



BROOKLYN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

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## **High School Students Curate Exhibit Celebrating 400 Years of the Dutch in New York at Brooklyn Historical Society**

*"Pages of the Past: The Breukelen Adventures of Jasper Danckaerts"  
features important Dutch Diaries from 1679, opens June 5*

**Brooklyn, NY –**

**WHAT:** Nineteen local teens curate the exhibition *Pages of the Past: The Breukelen Adventures of Jasper Danckaerts*, which chronicles the voyage of Jasper Danckaerts through 17<sup>th</sup> century **Brooklyn**. Danckaerts' journals and drawings provide vivid insight into Dutch colonial New York. Through paintings, artifacts and the original journal pages, these teens take you from Breukelen to Brooklyn over six days of foot-long oysters, famous Brooklynites and interactions with Native Americans.

In 1609, Henry Hudson landed on what is now Coney Island. Other Dutch explorers followed, eventually making Brooklyn home. Colonial Brooklyn was a rural society which encompassed much of today's central Brooklyn. The streets we now walk were once fields and farms full of livestock and grain.

In 1679 Jasper Danckaerts and his colleague Peter Sluyter came to New York in search of land. For 200 years Danckaerts' meticulously written and illustrated diaries lay undiscovered until Henry C. Murphy, a founder of the Long Island Historical Society, (later renamed the Brooklyn Historical Society) came upon the diaries in 1864, in an Amsterdam book store. Now an important part of the BHS collection and an invaluable primary resource for scholars, the diaries will be featured in this exhibit in celebration of the 400 Years of the Dutch in New York.



**WHO:** Students from Brooklyn Technical High School, Cobble Hill School of American Studies, The Packer Collegiate Institute and Saint Ann's School.

**WHEN:** Meet the student-curators of *Pages of the Past* at the **exhibit opening Friday, June 5, 2009** with a reception from **5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**, and is on view through January 3, 2010. The opening reception is free and open to the public.

**WHERE:** Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont St. (at Clinton St.), Brooklyn Heights

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