



BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY LAUNCHES BIMONTHLY FAMILY PROGRAMS AT DUMBO LOCATION

Programs hosted on the second and last Saturday of each month encourage small children to learn about Brooklyn's waterfront history and practice important skills

[January 9, 2019] Brooklyn, NY— Brooklyn Historical Society (BHS) is pleased to announce the Winter/Spring 2019 Family programs calendar. Twice a month from January 12 to June 29 Brooklyn Historical Society DUMBO will offer midmorning family programming geared toward children ages 2 and up, and their adults. Programs will alternate between storytelling and age appropriate hands-on activities designed for individual or multiple participants.

Family programming held on the second Saturday of each month will consist of one of three types of hands-on activities: *Changing Perspectives on the Waterfront*, *Eye Spy – Gallery Hunt*, or *Picture This!*

Changing Perspectives on the Waterfront is a mix and match activity where children learn more about life on Brooklyn's waterfront at different points in history, then create their own new exhibition using a selection of images from BHS's collection and contemporary images of Brooklyn.

Eye Spy - Gallery Hunt lets children use their observation skills to discover and learn more about the photographs in the *Waterfront* exhibition.

Picture This! is a collage activity designed to encourage artistic, self-expression and build group interaction. Children create collages on background line drawings that depict either the DUMBO waterfront, the Empire Stores (past and present), or New York City landmarks such as the Brooklyn Bridge.

The last Saturday of each month is a story time event featuring a reading by an author, one of BHS's educators, or a professional storyteller. Story time programs also include a hands-on component.

Following each family program participants are encouraged to stay and take advantage of the child-friendly parts of the *Waterfront* exhibition with children as young as one-year-old. Families can have fun touching and smelling goods that were stored in the Empire Stores warehouse in the past; they can play with an oversized

Brooklyn waterfront magnet board, dress up like a Navy Yard worker, and color a waterfront themed postcard to mail to family and friends.

Family programs for Winter/Spring 2019 will kick off on Saturday January 12 with *Changing Perspectives on the Waterfront*. Program dates for the season are as follows:

- January 12: Changing Perspectives – Collage
- January 26: Storytelling – Design and make your own book
- February 9: Eye Spy – Gallery Hunt
- February 23: Storytelling – Design and make your own book
- March 9: Picture This! – Color a mural
- March 30: Storytelling – Design and make your own book
- April 13: Changing Perspectives – Collage
- April 27: Storytelling – Design and make your own book
- May 11: Eye Spy – Gallery Hunt
- May 25: Storytelling – Design and make your own book
- June 8: Picture This – Color a mural
- June 29: Storytelling – Design and make your own book

All programs are free of charge and guests are encouraged to sign up in advance at brooklynhistory.org/dumbo.

BHS DUMBO is the only history museum in the DUMBO neighborhood and Brooklyn Historical Society's second location. Opened in 2017, the 3,200 SF satellite space is housed at 55 Water Street inside Empire Stores, a renovated 19th-century warehouse in Brooklyn Bridge Park. The warehouse, constructed in the late 1860s, once housed coffee, sugar, animal hides, and other commodities when Brooklyn was one of the largest commercial waterfronts in the world. Empire Stores stood shuttered for decades and reopened in 2017 as a revitalized public space featuring restaurants, retail stores, and offices.

[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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