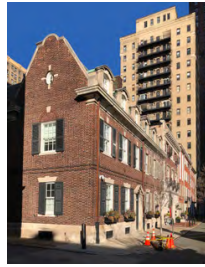




# CENTER CITY QUARTERLY



Newsletter of the Center City Residents' Association

Vol. 13 No. 3 Fall 2022

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## CCStreetwise

### **By the Market Street Bridge Can Things Be Looking Up?**

*Text and Photos by Bill West*

In my kinder and gentler moments, I have been known to refer to the 2300 block of Market Street as a godforsaken hellscape overrun by rampaging cars. But I may be about to change my mind. Things may actually be getting better here.

For starters, there's a new addition coming to the block, on the south side of the street, across from the black PECO tower on the north side. The current plan is to redevelop this space as a biotech center, preserving several of the existing façades. The larger new structure will provide a nice frame for the old façades while also making a modern statement of its own.

All in all, I'm quite pleased with the evolution of planning for this area, and I'm thrilled that these dead buildings will be incorporated, at least in part, in a new life that will make this block much better. At least that's the plan. (For an article in Philadelphia YIMBY, click [here](#).)

#### **Dining al Fresco on 24th Street**

Let's take a walk westward on the south side of Market, starting at 23rd Street, where the new development is planned. You may notice, as you walk toward the Market Street bridge, that you are walking up a hill. The hill is actually the ramp to the bridge. As you approach what would be 24th Street, there is a gap in the building façades, and you can look down to the real 24th Street. I actually got a shot of this space looking north, back towards Market and the PECO building.



*Coming off the ramp from the Schuylkill Banks.*

*Continued on p.2*



Sunday lunch on 24th Street.

Talk about adaptive reuse of a dead-end street. Talk about embracing our industrial past.

And talk about designing in three dimensions, and erasing the hard line between indoors and outdoors.

Here 24th Street is about two stories down from the surface of Market Street. The building on the west side of 24th—2400 Market, better known as the Aramark building—has a north-south walkway that looks down onto 24th Street and runs all the way from Market to Chestnut. There is a little branch of this walkway that goes to a parking garage on the east side of 24th. I took the picture above while standing on that little branch (or bridge, if you want to be fussy).

Coming up with this stuff requires imagination.

Further west, the Aramark building has another very nice walkway that overlooks the river and also lets you promenade between Market and Chestnut. There are benches, and it's quite pleasant.

The view west may not enthrall everybody, but I find it interesting. You're basically looking at the guts of the city's transportation system as it has evolved over the centuries. The river, the railroad, the expressway. I like to call it Schuylkill, Schuylkill, and Banks. Has a nice ring to it.

Here's the railroad from the Market Street bridge, showing the Aramark building and its promenade on the left and the Schuylkill Banks on the right, with the ramp system that connects the bridges on Market and Chestnut with the Banks at ground level.



**Learning from the Schuylkill Banks**

I'm going to leave Market for a bit, and look more closely at the Schuylkill Banks. There are some lessons here that could be applied on Market Street, and, frankly, in a lot of other places.

First, some history. In the days before railroads, the Schuylkill River was a very busy place. Now it is mainly empty, with a few pleasure boats, and those picking up trash (below). Arguably, as it has grown less active, the river has grown more picturesque.



Going further south on the Banks, we come to yet another [bridge](#)—one that picks up pedestrians and bicyclists and hoists them across the railroad tracks, around Spruce Street.



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For information and deadlines, please call 215-546-6719.

## President's Letter

# The Gift that Keeps on Giving

By Rick Gross, CCRA President

As you read this, the memory of a too-hot, too-dry summer will be fading. But all is not lost, as September is a lovely time of year.

I hope you all have wonderful memories of our splendid 75th Anniversary Celebration way back on June 1. We ate, drank, partied, and honored the irrepressible Yannick Nézet-Séguin. We celebrated our history, recognized our present, and introduced our future with three terrific videos. For those of you who missed them, or would like to view them again, they can be seen on our website, [centercityresidents.org](http://centercityresidents.org), under the About CCRA tab. Be sure to take a look... you will be impressed and, I hope, motivated to work with us to realize our goals.



The 75th Anniversary didn't end in June, however. As a direct result of the wonderful experience we shared with Yannick, we have embarked on an ongoing relationship with the Philadelphia Orchestra. That relationship will offer our members discounts on tickets to the Orchestra and other Kimmel Cultural Campus events as the Kimmel joins our impressive list of Merchant Partners.

In turn, we will encourage our members to patronize events at the Kimmel Center to recapture the vitality it brought to our community and beyond before the pandemic. And we expect to announce a 76th Anniversary Celebration with them before next year! What a beautiful relationship to have as we kick off our next 75 years. Watch for details on ticket discount codes in upcoming issues of *CCRA This Week*.

Mark your calendars now for CCRA's Annual Meeting, which will be held on September 29. If it is safe to meet in person, we will, at a neighborhood location to be announced. If not, we will meet virtually. In addition to voting to fill several vacancies on the CCRA Board of Directors, members will hear the first announcement of our major new initiative for the 2022-2023 year, and can look forward to a stimulating and enjoyable experience with the other festivities and comestibles we are planning for the meeting. Again, watch for details in *CCRA This Week*.

I hope to see many of you in person as Fall unfolds.

All the best,

*Rick Gross*

## THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

CCRA continues the celebration of our 75th Anniversary year "in concert" with the Philadelphia Orchestra, offering our members discounts on tickets to the Orchestra and other Kimmel Cultural Campus events, as the Kimmel joins our impressive list of Merchant Partners.



The Philadelphia Orchestra  
 Yannick Nézet-Séguin Music Director



Continued from p.2

The preceding picture came from this bridge. I think many people find long lines of railroad cars—boxcars, flatcars, oil tankers—tedious. I don't, but I do understand the urge to decorate.

A few feet away, this is what the Schuylkill Banks looks like.



And if you go a block inland, you have scenes like this one on Panama Street.



### Lessons to Learn

So why have I brought us all the way down from Market Street to Panama? Basically, to show how very different uses of space can be braided together, allowing each use to do its job while allowing the other uses to do their jobs. This idea—weaving theoretically incompatible uses together—actually works on the Schuylkill Banks. [Markward Playground](#) has a lovely area for small children located right next to the train tracks. The trains and the kids get along just fine. There is a fence.

The uses don't ignore one another. I would argue that they gain by having somewhat incongruous neighbors. One of the reasons people come to cities is to rub shoulders with people who are different. Why should pieces of ground not do the same?

If the Schuylkill Banks can live with the train tracks, then Market Street can live with a bicyclist and her child mounted behind her. The question is how. And I think the success of the Schuylkill

Banks can suggest some answers. First, separate the different types of traffic and activities; second, weave them together so that everybody can get where they need to go.

On the Banks, of course, some people just lie quietly on the grass or in a hammock and don't do anything or go anywhere.

I'm not expecting a lot of napping in hammocks on the Market Street bridge, but I do think the idea of separating different kinds of traffic and then braiding them together intelligently wherever necessary—at intersections, for instance—would be remarkably helpful.

This would not solve all the problems on the 2300 block of Market, but it would help a lot.

I need to hammer home a point: Each of the zones we're talking about needs to find its own path to civilization. They should not all look alike. They have different tasks and should be designed to perform those tasks. But all of them can be civilized, allowing them to fit together to make a coherent and very pleasant slice of the city.

### Back to Market

Let's go back to Market Street. Remember the photo at the top of this story—the bicyclist and her child. In the background you may notice a sliver of the PECO building. This building is large and black and very much of its time—1970, to be exact. Most people driving by probably only notice the tall black hexahedron. There are actually a number of other, smaller hexahedrons flanking the base of the tower. These join together behind the tower, forming a continuous façade along John F. Kennedy Boulevard. This façade has no entrances and no signage, with the exception of a few small notices warning against trespassing.

Let's go back to the Market Street frontage. On each side of the main entrance is a plaza with a nice collection of trees. The street slopes here—remember you're on a bridge ramp—but the PECO building rests serenely on a horizontal plane, so the eastern plaza is reached by steps up, and the western plaza is reached by steps down. The main entrance and the sidewalk are actually at the same level.



On the eastern plaza—the one with the steps up—there is a special entrance for PECO customers seeking solutions to problems (next page).

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I have a problem with this entrance. In what way is it welcoming? How does it seek to create a feeling inside me that the people on the other side of the door will be nice to me, and perhaps even help me?

To me, at least, this entrance is cold and intimidating.

I don't really believe that Darth Vader lives in the PECO building. I do think it's a black hole in space that drains energy from the whole block.

It would be nice if a restaurant opened on the ground floor, with seating on the west plaza looking out to 30th Street Station and the old Post Office building. I do not think this will ever happen.

### **The PECO Parking Lot**

On the other hand, I do think there are some significant, and feasible, improvement opportunities on the block directly to the east of the building, where PECO has a simply enormous employee parking lot.



(This picture is from the height of the pandemic. The statement that the lot is full is obviously false, but I learned in my corporate career that such statements should not be seen as false, but rather as “aspirational.”)

This lot does not conform to Philadelphia's current design standards for parking lots. It doesn't have to. It was in existence

when the new standards came in, and under the law it is grandfathered. So, no wrought-iron fences, no trees, no plantings of any kind. Essentially a visual wasteland.

If it wanted to, PECO could comply voluntarily with the current design requirements for parking lots.

It could also put greenery at the curb, along Market, 23rd, and 22nd. I understand the conditions underground might not allow for tree pits in some places, but then, there are planters.

### **Taming the Cars**

That brings us to the street itself, a large and largely shapeless place where cars, buses, and trucks move quickly and maneuver abruptly in vast numbers. During the reconstruction of the Chestnut Street bridge, there was a protected bike lane on the south side of Market Street, from Schuylkill Avenue to 23rd. This has now gone away.

Meanwhile, the City has been working on putting a two-lane cycle track on Market, between 20th and 23rd. The necessary legislation has passed, and construction is expected to start sometime this year. (For a brief description of this project, click [here](#).)

West of 23rd Street, PennDOT is getting ready to renovate the Market Street bridge. I long ago gave up trying to predict what PennDOT may or may not do, but I'm hearing good things. A decent set of bike lanes, or a two-way cycle track, could provide relatively clear sailing across the bridge, and also connect to the ramp from the Schuylkill Banks. West of the river, Market is not a great place for bikes, but there are decent bike lanes on Walnut and Chestnut that extend well into West Philly. The recently revised Chestnut Street bike lane is, frankly, a gem.

### **What Does It All Mean?**

Years ago, when I was commuting by train to New York, the Schuylkill Banks did not exist. I would leave 30th Street Station in the evening, and sometimes I would walk toward home across the Market Street bridge. The bridge was a bit scary, because of the traffic; and the stretch of Market east of the bridge always reminded me of Dante's line: *Abandon all hope, ye who enter here*. [The Richard Basciano](#) sex-industry empire dominated the area, especially when the few office towers emptied out at the end of the day, and the sidewalks were desolate. The PECO parking lot did not look out of place back then. All in all, not a great gateway to Center City.

Everything now going on along this stretch of Market, from 20th Street to the bridge, suggests that we are about to fulfill part of Ed Bacon's vision of Market Street as Philadelphia's main axis, which he saw extending all the way to the city's western border. (See Edmund N. Bacon, *Design of Cities*, 1976, pp. 298-306.)

The emerging high-rise corridor along here is supported by abundant public transportation. There are quibbles and imperfections, of course. For historical reasons, the Market-Frankford subway line does not stop between 30th and 15th Streets. (For more on this, click [here](#).) But there are trolleys and buses. Five trolley lines run under Market between 30th Street Station and City Hall at 15th Street, stopping at 19th and 22nd. Seven bus routes stop near the intersection of Market and 23rd.

I think things are genuinely getting better in this space, and not just for real estate developers. The area may soon be much more walkable. The sidewalks may have more foot traffic. Crossing the street may no longer feel life-threatening.

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Continued from p.5

We may be in the process of making this stretch of Market Street safer, more useful, and more pleasant for all users. Will it be perfect? Certainly not. But I think we're about to take a big step forward in civilizing this street.

-----  
On its better days, the sign to the right says *Walk Bike On Ramp*. It's at the top of the ramp connecting the Market Street bridge with the Schuylkill Banks. I think the decorations are a good reminder that users may disagree with designers on how to use a particular piece of the built environment. Changing the design of the structure is generally a more successful strategy than plastering the structure with signs. And this big ramp has been physically modified to prevent some of the most dangerous behavior.

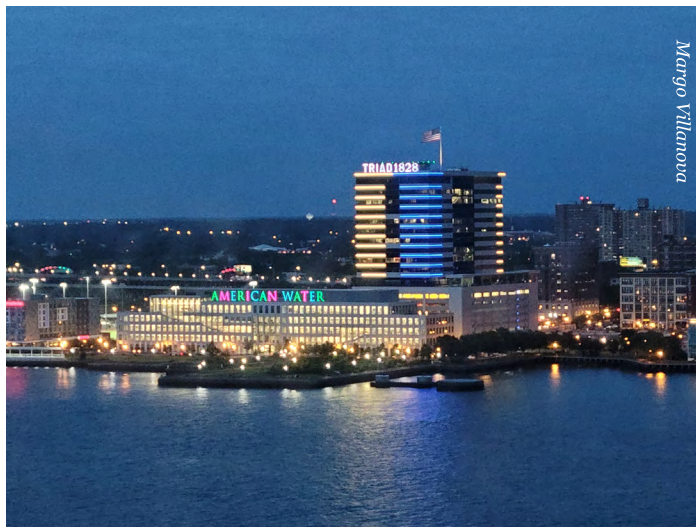
In general, the designers of the Schuylkill Banks have been good at these modifications. There is, for instance, another ramp nearby, a gentle one at ground level, right next to the river near the Chestnut Street bridge. It used to have a series of almost invisible steps. Unwary bicyclists found themselves going airborne with some frequency, and not always landing well. The steps went away.



## Out & About

# Delaware River Waterfront: Relax, Dine, Enjoy

By Bonnie Eisenfeld and Margo Villanova



Margo Villanova

Night view, Camden waterfront.



Margo Villanova

View of Race Street Pier and Ben Franklin Bridge from Cherry Street Pier.

Spend an afternoon or an evening enjoying the scenic views and fun activities on the Delaware River Waterfront.

Relax on Adirondack chairs, hammocks, and lounges at Spruce Street Harbor Park. Roller-skate at the Blue Cross RiverRink Summerfest. (And when it gets cold, ice-skate at Winterfest.) Cruise on the RiverLink Ferry across to the Adventure Aquarium in Camden. Visit artists' studios on the Cherry Street Pier on the First Friday of each month.

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Blue Cross RiverRink at Summerfest Penn's Landing.



Tourboat with Camden Adventure Aquarium in the background.

Drink and dine outdoors at: Liberty Point, a new multilevel restaurant at the Independence Seaport Museum; the Garden at Cherry Street Pier; the Barge Oasis Bar or Landside Beer Garden at Spruce Street Harbor Park; or waterfront food stands.

So many options, and it's not crowded during the week! Some attractions are seasonal. <https://www.delawariverwaterfront.com/events>



Paddle Boats at Penn's Landing.



The Camden waterfront, viewed from the Philadelphia side.



Artist Studios at Cherry Street Pier.



Adirondack chairs, Spruce Street Harbor Park.

## It's Academic

# What Cool Kids Do After School Celebrating 20 Years ASAP

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

*"What happens after graduation starts with what happens after school."*

That's the driving philosophy behind [After School Activities Partnership](#) (ASAP), a Philadelphia nonprofit founded in 2002 by public-school educator Marciene Mattleman. On Thursday, September 22, After School Activities Partnership will host its 20th-anniversary celebration and fundraiser to honor all the partners, educators, and stakeholders who have helped the program provide afterschool activities to more than 90,000 students since its inception.

Each school year, ASAP engages more than 4,000 Philadelphia students from kindergarten through grade 12 in 86 chess clubs, 102 Scrabble clubs, 48 debating clubs, and 37 drama clubs. Clubs meet at ASAP partner locations, including more than 200 Philadelphia schools, libraries, and recreation centers. More than half of ASAP's activities take place at neighborhood public schools, and almost half are in the 14 zip codes with the highest rates of gun violence.

Participating students have fun and learn from these activities. Here are just a few comments from students: "Chess has given me the ability to think about and visualize things from different perspectives"; "Scrabble has helped me find friends who share a love of words"; "I'm more open-minded, because in debate you have to be able to argue both sides"; "performing lets people see who I really am without the shyness."

ASAP also organizes citywide events and competitions. A tournament will be held on National Chess Day, Saturday, October 8. In October three competitive scholastic leagues will be launched, including a chess league, a debate league, and a Scrabble league.

Two-thirds of the 300 club leaders are public-school teachers, and the rest are community educators and volunteers, recruited by ASAP, which provides them with training, equipment, instructional resources, and administrative support. Drama clubs have professional teaching artists to co-lead programs.

"At ASAP we have the great fortune of seeing every day what is possible when schools and educators can offer their students opportunities that really speak to their interests and their passions," says Executive Director Justin Ennis. "For many students, afterschool or extracurricular programs can be the spark that helps them realize their full potential, and provide the community that gives them a critically important sense of belonging.

"The pandemic further highlighted the vital role that afterschool programs play for caregivers who need safe, enriching opportunities for their kids while they work.

"There is an enormous gap in extracurricular programming for students in Philadelphia public schools, compared to what is offered to students in suburban or private schools. ASAP finds a great sense of purpose in trying to close this gap and giving children in Philadelphia the afterschool opportunities they deserve."

In a *Washington Post* article, Jodi Grant, executive director of Afterschool Alliance, wrote, "The research is clear: children in quality afterschool programs are more likely to come to school and stay in school, more likely to hand in their work and get better grades."

There is still a huge unmet demand among Philadelphia school students. The organization has recently added three new staffers to reach out to schools; they hope to grow the number of school partnerships by 50 percent and serve an additional 1000 to 2000 students over the next two to three years.

Additional funding would enable the organization to offer more support to partners, to hire more professional teaching artists, and to sponsor more chess, debate, and Scrabble teams to compete in state and national tournaments. The majority of funding for After School Activities Partnership comes from foundations, supplemented by individual, corporate, and government contributions.

To attend the 20th anniversary celebration, visit: <https://phillyasap.org/save-the-date-asap-celebrates-20-years/>

## Out & About

# Support Bethesda Project with a 5K "Home Run"

Join Bethesda Project during the weekend of October 7 – 9 for their Home Run 5K 2022. This Home Run 5K brings together Bethesda Project supporters from near and far to participate in a 5K (3.1 miles) on a course of their own choosing.

The event is virtual, however this year includes a Tour De Bethesda portion, where registrants can participate in a walking tour of the Bethesda Project site. As the folks at Bethesda Project say, "when we run together, it is a Home Run." Go to <https://runsignup.com/bethesda-project/home-run> for more details.



## It's Academic

# Construction on Greene Towne's New Home Underway

By Nicole Leapheart

Last spring, Greene Towne Montessori School announced it had finalized plans to occupy three floors plus an expansive roof deck at 2140 Arch Street, with the entrance at 55 N. 22nd Street. Construction is well underway and will be completed later this fall. The location builds on Greene Towne's commitment to the Logan Square neighborhood, as it sits within the same block as its East campus at 2121 Arch Street, which has been the school's home for the past 20 years.

Greene Towne's new home has natural, simple, and sophisticated design elements, inspired by Montessori materials and the beautiful design of the East building. Large windows bathe the classrooms in light on three sides of the building, and soft, yet bright, lighting is designed for all rooms.

The first floor will hold four Toddler (18 months to 3 years) classrooms, the reception area and parent library, a stroller storage room, as well as administrative offices. Each floor will have a movement room. The first-floor movement room, Head of School Sarah Sweeney-Denham notes, "will also be outfitted with a kitchenette so it will be a great spot to have our Parent Association Meetings and Parent Education events."

The second floor will have four Primary (3 years to Kindergarten age) classrooms, a conference room, administrative offices, an art room, a music room, a chef's kitchen, and a cooking studio for student cooking projects. The third floor will have administrative offices, additional classrooms for future use, a staff lunchroom and a staff lounge. The rooftop playdeck is four times the size of the current playdeck at the East campus, and will have multiple playscapes.

"Every one of these spaces is being carefully designed specifically for our children in a Montessori learning environment," Sweeney-Denham says. "Overall, we're so excited to be able to serve more children and more families in this spacious new home. This building, and all the possibilities within it, are going to allow us to build an even stronger community."

Over its 55-year history, Greene Towne has helped thousands of young children grow into lifelong learners and leaders. Greene Towne Montessori School serves children 18 months old through Kindergarten and is the only Montessori school in Philadelphia that is fully accredited by the American Montessori Society and the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Schools, and holds a four-star rating through the Pennsylvania STARS program. Now enrolling for January of the 2022-23 school year; please visit [www.gtms.org](http://www.gtms.org) to learn more.



Head of School Sarah Sweeney-Denham shows off her Zoo key to unlock the doors at Greene Towne's new home.

## CCCulture

# Artist Charles Cushing

Charles Cushing, known for his large paintings of Philadelphia scenes, has lived and worked in Center City Philadelphia for more than 40 years. In 2004, he executed 10 large canvases depicting the history of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel in honor of its 100th anniversary. Over 600 of his original oil paintings are in public and private collections. Cushing has also painted in Argentina, Italy, Finland and Canada, and throughout the U.S. [Charles Cushing Fine Art](http://CharlesCushingFineArt.com)



Center City artist Charles Cushing, exhibiting at the Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show, June 3.

## Founded by Women Artists, Plastic Club Installs Historical Marker on 125th Anniversary

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

On May 21, the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Plastic Club, a Pennsylvania Historical Marker was installed on the street outside the club at 247 South Camac Street. In 1897, when women were not eligible for membership in Philadelphia's prestigious art clubs, Emily Sartain, Director of the Philadelphia School of Design for Women (now Moore College of Art), and Alice Barber Stephens, an instructor at the school, founded the club for the purpose of bringing together experienced, successful women artists and younger women just beginning their artistic careers. ("Plastic" refers to the malleable state of any unfinished work of art.)

In addition to painters and graphic artists, club members included photographers, sculptors, bookbinders, stained-glass makers, jewelry designers, muralists, printmakers, needleworkers, lace makers, book illustrators, and a puppeteer. The Plastic Club exhibited members' work twice a year; held exhibitions and lectures; advertised their programs with posters created by the members; provided members with art classes, workshops and courses in French; and assembled an art library. Works by many of the early club members are held in public, private and museum collections. Quite a few of them appeared in the recent exhibition, "Women in Motion," at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

During its first decade, the Plastic Club met in rented rooms at 10 South 18th Street. Initially, 57 women formed the club, and one year later there were 125 members. Within 10 years, membership reached 260. In 1909, the Club purchased their current headquarters—two combined rowhouses on Camac Street—which was placed on the Philadelphia Historic Register in 1962. Men were allowed to join in 1991, 94 years after the club opened.

At the installation of the historic marker, Patricia Likos Ricci, Professor of the History of Art, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA, delivered an address on the Plastic Club's history. Other speakers included: Nancy Moses, Chairperson, Pennsylvania Historical Museum, and author of books about art museums and cultural artifacts; Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner; Councilmember Mark Squilla; and current Plastic Club President Susan Ploeg.

The Plastic Club holds several exhibitions each year, open to the public. Current members have continued the tradition of seeing their works acquired by museums and private collectors. For more information about the Plastic Club exhibitions and history see: <https://www.plasticclub.org/>



Nancy Moses, Chairperson, Pennsylvania Historical Museum, author of books about art museums and cultural artifacts.



New marker outside The Plastic Club on Camac Street.

# Sanitation Worker Becomes Local Icon, Authors Children's Book

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Children traditionally have not thought of trash collectors as heroes. Terrill Haigler's children were no exception. They thought their dad's job with the city Sanitation Department was uncool. So Haigler, aka Ya Fav Trashman, wrote a book for children about the importance of sanitation workers, titled *I'm Cool Too*, beautifully illustrated by Deborah Tyson.

It's the story of three children who have a dream that their dad is training them to be sanitation workers. They learn about the amount and different kinds of trash that people discard, and about how important it is to get rid of it to keep the city clean.

Because so many more people were home during the pandemic, trash piled up and sanitation workers were considered essential to health and safety. Haigler was proud of his job, and his children were proud of him.

Haigler plans to donate \$5 from every book sold to the School District of Philadelphia. His goal is to sell 200,000 copies at \$20 each and raise \$1 million for Philly schools, dropping off checks to principals to use the funds as they see fit. He is challenging businesses to purchase 100 copies each and donate them to a school or library of their choice.

Haigler has become an advocate for sanitation workers. While employed with the Sanitation Department, he started a fundraiser to purchase personal protective equipment, hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies for his coworkers. He created the Instagram page @\_yafavtrashman to give residents an insider view of sanitation work during the pandemic. He started the nonprofit trash2treasure\_21, and over the last two years has organized more than 80 cleanups and picked up over 300 tons of trash.

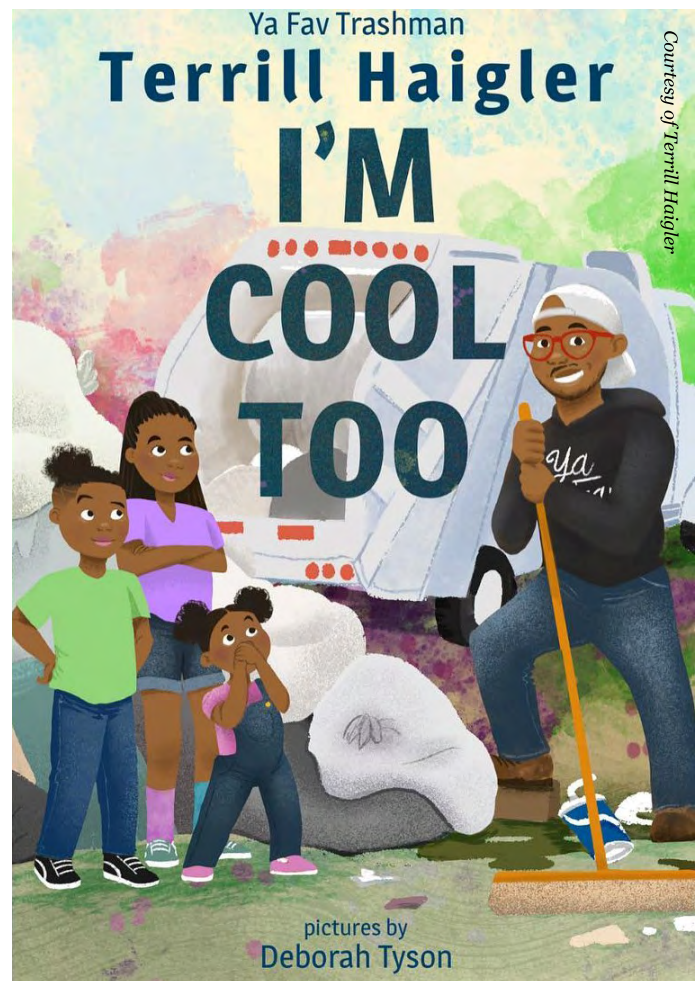
Haigler now owns a company that removes material at construction and demolition sites and hauls it away to a certified dump. He has purchased a trash truck to take away debris and litter from his neighborhood, instead of relying on city trucks to do the job. He wants to employ young adults to help clean the city.

"The youth in the city need something positive to do," he says, "so for me paying them to keep their community clean is a win-win. Studies show that when a community is cleaned, crime reduces by 30 percent." More information at <https://yafavtrashman.com/>

After graduating from the High School for Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA), Haigler studied and taught dance. Later, at the Salvation Army Kroc Center, he was a coordinator, trainer, and organizer of basketball leagues, water aerobics, jazzercise, and more.

[Philadelphia Citizen](#) says about Haigler, "Today, Terrill Haigler, CEO of YaFavTrashman LLC and founder of the nonprofit Trash 2 Treasure, is an influencer (with 28,700 Instagram followers), sanitation guru, public speaker, brand ambassador, entrepreneur, author, environmental activist and clean-up evangelist."

You can order your copy of *I'm Cool Too* at <https://yafavtrashman.com/product/im-cool-too-childrens-book/>



Terrill Haigler's book, *I'm Cool Too*, tells children about the importance of clean streets and the sanitation workers who collect the city's trash.

## Photographs of Philadelphia Homes Seeing the Extraordinary in the Everyday

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

*Philadelphia: City of Homes*, by architect and Center City resident David S. Traub, is a beautiful book of full-color art photographs of Philadelphia homes—some ordinary, some unique—illustrating an immense variety of architectural styles, sizes, and ages, all designed as single-family dwellings characteristic of the city of Philadelphia. The book will appeal to lovers of architecture, photography, and unique aspects of Philadelphia.

The first thing you will probably want to do is page through the book looking for houses that you recognize in the Rittenhouse Square and Fitler Square neighborhoods—and there are plenty of them. You might even see your own home or one in another neighborhood where you once lived. Homes that have become familiar and possibly don't attract our notice when we pass them every day appear in the book as works of art.

Each of the book's 108 pages contains, along with color photographs, Traub's short narratives, lovingly citing architectural styles and details, neighborhood histories, streetscapes, and, in some cases, the names of architects.

The rowhouse, aka rowhome, represents 70 percent of the 400,000 homes in Philadelphia. A variation of this style is the townhouse, aka townhome. Traub attempts to explain the subtle difference based on architecture, location, and socio-economic class of inhabitants; still, all are adjoining homes in a row. Other styles represented in the book are twin, courtyard and walkway, trinity, detached, mansions and carriage houses, modern, new vernacular, and some houses that are just unique.

Traub has created two other photographic books of Philadelphia architecture: *Searching for Philadelphia: The Concealed City*, and *Discovering Philadelphia: Places Little Known*.



Mansion on corner of 19th Street and Delancey Place (p. 68)

A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Traub studied architecture at the University of Illinois and at the University of Pennsylvania, where he received a Master of Architecture degree. At Penn in 1964, he studied in the Master Class of the famous architect Louis I. Kahn. From 1970 to 73, he worked in Kahn's firm on two of their most important projects, the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, and the Mellon Museum of British Art at Yale University in New Haven. In 1974 he established his own firm, David S. Traub Associates, Architects, Planners and Interior Designers.

Buy the book at Head House Books on 2nd Street or Barnes and Noble on Rittenhouse Square, or borrow it from the Philadelphia City Institute library on Rittenhouse Square.



House on 2200 Block of Rittenhouse Street (p. 16)

## 128 S. 19th Street ZAMA

By Leo Levinson—*The Center City Foodie*

Cutting to the chase, I believe Zama is one of the top three sushi restaurants in all of Philadelphia, but shame on me, for only dining there starting about four months ago. Why? A friend's hip and trendy, 30-something daughter LOVED the place, and I was under the impression that it was too hip and trendy to be good. Boy, was I wrong, and apologies to said daughter (and kudos for your foodie-ness)!

Zama's exceptionalism is like that of any exceptional chef in that they do the traditional in an exceptional way, but also have the creativity and confidence to bring in other cuisine and food concepts into some of their dishes too. One prime example of this is the Hummus-San Temaki, which are four soy paper handrolls filled with tuna, shiso leaf and house-made black sesame hummus and served with edamame falafel with a yuzu tzatziki sauce. It is an amazing fusion of Japanese and Middle Eastern cuisine, and delicious. Another example demonstrating Japanese/French fusion is the Wasabi Truffle Escargot dish, composed of pan-seared escargot with edamame, wasabi leaf and black garlic chips over truffle mushroom rice. The large menu features many of these creative dishes, which is even more reason to come back to try them all.

Along with its creativity, Zama is a master of the traditional—sushi and sashimi and other Japanese classics. Unlike many of the very good sushi restaurants in our neighborhood, Zama has an element of refinement that makes it stand apart. Their fish seems just a touch fresher, sliced just a bit more elegantly, and the rice just the right consistency and flavor. Zama's sushi menu is larger than most, with a daily list of what is available, including some fish you won't find elsewhere.

Zama brings its tradition-plus-creativity approach to its maki or roll menu as well. We enjoyed the Wasabi Tuna Roll, which combined crab tempura with tuna tartare for delicious and pleasant contrasting textures. The Salmon on Salmon Roll gave a similar tasting experience using salmon two ways, finished with soy onions. The Truffle Eel Daikon Roll was another standout, topped with cucumber noodles tossed in an uni (sea urchin) sauce and finished with uni brulee sauce.

Zama takes sake seriously, and has a much larger than typical menu, which you can enjoy by the glass, carafe or bottle. We like setting up a tasting, ordering several carafes and sharing and comparing among our group.

Most importantly, service is excellent, with a nice pacing to it. Our server was extremely knowledgeable about the sushi and the sake, and his suggestions about trying new things made the evening even more enjoyable. Bottom line, I guess I'm going to have to invite my friend and his daughter to dinner at Zama to make up for my misguidedness. Fortunately, I've seen the light.

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*Leo Levinson, our roving food writer, is a board member of Philadelphia's premier gourmet club, The Chaine Des Rotisseurs, former chair of the Union League's Grand Cru Society wine club and accomplished amateur cook. As an active foodie, resident and public relations guru in Center City West, he'll give us the inside track, from pho to foie gras. Follow Leo on Instagram @theleolevinson*



## Dining Scene

# Eat Well and Do Good at Garces Foundation 10th Annual Event

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

The Garces Foundation will hold its [10th Annual Event](#) at Live! Hotel and Casino, 900 Packer Avenue, on Thursday, September 29, from 6 pm to midnight. Foundation Executive Director Robin Garces invites you to “enjoy dishes and drinks prepared in some of Philadelphia’s hottest restaurants by the region’s most talented chefs!” Best food in the city!

Founded by restaurateur Chef Jose Garces and Dr. Beatriz Garces, DMD, the [Garces Foundation](#) is a community-based nonprofit providing English language classes, medical and dental care, other education and training, and food support to Philadelphia’s immigrant workers.

The Garces Group’s many Philadelphia restaurants include Amada, Village Whiskey, JG Domestic, Volvér, The Olde Bar, Tinto, and Buena Onda, as well as Garces Trading Company, an online marketplace. In addition, [Garces Events](#), a full-service catering and event division, handles exclusive venues including the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Cira Centre and CHUBB Hotel & Conference Center.



**GARCES FOUNDATION**  
**10TH ANNUAL EVENT!**

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**SEPTEMBER 29, 2022**

**6:00 P.M. – MIDNIGHT**  
**AT LIVE! HOTEL & CASINO**

Enjoy dishes and drinks prepared in some of Philadelphia’s hottest restaurants by the region’s most talented chefs!

[www.garcesfoundation.org/annualevent22](http://www.garcesfoundation.org/annualevent22)

The poster features a collage of images: a man speaking at a podium, a woman singing into a microphone, and a group of people dining. The background shows a restaurant interior with tables and chairs.

## CCCulture

# Visit Studios of Neighborhood Artists during October Open Studio Tour

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Ed Bronstein and Bhavisha Patel, two neighborhood artists, will open their studios to visitors on Sunday, October 16, during the Philadelphia Open Studio Tour (POST). The self-guided tour is sponsored by the [Center for Emerging Visual Artists](#) (CFEVA), which will be exhibiting the works of member artists that day in their space at the Barclay on 18th Street. Bronstein will be selling paintings out of his garage; proceeds will benefit Bartram’s Garden.

Artists in other neighborhoods will open their studios to visitors on Saturday, October 15; Saturday, October 22; and Sunday, October 23. Of particular note are: Walls for Justice, along with other artists’ studios located on the Cherry Street Pier; Da Vinci Art Alliance, 704 Catharine St.; Sally Eisenberg and other artists at 1241 Carpenter Studios; Rona Fisher Jewelry Design and other artists at Crane Arts, 1400 N. American St.; The Clay Studio, 1425 N. American St.; and the Fabric Workshop and Museum, 1214 Arch St.

2022-23  
SEASON



Yuja  
Wang



Lang  
Lang



Leonidas  
Kavakos



Emanuel  
Ax

Yo-Yo  
Ma

**Incredible artists and  
sensational programs await!**

**Opening Night Celebration**  
September 28

**Home Alone**  
November 25-27

**Rachmaninoff 150**  
featuring Yuja Wang  
January 26-February 5

**Beethoven for Three**  
March 18

**Symphonie fantastique**  
May 11-13

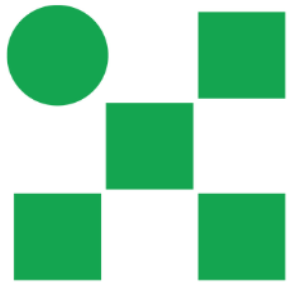
**Subscriptions and individual tickets for  
these performances are on sale now!**

[philorch.org](http://philorch.org) | 215.893.1999

# The Philadelphia Orchestra

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Music Director

Photos: Pete Checchia, Gregor Hohenberg - Deutsche Grammophon, Julia Wesely, Nigel Parry



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## CCRA Fall Calendar – Art Inside and Out

### Rittenhouse Square Fine Art Show

Friday, September 16, 11 am – 6 pm  
Saturday, September 17, 11 am – 6 pm  
Sunday, September 18, 11 am – 5 pm  
<https://www.rittenhousesquareart.com/>

### Peace Day Philly and International Day of Peace

(See sidebar for additional events and info)  
Philadelphia Ethical Society  
1906 Rittenhouse Square  
Wednesday, September 21  
<http://www.peacedayphilly.org/>

### Halloween Nights at Eastern State Penitentiary

2027 Fairmount Avenue  
Select nights September 23 – November 12  
<https://www.easternstate.org/halloween/schedule>

### CCRA Annual Meeting

Time and Location TBA  
Thursday, September 29

### Pennsylvania Guild Fine Craft Fair

Rittenhouse Square  
Friday, October 7, 11 am – 6 pm  
Saturday, October 8, 11 am – 6 pm  
Sunday, October 9, 11 am – 5 pm  
<https://www.pacrafts.org/fine-craft-fairs/fine-craft-fair-fall-rittenhouse-square>

### 2022 Philadelphia Open Studio Tours

Artists' studios in Center City West  
Sunday, October 16  
12 noon – 6 pm  
<https://www.cfeva.org/philaopenstudios>

### Modigliani Up Close

Barnes Foundation  
2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway  
Sunday, October 16 to Sunday, January 29

### Matisse in the 1930s

Philadelphia Museum of Art  
Thursday, October 20 to Sunday, January 29  
<https://philamuseum.org/calendar/exhibition/matisse-1930s>

### Head of the Schuylkill Regatta

Schuylkill River  
Saturday, October 29  
Sunday, October 30  
[https://www.regattacentral.com/regatta/index.jsp?job\\_id=6267](https://www.regattacentral.com/regatta/index.jsp?job_id=6267)

### Philadelphia Museum of Art Contemporary Craft Show

Pennsylvania Convention Center  
1101 Arch Street  
Friday, November 11 to Sunday, November 13  
<https://www.pmacraftshow.org/>

### Philadelphia Marathon

Saturday, November 19 and Sunday, November 20  
<https://www.philadelphiamarathon.com/races/>

For more events in Center City, go to Center City District: <https://centercityphila.org/news?topics=news&search=>

For more events in Philadelphia area, go to Visit Philly: <https://www.visitphilly.com/>

## What's Going On

### Peace Day Philly 2022

Events in Center City  
Except where noted, all programs take place at Philadelphia Ethical Society  
1906 Rittenhouse Square  
Thursday, September 15, to Wednesday, September 21  
<http://www.peacedayphilly.org/>

#### *Hello Sunshine*

Short documentary film shines a light on the people who live in Kensington, followed by talkback with the filmmaker and activist featured in the film. Free.  
Thursday, September 15  
6:30 – 7:30 pm

#### *Mission: Joy*

Documentary film, deeply moving and laugh-out-loud funny. His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu share science-backed wisdom on how to live with joy in troubled times. Followed by facilitated conversation. Free.  
Friday, September 16  
6:30 – 8:30 pm

#### **The Larry McKenna Quartet**

Jazz concert to benefit Philadelphia programs serving refugees. Pay what you wish.  
Sunday, September 18  
4 – 5:30 pm

#### **End Racism. Build Peace**

Peace Day Philly Assembly with special guests and music. Free.  
North Apron, City Hall  
Wednesday, September 21  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

#### **Breaking Barriers: Refugee Food and Dialogue**

Ethnic food and dialogue with Ukrainian, Afghan and other refugees about resilience and overcoming challenges to create a new home in Philadelphia. Free. Ethnic food is welcome.  
Welcoming Center  
211 N 13th Street  
Wednesday, September 21  
6:30 – 8:30 pm



# Center City Residents' Association

1900 Market Street, 8th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
215-546-6719  
centercity@centercityresidents.org  
www.centercityresidents.org

## LOOKING AHEAD

### **CCRA Annual Meeting**

Time and Location TBA

(Watch *CCRA This Week* for updates)

Thursday, September 29

## Town Square

# Election Day Is Tuesday, November 8!

For details about candidates, registration, mail-in ballots, polling places and all relevant deadlines, we recommend this very thorough **VOTING GUIDE** published by *The Philadelphia Citizen*.

### **Monday, October 24, 2022**

Last day to REGISTER before the November election

### **Tuesday, November 1, 2022**

Last day to APPLY for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot

### **Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

Polls are open 7 am to 8 pm

#### **ELECTION DAY**

Last day for County Boards of Election to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8 pm)

For complete election information, go to [Committee of Seventy](#).

**YOU HAVE A CHOICE**  
**YOUR VOTE**  
**IS YOUR VOICE**

