



BROOKLYN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

For Immediate Release

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September Events at Brooklyn Historical Society

August 19, 2011: Brooklyn, NY – We wanted you to be the first to hear about Brooklyn Historical Society's exciting programs this September.

[Thursday, September 1](#)

Timeline of Taste with Historic Gastronomist Sarah Lohman

7:00 p.m.

Have you ever noticed that the names of Greenpoint's streets bring to mind exotic locales? From Java to India, these Brooklyn roadways took their names from the distant countries that brought spices from the Far East to America's shores. Once a major port for trading ships, Greenpoint can be used as a guidebook to explore the history of American food through flavor. When did American palates favor one spice over another and why? When did ships stop bringing mace and start carrying vanilla beans? In *A Timeline of Taste* Sarah Lohman will take you on a journey from 1800-1950, making a pit stop every fifty years to explore the tastes of a particular time. You'll get to smell and sample the spices, fruits, extracts, and other ingredients that defined the flavors of each time period. From rosewater to vanilla, nutmeg to cinnamon, citron to reddy-whip, Sarah Lohman will discuss why these flavors were popular and how they were used in day-to-day cooking. This event is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Food Stories](#). Advanced ticket purchase recommended as the event will fill up. Tickets: \$8 BHS members/\$10 non-members. [Purchase your ticket here](#).

Sarah Lohman has more than a decade of museum experience with a specific focus on culinary history. Lohman is originally from Cleveland, Ohio, where she began working in a museum at the age of 16, cooking historic food over a wood-burning stove. She graduated with a BFA from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 2005. For her undergraduate thesis, she opened a temporary restaurant/installation that reinterpreted food of the Colonial era for a modern audience.

[Fridays and Saturdays, September 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, and 30](#)

Eat Like a Local Tour: Carroll Gardens

2:00-5:30 p.m.

As part of BHS's [Brooklyn Food Stories](#), join Urban Oyster for a strolling lunch through one of Brooklyn's premiere culinary neighborhoods, Carroll Gardens. This tour will include both old school haunts and new culinary entrepreneurs in an exciting menu of traditional flavors and daring dishes. We'll stop at Italian and Middle Eastern shops that have long been the staple of the neighborhood and explore the growing scene of cafes and restaurants specializing in artisanal foods. As we enjoy their delicacies, we'll learn about the neighborhood's rich history and changing character from local business owners and residents themselves. Tickets: \$49 (10% off for BHS members -- call 718.222.4111 for discount). Advance ticket purchase is required. Go to www.urbanoyster.com or call 347.618.8687 to book public or private tours.

[Saturday, September 3](#)

Hiding in Plain Sight: A Walk Down Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn Heights

3:00 p.m.

This walking tour based on Claire Mirarchi's book [Enjoying Brooklyn Heights: The Brooklyn Heights Association's Self-Guided Neighborhood Walking Tour](#) will take participants through the small architectural details of Brooklyn Heights including gargoyles, boot scrapers, griffins, pineapples and more. The tour is free and fun for all ages. RSVP required as space is limited. [RSVP here](#). The tour departs from BHS at 3:00 p.m. and will last approximately 45 minutes. This tour is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

[Saturdays, September 3, 10, 17 and 24](#)

Immigrant Foodways Tour

11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

As part of BHS's [Brooklyn Food Stories](#), join Urban Oyster for this Immigrant Foodways Tour. Based on oral histories with residents and business owners in East Williamsburg, this tour explores the history of Brooklyn's "Avenue of Puerto Rico" - once the heart of a Jewish community - and takes an in-depth look at the Moore Street Market, built in 1941 to mark the end of the pushcart era. Today the market is a centerpiece of the Spanish-speaking community. By the end of the tour, you'll be equipped with new knowledge about Latin American ingredients and a booklet of traditional recipes to help you recreate the tastes and smells of the market in your own home. This tour takes place every Saturday. Tickets: \$39 (10% off for BHS members-- call 718.222.4111 for discount). Advance ticket purchase is required. Go to www.urbanoyster.com or call 347.618.8687 to book public or private tours.

[Saturday, September 10](#)

Compagnia de' Colombari in *More or Less I Am: Walt Whitman*

2:00 p.m.

Join BHS for this special performance by [Compagnia de' Colombari](#) as part of BHS's programming for the tenth anniversary of September 11th. *More or Less I Am* is a music-theater piece drawn entirely from Walt Whitman's 1855 *Song of Myself*. Conceived and directed by Karin Coonrod with original music by Colin Jacobsen, Kyle Sanna, Eric Jacobsen, and Alex Sopp, the piece involves seventeen performers from the Americas. *More or Less I Am* embodies the voice of Walt Whitman, who, in *Song of Myself* announced: "Every atom belonging to me as good belongs to you." *More or Less I Am* represents Whitman's call to us, then and now, to live interdependently. The performance begins at 2:00 p.m., will last approximately 45 minutes, and will be followed by a reception with light refreshments. The event is free and open to the public.

Compagnia de' Colombari is an international collaborative of performing artists generating theater for a new century. Celebrating the kinship of humankind alongside its variety, Compagnia de' Colombari is dedicated to old and new works from a world of traditions and cultures that bring performers and audience members together -- transforming strangers into community.

[Saturday, September 10](#)

Research Your House Workshop

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Discover the amazing history of your Brooklyn house using BHS's images, records and documents. Attendees will be introduced to library collections used in house and building research and will learn to piece together the social history of a Brooklyn home or block. Advanced ticket purchase recommended as the event will fill up. \$30 BHS members/\$50 non-members. [Purchase your tickets here](#). This workshop is part of our fall Library Workshop Series, 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.

[Sunday, September 11](#)

Doing Good in a Post-9/11 World, with Julie Salamon, author of *Rambam's Ladder*

2:00 p.m.

BHS proudly presents Brooklyn Community Foundation's first program of *Why We Do Good*, an ongoing exploration of philanthropy's role in our daily lives. Author Julie Salamon's response to the evil doers who unleashed 9/11 was to explore the motivations for doing good. The result was *Rambam's Ladder: A Meditation on Generosity and Why It Is Necessary to Give*, her 2003 book that uses the teachings of Maimonides, the twelfth-century rabbi, physician, and philosopher. The book explores several levels of giving, from purely self interest at the bottom of the ladder, to purely altruistic at the top. On the tenth anniversary of 9/11, Salamon and interviewer Marilyn

Gelber, President of Brooklyn Community Foundation, will use *Rambam's Ladder* to discuss personal philanthropy in a turbulent and changing world.

Salamon is author of *Wendy and the Lost Boys: The Uncommon Life of Wendy Wasserstein*, a book published in August 2011. Salamon is also author of several other books, including *Hospital: Man, Woman, Birth, Death, Infinity, Plus Red Tape, Bad Behavior, Money, God, and Diversity on Steroids* from 2008, which provides an unvarnished, insider's view of one year in the life of Maimonides Medical Center in Borough Park.

[Thursday, September 15](#)

Rewriting Recipes with Historic Gastronomist Sarah Lohman

7:00 p.m.

Perhaps you found a box of ancient handwritten recipes cards at the Brooklyn Flea. Maybe, you have your grandmother's cookbook, gathering dust on the shelf. Or perhaps you simply enjoy browsing Google books to page through cookbooks from 100 years ago. Why aren't you cooking from these recipes? These treasures from the past are valuable resources to draw inspiration for a contemporary kitchen. Sarah Lohman is here to help you negotiate the difficulties of translating historic recipes. In *Rewriting Recipes*, she'll use BHS's historic Lefferts Family cookbook to teach how to interpret historic recipes. Lohman will unveil tricks to modernize these recipes for today's kitchen: how to interpret amounts, flesh out directions, and find comparable ingredients. Most importantly, she'll show how to pull inspiration from these recipes to create unique contemporary dishes. Feel free to bring your own vintage and historical recipes to share. This event is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Food Stories](#). Advanced ticket purchase recommended as the event will fill up. Tickets: \$8 BHS members/\$10 non-members. [Purchase your ticket here](#).

Sarah Lohman has more than a decade of museum experience with a specific focus on culinary history. Lohman is originally from Cleveland, Ohio, where she began working in a museum at the age of 16, cooking historic food over a wood-burning stove. She graduated with a BFA from the Cleveland Institute of Art in 2005. For her undergraduate thesis, she opened a temporary restaurant/installation that reinterpreted food of the Colonial era for a modern audience.

[Saturday, September 17](#)

Family-Friendly Scavenger Hunt (for kids 5 to 95 years old)

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

During [Brooklyn Book Festival](#) weekend, join BHS in a Brooklyn Heights neighborhood scavenger hunt. This family-friendly activity will test your knowledge of the Brooklyn Heights area and its history. There is no time limit, but participants who successfully complete the hunt before 5:00 p.m. will be eligible for a raffle to win prizes including Brooklyn hats, neighborhood guides, and postcards. The scavenger hunt is free. Come to BHS on September 17, between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., and participate for your chance to win. This hunt is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

[Sunday, September 18](#)

Brooklyn Book Festival

10:00 - 6:00 pm (BHS events)

The [Brooklyn Book Festival](#) is a huge, free public event presenting an array of literary stars and emerging authors who represent the exciting world of literature today. Brooklyn Book Festival is one of America's premier literary and literacy events. Free admission to BHS 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on September 18, in honor of Brooklyn Book Festival. Check the [Brooklyn Book Festival website](#) for updated information on the line up.

[Sunday, September 18](#)

Montague Street Walking Tour

2:00 p.m.

On Sunday, September 18, BHS will lead a tour down Montague Street in historic Brooklyn Heights as part of [Montague Street BID's](#) Summer Space, when Montague Street will be car-free between Clinton Street and Hicks Street. See the place where Jackie Robinson signed his major league contract, learn which site was the former home of the Brooklyn Academy of Music and much more! Meet Todd Florio, BHS Head of School Programs, your tour guide, at Brooklyn

Historical Society (Clinton and Pierrepont Street). Tours depart BHS at 2:00 p.m. No reservations required. This tour is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Walks and Talks](#) program series.

[Wednesday, September 21](#)

Brooklyn Bounty Cocktail Party and the First Brooklyn Food Recognition Awards

6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

[Brooklyn Bounty Cocktail Party and the First Brooklyn Food Recognition Awards](#) will include tastings of food and drink from Brooklyn growers, chefs and purveyors; historic cocktails in our beautiful library; storytelling by local people from neighborhoods far and wide across Brooklyn; viewings of historical and new maps and materials related to local food and agriculture; a creative silent auction of unique Brooklyn prizes and experiences; and music by The Blue Vipers of Brooklyn. All funds raised at Brooklyn Bounty will be used to support BHS's nationally-recognized education programs. [Purchase your ticket here.](#)

[Saturday, September 24](#)

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.

[Saturday, September 24](#)

Smithsonian Magazine's Museum Day

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

BHS participates in the [Smithsonian Magazine's Museum Day](#), offering free admission all day. Each year, Museum Day offers people throughout the United States the opportunity to enjoy and share our country's dynamic heritage and cultural life for free. Free admission for participating museums and cultural venues is granted to visitors presenting the official Museum Day ticket, found on Smithsonian.com. Read more [here](#).

[Monday, September 26](#)

What Are You? Mixed-Heritage Brooklyn

7:00 p.m.

Participate in this discussion at BHS about mixed heritage co-sponsored by [Loving Day](#), a global network fighting racial prejudice through education and building multicultural community. This conversation will be facilitated by Jen Chau of [Swirl](#), a multi-ethnic, anti-racist organization that promotes cross-cultural dialogue, with Suleiman Osman, author of [The Invention of Brownstone Brooklyn: Gentrification, Race, and the Search for Authenticity in Post-War New York](#); performance artist Judith Sloan, co-author and co-creator with Warren Lehrer of [Crossing the BLVD: strangers, neighbors, aliens in a new America](#); and writer and actress Katrina Grigg-Saito, whose documentary and installation [FishBird](#) is titled for the saying "a fish can love a bird but where would they live?" This event is free and open to the public; light refreshments will be served.

This event is part of [Crossing Borders, Bridging Generations](#), a public programming series and oral history project about mixed-heritage families, race, ethnicity, culture, and identity, infused with historical perspective. 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 Con Edison.

[Tuesday, September 27](#)

Brooklyn Food Stories: Farms, Markets, and Shops that have Shaped Brooklyn Appetites and Communities

7:00 p.m.

Hear the stories behind Brooklyn farms, markets, and shops, and how their individual efforts have shaped neighborhoods and Brooklynites' appetites over time. Based on recorded interviews and

historical research that [Urban Oyster](#) has conducted for its Brooklyn-based tours, this presentation will include stories about Wallabout Market, Moore Street Market, shops in Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill, farmers currently growing food in Brooklyn, and more. David Naczycz and Cindy VandenBosch, co-founders of Urban Oyster, will be the presenters. This event is part of BHS's [Brooklyn Food Stories](#). Advanced ticket purchase recommended as the event will fill up. Complimentary Brooklyn Brewery beer or bottled water included with ticket price. Tickets: \$8 BHS members/\$10 non-members. [Purchase your ticket here](#).

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.