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Brooklyn Historical Society Honors NYSCA Heads and the Borough's Cultural Orgs

WHAT: The Brooklyn Historical Society hosted a luncheon reception Thursday, February 7 to honor **Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell**, the newly appointed Chair of the **New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)**, and **Heather Hitchens**, NYSCA's newly appointed Executive Director. This was Dr. Campbell's first official trip to Brooklyn.

Introducing Dr. Campbell, Deborah Schwartz, President of BHS remarked;

"I want to point out that you are in the midst of an extraordinary group of people -- some of the most creative and dedicated visionaries of our country. -- From my colleague **Pam Green** at **Weeksville Heritage Center**, to **Karen Brooks Hopkins** who runs one of the greatest international performing arts centers in the world. From **Marya Warshaw**, the visionary founder of the community based **Brooklyn Arts Exchange**, to **Dave Herman**, President of the bizarrely wonderful **City Reliquary**—there is no more energetic, intelligent and decent group of cultural partners than we have here."



WHO: In attendance were the heads of over 80 Brooklyn arts and culture organizations from across the borough as well as politicians; **Senator Martin Connor**, **Assembly Members Alan Maisel**, **Joan Millman** and **Annette Robinson**, and **City Council Members Domenic Recchia** and **David Weprin**.

The event was a rare opportunity for Brooklyn's elected officials and a broad range of cultural organizations to convene.

Pictured above from left to right: NYSCA Executive Director Heather Hitchens, City Council Member Dominic Recchia, BHS President Deborah Schwartz, NYSCA chair Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell, Assemblymembers Alan Maisel and Joan Millman, and Liz Koch from the Borough President's office.

The mission of the Brooklyn Historical Society is to connect the past to the present and make the vibrant history of Brooklyn tangible, relevant, and meaningful for today's diverse communities, and for generations to come. Founded in 1863, BHS is a nationally recognized urban history center, comprised of a museum; scholarly research library; and educational center dedicated to preserving and encouraging the study of Brooklyn's extraordinary 400-year history.

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