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**Visit our website:**  
[www.unionsettlement.org](http://www.unionsettlement.org)

## Dancing in the Streets, East Harlem-style

**Summer at the Settlement brings Ethnic Festival,  
youth retreats and more**

While some community-based organizations hibernate during the summer months, Union Settlement buzzes with activity and energy.

Kicking the season off in grand style, June 14 brought the agency's 16th Annual Ethnic Festival of El Barrio. Live music and dance, arts & crafts, foods from around the world, family fun, games, a talent contest, a basketball tournament, children's bookfair, storytelling workshops, health information, raffle prizes and much more.



*Julez Holidaye rocks the crowd*



*Making the rounds at the Ethnic Festival*



*Soul Tigers in action*

Always-popular Clowny the Clown entertained children, as did Dora the Explorer, Scooby Doo, SpongeBob SquarePants and Elmo, all of whom joined the festivities. Goldman Sachs Community Teamworks volunteers (*see related article on page 2*) were on hand to assist with art projects, serve cotton candy, lead games and a host of other activities.

As always, live performances kept the crowd on its toes, dancing to the likes of Emilie Davis and the Soul Providers and the Afro-Caribbean Steel Band and clapping along with the Mount Pleasant Chancel Choir. Perhaps the biggest highlight, however, was the thrilling Soul Tigers Marching Band, which started off the entertainment, bringing throngs of

*Continued on page 5*

# Helping Hands, Smiling Faces, Grateful Programs

## Corporate Volunteers Pitch In Across the Settlement to Help Make a Difference

Union Settlement's hallways, offices, classrooms and outdoor spaces have filled with bustling corps of volunteers pitching in with helping hands. Through a series of community service days and special visits, our Adult Education Program, Youth Services, Senior Services and community garden have all benefited from the kindness of our corporate partners. So many of our supporters come from the financial services industry and have been hit hard by the current economic downturn. For this reason, we are doubly grateful for their ongoing and deeply valued involvement and investment in Union Settlement.

**AlpInvest Partners, Condé Nast and Goldman Sachs Community Team Works (CTW)** sent crews of volunteers to help in our gardens, building plant boxes, weeding, laying down much-needed new soil, planting trees, flowers and vegetables and weatherproofing our gazebo and picnic tables. In turn, with the help of Youth at Union and frequent partner, Concrete Safaris, our volunteers established a brand new garden at our Washington Houses Community Center, home of Youth at Union and Settlement College Readiness headquarters as well as our Washington-Lexington Senior Center.



*A volunteer from Alp Invest Partners and his able assistant*



*Taking notes in the boardroom at Lehman Brothers*

In addition to their help in the garden, **Goldman Sachs CTW** continued a long standing tradition of helping run events at our Annual Ethnic Festival, an all day street festival celebrating the many cultures of East Harlem. CTW volunteers ran everything from the popcorn and cotton candy machines to a basketball toss and the inflatable "Magic Castle."

An exciting new day of service came from **Lehman Brothers**, which hosted a Career Exploration Day for our Adult Education students, who had the opportunity to tour the Lehman Brothers offices, shadow employees on the job, visit the trading floor and learn about the banking industry as part of the process of exploring their own career goals and aspirations.

Also this year, as reported in the spring newsletter, more than 100 volunteers from **Deloitte Consulting LLP** and **Kraft Cares**, paint cans in hand, donated a day of service to help freshen the walls and halls of our senior and youth centers.

In addition to their continued generous financial support, our corporate partners provided an estimated 250 volunteers who performed over 1,000 hours of service, helping us with projects that benefit the thousands of people we serve in the community each year. These efforts would have been impossible without their help. We would also like to thank the many individual corporate volunteers who assist us on a regular basis, serving on Board committees and donating their time in countless ways. We are a richer organization for all these generous helping hands.



*Goldman Sachs volunteer twirls cotton candy while Condé Nast volunteers dig in*

# SETTLEMENT EVENTS

## East Harlem Farmers Market



Stop by for farm-fresh produce!  
Every Thursday through November  
East 104th Street  
(between 2nd and 3rd Avenues)

For more information, please call the Harvest Home Farmers Market at (212) 828-3361.

## October

The Manhattan HIV Care Network presents ...  
The 8th Annual East Harlem  
AIDS Walk & Health Fair  
Saturday, October 25, 2008  
11 a.m.-3 p.m.

For more information, or to register or reserve a table, please call (212) 828-6141.

\* \* \*

The Adult Education Program presents ...  
The 12th Annual *Día de los Muertos*/  
Day of the Dead Celebration



Thursday,  
October 30, 2008  
6 p.m.  
2nd Floor Gym  
237 East 104th Street

Altar-building, tradi-  
tional food, skits,  
poems, live music &  
dance and a candle-  
light vigil.

For information, please call the Adult Education Office at (212) 828-6016.

The Union Settlement Federal Credit Union is pleased to offer members ...



## Free Personal Finance Courses

Learn about credit, establishing financial goals, budgeting, ways to increase your savings and much more.

Receive a 1% rate discount on existing or future loans upon completion of the course.

Tuesdays from 6 - 8 p.m.  
October 2-30, 2008

For more information, please call (212) 828-6062.

## Union Settlement Board of Directors

Maxine L. Rockoff, Ph.D., Chair  
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Lolita Gillberg, Chief Financial Officer  
Dana Wolf, LCSW, MS, Director of Development  
Megan Abbott, Director of Grants and Contracts

# You're Invited: A Fun and Festive Fall Wine Tasting on October 22



Artwork by Rising Stars participant Tyler Brown, age eight

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 22 when Union Settlement supporters will celebrate the harvest season with a fall wine tasting at the Chelsea Wine Vault, a cavernous, brick-walled space in with 10,000 square feet of wine storage and one of the gems of the historic Chelsea Market.

Assembling at 6:30 pm, guests will sample a range of wines, enjoy the vibrant original artwork of children in the agency's after-school programs (*see left*) and learn about Union Settlement programs.

A foodie's dream destination, Chelsea Market is located in the old Nabisco factory, birthplace of the Oreo cookie. Today, the site, which takes up one square New York City block, is a gastronomic arcade of close to 25 food vendors as well as Food Network studios.

We hope you will join us for this joyous evening, which will raise much-needed funds for Union Settlement programs.

For more information, contact Dana Wolf, Director of Development, at [dwolf@unionsett.org](mailto:dwolf@unionsett.org) or (212) 828-6024.

## Settlement Board Welcomes New Chair, New Members



Maxine L. Rockoff, Ph.D.

This summer, Union Settlement welcomed a new Board Chair, longtime Board member Maxine L. Rockoff, Ph.D., who joined the Board in 1985. She succeeds Robert F. Quaintance, Jr., who has stepped down after four years of distinguished leadership. Board member and former Associate Executive Director Gina Rusch will now serve as Assistant Treasurer, the position vacated by Dr. Rockoff.

"I am so delighted to be working with Maxine as our new Board Chair," said Ellen P. Simon, DSW, Executive Director. "She has been a terrific Board member. She has literally helped drag us into the 21st Century on the technology front. As Chair of our Technology Committee, her energy and perseverance have helped to bring us close to having an agency-wide database for the first time in our history. I can hardly wait to see what she will be able to accomplish in her new role."

Three new Board members have also joined us in recent months: Peter Baker, Vice President of Institutional Research & Planning at Marymount Manhattan College, who served for many years as our dedicated Settlement College Readiness Board Chair, and Kalaivani Sankarapandian, a senior policy analyst for

Early Childhood Education and Child Welfare with the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies. In March, the Board welcomed Carlos M. Ruiz, an investment banker with Anchorage Capital Group, LLC.

Mr. Quaintance will remain on the Board, continuing 13 years of dedicated service. Under his leadership, the agency has bolstered internal operations, including improved technology security, and expanded its services, with new youth programs, a new senior center and senior transportation program and new childcare facilities—all designed to meet growing community need and strengthen the Settlement's role as a core provider of comprehensive and culturally sensitive services in East Harlem.

"Rob Quaintance will be a tough act to follow," Dr. Rockoff noted, "but I am honored and very enthusiastic. I believe we are embarking on an exciting period in the agency's history, and I look forward to working with the Board and staff to assure that Union Settlement not only continues its century-old tradition of dedicated service but also continues to innovate in meeting the needs of East Harlem's changing and dynamic environment."

## Dancing in the Streets *(Continued from page 1)*



*Sand and sun at the Young Men's Retreat*

Success, engaging nearly 100 current and newly enrolled male participants from our Rising Stars, Bridges and teen programs as well as youth staff and other staff mentors from across Union Settlement programs.

The group traveled to Harriman State Park for three days of team-building, leadership development and workshops focused on goal setting, overcoming challenges, college and career plans and more. The weekend was a rich opportunity for our young men to connect, express themselves, explore future options and build mentoring and supportive relationships with program staff and one another.

The Second Annual Young Women's Retreat just took place the final weekend in June, with 38 young women and 10 female staff participating in an exciting weekend of team-building, self-reflection and bonding at Camp Greenkill, a YMCA camping facility an hour away from the city. Participants took part in a range of activities, including candle making, canoeing, pretzel-making and Project Adventure, a series of wilderness team-building challenges designed to

*Young Women's Retreat*

build group support, communication and individual goal-setting. During the evening, staff facilitated workshops on topics such as media representations of women, self-esteem and personal leadership and college and career exploration.

The retreat left participants and staff feeling empowered, enlightened and encouraged to love themselves and blaze their own trail.

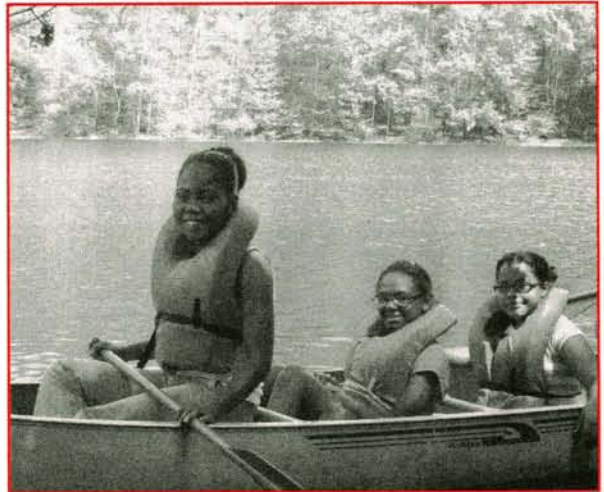
Also this summer, Union Settlement's community garden, El Sitio Feliz, hosted a series of Friday Senior Services parties, including a festive luau with roasted pig that drew scores of area seniors. These rollicking parties accompanied many exciting summer activities for seniors, including a daylong trip that brought 200 seniors to Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park in Upper Westchester County for a day of nature, recreation, hikes and more. These activities are possible in large part thanks to the support of New York City Councilmember Melissa Mark Viverito and the Healthy Aging Initiative, for which we are so grateful.



*Top Chef Victoria Rivera oversees roasted pig in the garden*

area residents out of their homes and into the streets.

Away from the colorful, crowded streets of East Harlem, summer brought more peaceful pleasures to the children, teens and staff who participated in our two youth retreats. The Third Annual Young Men's Retreat was a tremendous suc-



*Canoeing during the Young Women's Retreat*

## UNION SETTLEMENT WISH LIST

- ♦ Computers and air conditioning units for our Youth Education Center
- ♦ Beanbags, floor lamps and books for our Youth Library
- ♦ Learning software, digital cameras and dictionaries for our Adult Education Program and scholarships for our GED graduates entering college
- ♦ Uniforms, physical fitness equipment and basketball backboards for youth programs
- ♦ Office furniture, learning toys, art supplies, books, a digital camera and radios/CD players for childcare & after-school programs
- ♦ Scholarship funds for our College Readiness participants
- ♦ An agency backup system, servers and interns for our Technology Department
- ♦ Desks, a sofa, a fax machine, insulated food carts, microwave ovens and a new bingo system for our senior centers
- ♦ New computers for the Finance Department
- ♦ A digital camera for the Manhattan HIV Care Network

## Free Arts!



Thanks to Free Arts NYC, children in our Rising Stars Program participated in two Saturday Free Arts Days, working on projects such as boats, home-made board games, costumes and angels' wings with Free Arts volunteers.

We are grateful to Free Arts NYC for this joyous opportunity.

### Union Settlement Association

237 East 104th Street  
New York, NY 10029

**UNION  
SETTLEMENT  
ASSOCIATION**   
CREATING OPPORTUNITY IN EAST HARLEM



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