



BROOKLYN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

For Immediate Release

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February Events at Brooklyn Historical Society

January 23, 2012: Brooklyn, NY – We wanted you to be the first to hear about Brooklyn Historical Society's exciting programs this February.

[Wednesday, February 1](#)

Watch & Discuss Vin Diesel's short film *Multi-Facial*

7:00 p.m.

Vin Diesel stars in this autobiographical short film about his experiences auditioning in New York. Diesel finds himself at the distinct disadvantage of not being Black enough or Italian enough for the roles for which he auditions. Jen Chau, founder of [Swirl](#), a multi-ethnic, anti-racist organization that promotes cross-cultural dialogue, will lead a discussion on race, physical appearance, mixed-race identity, and typecasting. This event is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP required: oralhistory@brooklynhistory.org.

This event is part of [Crossing Borders, Bridging Generations](#), an oral history project and public programming series, which examines the history and experiences of mixed-heritage people and families, cultural hybridity, race, ethnicity, and identity. This project is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Humanities, New York Council for the Humanities, Two Trees Management, Brooklyn Brewery, Sweet 'N Low Division of Cumberland Packing, and FHL Bank San Francisco.

[Saturday, February 4](#)

BHS Building Tour

2:00 p.m.

Come explore our beautiful landmark building. Designed by architect George Post and built in 1881, Brooklyn Historical Society's building was ahead of its time. Using the latest technology, Post created a magnificent structure with amazing craftsmanship. On this guided tour you'll learn not only about the building as an architectural gem, but you'll also find out the "more than meets the eye" history of one of Brooklyn's premier cultural institutions. This tour is free with museum admission and open to the public. Admission is always free for [BHS members](#). This tour is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

[Fridays and Saturdays, February 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26](#)

Brooklyn Navy Yard Tours

12:30 and 3:00 p.m.

As part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#), join [Urban Oyster](#), in collaboration with the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation, for public bus tours of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Urban Oyster offers two Navy Yard Tour options: a two-hour comprehensive tour for \$30 and a one-hour highlights tour for \$18. These tours explore the Yard's transition from one of the nation's foremost naval shipbuilding facilities to a national leader in sustainable urban industrial parks. Tours will begin and end at the Brooklyn Navy Yard Center at BLDG 92. BHS members receive 10% off all tours. For dates, tickets, and more information, please visit www.urbanoyster.com or call Urban Oyster at 347.618.8687.

[Tuesday, February 7](#)

Brooklyn Real Estate Roundtable

12:00-2:00 p.m.

[Brooklyn Real Estate Roundtable](#) is a quarterly luncheon series dedicated to examining, analyzing, reviewing, and predicting the critical issues in Brooklyn real estate. It's the event where Brooklyn's real estate professionals gather to discuss timely and important issues affecting the industry. Attend the Brooklyn Real Estate Roundtable and join participants from firms such as Muss Development, Toll Brothers, Thor Equities, Hudson Companies, Brody Group, Forest City Ratner, Two Trees Management, and Douglaston Development. All Brooklyn Real Estate Roundtable proceeds benefit the Brooklyn Historical Society. [Purchase your tickets](#) today for the 2012 Brooklyn Real Estate Roundtable series. To register by mail, please use our [registration form](#).

[Thursday, February 9](#)

Brooklyn Jewish Historical Initiative Website Launch Party

5:00 p.m.

Join BHS at Brooklyn Borough Hall for the launch of an exciting new project and website, [Brooklyn Jewish Historical Initiative](#), which explores the rich and complex history of Jewish life in Brooklyn. This program will take place at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

[Tuesday, February 14](#)

I HEART BK/BX

7:00-10:00 p.m.

Enjoy Tumbador chocolates and Brooklyn Brewery beer in BHS's stunning Othmer Library while storytellers, poets, and baseball historians from Brooklyn and the Bronx explore the legendary rivalry and share their borough love stories. Featuring Brooklyn Dodgers historian Joe Dorinson, Brooklyn storyteller Michele Carlo, Brooklyn poet Knickie D, former Yankees batboy Frank Prudenti, Bronx storyteller Bobby Gonzalez, and Bronx poet Skye Cabrera. This event is part of BHS's spring series, [Inventing Brooklyn](#), which examines key people that have influenced Brooklyn's past and present and highlights cultural trends that have roots in Brooklyn's rich and diverse history. Tickets \$15/\$10 BHS and The Bronx Museum of the Arts members. [Purchase your ticket here](#).

[Wednesday, February 15](#)

Fading Ads of Brooklyn

7:00 p.m.

Join Frank Jump, photographer and author. The [Fading Ad Campaign](#) began as a photographic project documenting vintage mural ads on building brickfaces in New York City spanning nearly a century. Of the hundreds of ads Jump has photographed, many have already been covered up, vandalized, or destroyed. But still many silently cling to the walls of buildings, barely noticed by the rushing passersby. Jump's book *The Fading Ads of NYC*, which was released this past November, is a collection drawn from thousands of pictures taken throughout the five boroughs. This event is part of BHS's spring series, [Inventing Brooklyn](#), which examines key people that have influenced Brooklyn's past and present and highlights cultural trends that have roots in Brooklyn's rich and diverse history. Tickets \$10/\$8 BHS members. [Purchase your ticket here](#).

[Saturday, February 18](#)

Genealogy Workshop with Wilhelmina Kelly

2:00 p.m.

This presentation by renowned genealogist Wilhelmina Kelly will explore the basics of genealogy, with tips on how to research Revolutionary War ancestors and hands-on practice with online resources such as [dar.org](#), [ancestry.com](#), and [familysearch.com](#). Attendees should bring any family information they have already located. Tickets: \$50/\$30 BHS members. [Purchase your tickets here](#). Space is limited so please sign up as early as possible to reserve your space. This event is part of BHS's spring [Library Workshops](#), a monthly program series that utilizes the collections at BHS to provide hands-on training and research opportunities to explore your family, neighborhood, and borough history.

[Thursday, February 23](#)

Talking Fiction, Talking Fact: with Elizabeth Gaffney and Marci Reaven on The End of Wonder

7:00 p.m.

BHS partners with The New York Review of Books for [Talking Fiction, Talking Fact](#), a programming series that pairs notable fiction writers with scholars who have written on similar topics for engaging and thought-provoking dialogue. This month we host Elizabeth Gaffney, author of *The End of Wonder* and public historian Marci Reaven, who is currently working on an exhibit about World War II era New York. This series is hosted in BHS's Othmer Library. Free with museum admission.

Saturday, February 25

Historic Brooklyn Heights Walking Tour with Big Onion

1:00 p.m.

Explore New York City's first Landmark District on this special tour co-sponsored by Big Onion and BHS. Explore the neighborhood's agricultural roots, its emergence as the country's first suburb, and its twentieth century decline and dramatic regeneration. Stops could include: The Hotel St George, Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims, and sites associated with Seth Low, George Washington, Arthur Miller, WEB DuBois, and Gypsy Rose Lee. Adults \$18/students, military, seniors \$15. BHS members receive \$3 off all Big Onion tours. Visit <http://bigonion.com/schedule/> for a complete schedule. This tour partnership is offered as part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

Sunday, February 26

BHS Building Tour

2:00 p.m.

Come explore our beautiful landmark building. Designed by architect George Post and built in 1881, Brooklyn Historical Society's building was ahead of its time. Using the latest technology, Post created a magnificent structure with amazing craftsmanship. On this guided tour you'll learn not only about the building as an architectural gem, but you'll also find out the "more than meets the eye" history of one of Brooklyn's premier cultural institutions. This tour is free with museum admission and open to the public. Admission is always free for [BHS members](#). This tour is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

Throughout February

Big Onion Walking Tours of Brooklyn

Since 1991, [Big Onion Walking Tours](#) has led locals and visitors alike on innovative and exciting tours through New York's ethnic neighborhoods and historic districts. Big Onion's tours of Brooklyn include the Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn Heights, Prospect Park, and DUMBO/Vinegar Hill. Big Onion's walking tours explore the many layers of history that make up the fabric of our city. BHS members receive \$3 off all tours. Visit <http://bigonion.com/schedule/> for a complete schedule. This tour partnership is offered as part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

Throughout February

Urban Oyster Tours of Brooklyn

[Urban Oyster](#) leads a variety of tours of Brooklyn, including: [Brooklyn Navy Yard by Bus or by Bike](#): take a bus tour or ride a bike and learn the fascinating stories of the Brooklyn Navy Yard's past, present, and future; and [Brewed in Brooklyn](#): discover how the story of the beer brewing industry tells a larger narrative about the neighborhood of Williamsburg, the borough of Brooklyn, and even the country as a whole. Visit the Brooklyn Brewery and sample beers on tap, then step back in time to explore the heart of the old Brewers Row, once a German immigrant area known for its brew houses and beer gardens. Advance ticket purchase is required. Go to www.urbanoyster.com or call 347.599.1842 for specific dates and ticket prices. BHS members receive a 10% discount on Navy Yard and Brewery Tours (contact BHS at 718.222.4111 for code). This tour partnership is offered as part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

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 functions as a library, museum and urban

*education center dedicated to the people of Brooklyn, providing opportunities for civic dialogue
and thoughtful engagement.*