

BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jeanne Hodesh

347-381-3712

jhodesh@brooklynhistory.org

CITY OFFICIALS GATHER TO CELEBRATE YOUNG SCHOLARS BOOK LAUNCH AT BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Neighborhood history is studied, written – and now! – published by Brooklyn’s Young Scholars

June 12, 2017 Brooklyn, NY— On June 15, 2017 New York City Council members and the Brooklyn Borough President **Eric Adams** will gather at Brooklyn Historical Society (BHS) to celebrate the publication of CASA Young Scholars historical books. Present will be the five city council members who funded CASA Young Scholars cohorts in their districts: **Inez Barron, Rafael Espinal, Stephen Levin, Brad Lander** and **Alan Maisel**.

In addition to certificates presented by Borough President Eric Adams, students will hear from celebrated children’s authors, 2017 Caldecott award-winner **Javaka Steptoe** and **Tonya Cherie Hegamin**, NYPL Ezra Jack Keats award-winner.

The 2017 CASA Young Scholars are 55 3rd-5th grade students, who hail from PS 233, PS 307, PS 282, PS 158, and PS 312. As CASA Young Scholars, students work collaboratively to research and write a book about the history of their school or neighborhood. Copies of their professionally designed and printed books become part of the collections at BHS, where they will be available as historical resources for generations to come.

The topics of this year’s books include: 20th century West Indian immigration to East New York; women, work and WWII at the Brooklyn Navy Yard; the immigrants and industrialists that shaped Park Slope; the Brooklyn Fire Department; and a comparison of the urban development of two waterfront communities – Bergen Beach and Coney Island.

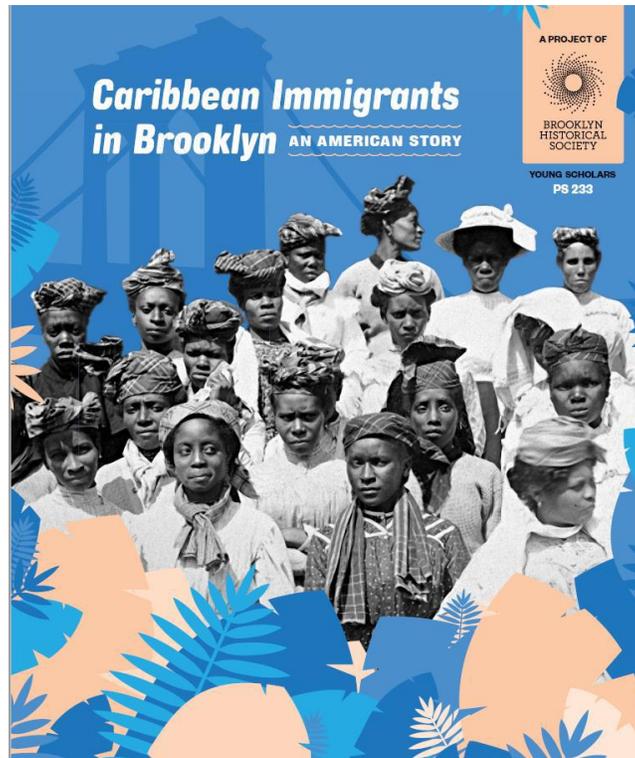
Schedule:

10:30 – 11:15 Students arrive for lunch provided by BHS

11:30 – 12:30 Student authors present on each of their book topics (elected officials may also speak in here)

12:30 – 1:00 Student authors receive certificates from Brooklyn Borough President and from BHS (Eric Adams may speak here)

1pm departure



The cover of *Caribbean Immigrants in Brooklyn: An American Story* by Young Scholars of PS 233 in East Flatbush

More about BHS's Young Scholars program:

Young Scholars is offered in partnership with individual elementary schools. Each program introduces a group of students to the dynamic process of historical research about their neighborhood. Over the course of 4 – 6 months, a cohort of 15 – 30 students collaboratively research a topic in their neighborhood's history, analyze primary and secondary sources, and communicate their findings in a book or in exhibit panels that become the property of the school.

BHS partners with NYC public schools to seek Cultural After School Adventure (CASA) grants from local City Council Members in order to offer the Young Scholars program at no cost to the participating school or students. BHS has successfully implemented the Young Scholars CASA program in Brooklyn elementary schools since 2006.

About Brooklyn Historical Society

Founded in 1863, Brooklyn Historical Society is a nationally recognized urban history center dedicated to preserving and encouraging the study of Brooklyn's extraordinary 400-year history. Located in Brooklyn Heights and housed in a magnificent landmark building designed by George Post and opened in 1881, today's BHS is a cultural hub for civic dialogue, thoughtful engagement and community outreach. In May 2017 BHS opened a second site in DUMBO's Brooklyn Bridge Park.

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