive a \$10 discount for each pricing category.

### St. Peter's Church

619 Lexington Avenue/54th Street  
[saintpeters.org](http://saintpeters.org)

### Mid-Day Jazz

Wednesdays

1 - 2 pm

Sanctuary

Suggested \$10 donation.

These popular concerts feature well-regarded artists, with programming overseen by jazz pianist Ronny Whyte.



## Arts & Culture

### Turtle Bay Music School

244 East 52nd Street  
212-753-8811 [tbms.org](http://tbms.org)

#### Free Artist Series Concerts Fridays, 7 - 8 pm

##### Em Lee Concert Hall

Please RSVP to [info@tbms.org](mailto:info@tbms.org) or  
212-753-8811

#### January 20

**Sebastien Ammann, piano.** The Sebastien Ammann Quartet presents a brand new set of original compositions highlighting the collaborative dynamic of this popular ensemble.



#### February 10

**Zach Mo.** An evening of works for solo piano.



#### March 10

**Nick Birmelin & Quenia Ribeiro.** A collaborative performance by Nick Birmelin, percussionist and composer, and Quenia Ribeiro,

dancer and choreographer. Birmelin, Ribeiro and



their renowned performance group, Grupo Ribeiro, bring a masterful and energetic evening of dance and original music inspired by Brazilian folkloric themes.

#### March 24

**Paula Biedma, piano.** Biedma's compelling and passionate performance style will be highlighted in a program featuring works for solo piano by Bach, Mozart, Schubert, and Rachmaninoff.



#### April 7

**Zak Sandler, composer.** Sandler, along with notable performers from the NYC music theatre world, presents a staged reading of one of his latest musicals, "Something About Me."



### Grand Central Library

135 East 46th Street (Lexington/Third)  
212-621-0670

[nypl.org/locations/grand-central](http://nypl.org/locations/grand-central)  
Fully accessible. Call or visit website for hours.

#### Book Club

**Tuesday, Jan. 17, 5:30 pm  
Community Room**

**I'll Take You There / Wally Lamb.** Wally Lamb weaves an evocative, deeply affecting tapestry of Baby Boomer Felix Funicello and the trio of unforgettable women who changed his life in this radiant story of the American Century that is an homage to the resiliency, strength, and power of women.

#### Using Library Resources

**Fridays, Jan. 20, 27, 12 pm**

**Downloading NYPL eBooks.** Get started with borrowing ebooks on your tablet, smartphone or e-reader. Learn how to take advantage of free access to new media from the comfort of your own home. Drop by the table near the front door with your device to get one-on-one help.

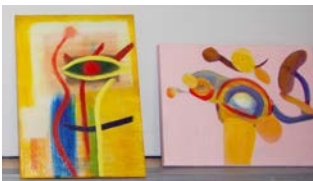
#### Annual Meeting *Continued from page 1*

Newly-reelected **State Assembly Member Dan Quart** also attended. He spoke about issues including the lack of intelligent urban planning reflected in the East Midtown Rezoning Plan and the related need for affordable housing; lack of park and open public spaces; and the great height of residential towers that have gone up in his district.



The TBA works closely with Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, whose Director of Development and Garden Chair Anne Saxon-Hersh also addressed the meeting. Anne directed the extremely successful project that refurbished the park's Katharine Hepburn Garden.

In a special sidelight, the TBA's webmaster Orin Buck displayed



paintings from his recent one-man show, "101 Scenes from the Land of Color," at the gallery onetwentyeight.

Following the presentations, the group stayed for a social mixer that featured wine and a light meal catered by Elite Food Bar, a longtime TBA Business Member, located at 325 East 48th Street. Elite's food is a favorite in Turtle Bay and the restaurant offers TBA members a 10% discount with membership card.



#### Welcome New Business Member

**Da Raffaele Restaurant**  
883 First Avenue (49th/50th)  
646-895-9849

#### Let Us Hear From You

The board of the Turtle Bay Association wants to know what our members think.

Please send us your thoughts and opinions about life in and around Turtle Bay, our elected officials, city services and other observations of interest.

We will print the most relevant, space permitting, in the next issue of Turtle Bay News.

Our postal and email addresses appear at the bottom of the front page. No phone calls, please



## Art in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza

Hamptons-based artist Phyllis Hammond has created five new sculptures for Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, titled “Tempo,” “Alien,” “Flying,” “Gateway,” and “Sign of Freedom.” Exhibited together under the title “Beyond the Edge,” the steel and aluminum sculptures feature narrow stem-like bases topped by whimsical, kinetic elements that rotate in the wind. Hammond uses an improvisational method to create her colorful, large-scale sculptures. The metal cutouts are based on playful, looping doodles on paper that she scans and modifies on the computer. Once the drawings have been refined digitally, the designs are cut from sheets of metal using a water jet machine. After the metal shapes are hammered, bent and welded into curved shapes, they are powder-coated with brightly colored paint. The sculptures will be on exhibit through April 16, 2017.



Christmas decorations in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza.



### TBA MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Yes, I want to join the Turtle Bay Association to help support our community's quality of life.

#### Annual Membership Dues

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$15   | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25  | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacesetter \$250 |

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to become more involved in TBA activities.

Please make your check payable to Turtle Bay Association.  
 Mail to: Turtle Bay Association, 224 E. 47th St., New York, NY 10017

### BOOK ORDER FORM

**Manhattan's Turtle Bay**  
**Story of a Midtown Neighborhood**  
 A Contemporary History of Turtle Bay  
 Arcadia Publishing • 160 pages; 50 photos  
**\$15.00**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_ book/s,  
 plus \$3 per book for postage/handling

Make check payable to:  
**Turtle Bay Association**

Mail to:  
**Turtle Bay Association, 224 East 47th Street,  
 New York, NY 10017**

Sales proceeds benefit the Turtle Bay Association.