



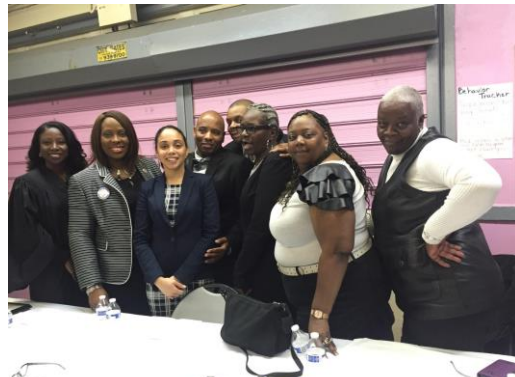
ASSEMBLY MEMBER
LATOYA JOYNER
77TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
 ASSEMBLY.STATE.NY.US/MEM/LATOYA-JOYNER



MARCH 2016 - NEWSLETTER

VOL. 2, ISSUE 3

Assemblywoman Joins Highbridge Gardens’ Residents Association for Official Installation Ceremony



Supporting tenant rights, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner joined the newly formed Residents Association of Highbridge Gardens during its official installation ceremony of new officers – including new president, Norman “Sobie” McGill. The Assemblywoman was accompanied by Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson and the Hon. Marsha D. Michael, Judge in the New York City Civil Court.

Assemblywoman Joyner Helps District 77 Families Find Their Lost Money



Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner and representatives from the State Office of New York State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli hosted a State Unclaimed Fund Event at 1131-1133 Ogden Avenue (near W. 166th Street). The event was widely attended with many members of the community finding their lost money through the State Comptroller’s Office – including the Assemblywoman herself.



CONTACT US:

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LATOYA’S LINE

Statement of Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner Regarding the Reinstatement the New York Legal Education Opportunity Program :

“The interests of all New Yorkers are best served by a legal profession that reflects the full diversity of the Empire State and its people. I know firsthand how much the New York Legal Education Opportunity Program is contributing toward achieving that goal, and I’m proud of the New York State Assembly’s support for NY LEO in partnership with Judge Bing Newton.”

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District Office - Constituent Service Hours

When: Monday - Thursday (10 AM-6 PM), Friday (10 AM-5 PM) **Where:** 910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK (btwn E. 162 & 163 Streets)

Assemblywoman Joyner, Council Member Gibson and Sen. Serrano Hold Black History Month Celebration

BRONX, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D-Bronx, 77th AD) held a celebration of Black History Month with Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson and Sen. Jose Serrano at the Bronx Museum of the Arts. Guest speakers included Assembly Speaker Carl. E. Heastie and Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark.

Honoring individuals that have truly impacted the Bronx and its families, Assemblywoman Joyner, Council Member Gibson and Senator Serrano recognized Gregory Delts, Joann Daughtry, Arlene Hall, Colbert Nembhard, Donald A. Somerville, Diana Washington and Andre Trenier for their contributions to the borough and New York City. Also, Police Officer Wayne Townsend, whom is retiring from the 46th Precinct's Community Affairs, was recognized for his decades of service with the New York Police Department and the U.S. Army.

"The African American community is an essential piece to the fabric of what makes the Bronx great," said Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner. "This Black History Month, we are reflecting on the true impact of key individuals and leaders that have helped to mold lives in our great borough. With so many trailblazers that have fought to improve on the rights of communities of color through the Civil Rights Movement, Bronxites continue to hold that same spirit and legacy as they push forward in the interests of dignity and respect. Fellow Bronxites like Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and District Attorney Darcel Clark continue to fight for us."



Assemblywoman Hosts Panel to Address Student Homelessness



ALBANY, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D-Bronx, 77th AD) led a panel in Albany, which focused on homelessness, housing and education with the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators. The discussion touched on issues affecting students living in homeless shelters or doubled up housing situations from the perspectives of principals, educators, community-based organizations such as Dare2B and the Independent Budget Office of New York City.

“18 percent,” Assemblywoman Joyner said. “That is the percentage of the student body in Community School District 9 in the Bronx that was homeless in the 2013-2014 school year - the highest amongst the New York City Department of Education’s school districts, according to the Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness. Even more staggering, one out of every nine students in NYC public schools have experienced homelessness within the past four school years, according to available data.”



“By more effectively integrating the programs and resources of the New York City Department of Education, the Department of Homeless Services and the Human Resources Administration in a holistic approach and utilizing after school programming focused on the needs and interests of homeless students we can achieve results that will benefit many of our children,” Assemblywoman Joyner said previously.

Panelists included:


- **Ernest Logan** – President, Council of School Supervisors and Administrators.
- **Liza Pappas** – Education Policy and Budget Analyst, Independent Budget Office of New York City
- **Roxana Colorado** – CEO, Founder, Dare2B
- **Beverly Logan** - Principal, P.S. 156 Waverly in Brooklyn Community School District 23
- **Teresa Ranieri** – Teacher at P.S. 11 Highbridge Annex in Bronx Community School District 9

Assemblywoman Requests Budget Funding Increase to Address Student Homelessness

ALBANY, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D-Bronx, 77th AD) and her Assembly colleagues ask Speaker Carl E. Heastie to increase educational funding towards addressing student homelessness in New York.

Last month, the Assemblywoman sent a letter to Speaker’s Office for an \$12 million increase in funding that would be directed to educational resources for this vulnerable population in the Assembly’s 2016-2017 State Budget.

Limiting empty seats, adding additional supports and programming for this population will bolster graduation, test scores and educational success for our community’s children. That is why the Assemblywoman and her colleagues are requesting additional funds be allocated in this year’s state budget in order to address the New York’s student homelessness problem.

 LATOYA JOYNER Assemblywoman 77 th District Bronx County	THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY	CHAIR Subcommittee on Diversity in Law COMMITTEES Housing Social Services Aging Consumer Affairs Insurance Judiciary
February 8, 2016 The Honorable Carl E. Heastie Speaker, New York State Assembly Dear Speaker Carl E. Heastie:		
<p>As you know, homelessness impacts many families and individuals across New York. However, it has a profound and lasting impact on the hundreds of thousands of children across our great state. Nearly 32,000 of the approximately 118,600 students that identified as homeless in 2014-2015 were based outside of New York City, according to data from the New York State Education Department. And one out of every nine students in NYC public schools have experienced homelessness within the past four school years, according to 2013-2014 data from the Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness.</p> <p><u>One way to achieve change for this vulnerable population is improving educational outcomes, which is why we join to ask you increase funding directed to educational resources for this population by \$12 million in the Assembly's 2016-2017 State Budget.</u></p> <p>By more effectively integrating the programs and resources of our state’s education departments – both locally and on the state level – in a more holistic approach and utilizing after school programming focused on the needs and interests of homeless students we can achieve results that will benefit many of our children. Chronic absenteeism, displacement, poor test scores on statewide exams and disruption of school can limit a homeless child’s achievement when it comes to education. In the 77th Assembly District, 18% of the student body in Bronx Community School District 9 was homeless in the 2013-2014 school year – the highest among the New York City Department of Education’s school districts.</p> <p>Limiting empty seats, adding additional supports and programming for this population will bolster graduation, test scores and educational success for our community’s children. That is why we are requesting additional funds be allocated in this year’s state budget in order to address the student homelessness problem.</p> <p>We look forward to working with you to enact a budget that addresses all of the needs of New York’s very diverse educational population.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p><i>Latoya Joyner</i></p> <p>Hon. Latoya Joyner Member of Assembly 77th District, Bronx County</p> <p><small>DISTRICT OFFICE: 910 Grand Concourse, Suite 17C, Bronx, New York 10451 • 718-538-2000 FAX: 718-538-3128 ALBANY OFFICE: Room 427, Legislative Office Building, Albany, New York 12248 • 518-455-5671 FAX: 518-455-5461 Email: joynerlat@assembly.state.ny.us</small></p>		



Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner & Pan-African CDI presents FREE Tax Preparation Service

WHERE: Assemblywoman
Latoya Joyner's Community Office
910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK
Bronx, NY, 10452

WHEN: Saturday March 19th from
12:00PM – 4:00 PM



PAN-AFRICAN CDI
Pan-African Community Development Initiative



VITA Volunteer Income
Tax Assistance

Please Bring:

- **Identification:** Social Security Card/ ITIN PICTURE ID
- **Income Forms:** W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, Interest / Dividend Forms F-1099, Self-employment
- **Refund:** Bank Routing and Account Numbers, Spouse for Joint Return
- **Expenses:** Total Paid for Daycare Provider Provider's Tax Identification

FREE Expert Tax Preparation - Call For An Appointment

Free service for those with income below \$34,000 (with children) or \$18,000 or less (no children).

For more information or questions, please call Assemblywoman
Latoya Joyner's Community Office at 718-538-2000

Assemblywoman Joyner Offers Free Tax Prep Services in Community Office

BRONX, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner would like to help all District 77 families during this tax season. In conjunction with Pan-African Community Development Initiative, Assemblywoman Joyner will offer free tax preparation services in her Community Office on Saturday, March 19 from 12:00PM – 4:00 PM.

Our office is located at 910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK (between E. 162 and E. 163 streets)

To set up an appointment or for more information, please call our Community Office at 718-538-2000.

Assemblywoman Joyner Stands with Bronx Tenants

BRONX, N.Y. — **Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D-Bronx, 77th AD)** stood with tenants of 888 Grand Concourse as they demanded better from building's owner, Tiny Fiesta LLC.

For the last decade, tenants at 888 Grand Concourse in the Bronx have waged and won court battles, and organized tirelessly against hazardous and inhumane conditions caused by neglect by the building's owner, Tiny Fiesta LLC. Even as Tiny Fiesta's mortgage lender began foreclosure proceedings, the tenants continued to pay rent to a landlord who refused to make necessary repairs, or even provide heat and hot water on a consistent basis.

The tenants are supported by Community Action for Safe Apartments (CASA) and Legal Services NYC's Bronx program

"I am saddened and upset that Bronx families at 888 Grand Concourse—an Art Deco building and part of the historical Grand Concourse—have been exposed to such harassment and negligence from landlord Jonathan Bombart. Having been a tenant my whole life, I will do everything in my power to rid our borough of these kinds of tenant harassment techniques and preserve affordable housing for all Bronx families. Bronxites have a right to feel safe and secure in their home without fear of being priced out of the community they know and love. Yet, tenants of 888 Grand Concourse are being treated unfairly and I will not stand for it."

--Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D-Bronx, 77th AD)

Assemblywoman Joyner Supports Students Women's History Month Art Contest

BRONX, N.Y. — Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D-Bronx, 77th AD) is asking all district families to join her as we celebrate **Women's History Month**. In recognizing women of distinction, the Assemblywoman is asking all students to draw, paint or write about whom they most admire.

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner is sponsoring a Women's History Month art contest (drawings, paintings and poetry), with awards and certificates going to students from schools in the Claremont, Concourse, Highbridge, Mount Eden and Morris Heights sections of The Bronx. Strong women influence government, science, medicine, education, literature, entertainment, business, the arts, and all facets of American life.

Art Contest: Whom do you most admire? Draw, paint, or write about her contributions to our country.

All winners will be honored at:

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner's Women's History Month Wellness Celebration, which will include free meditation, yoga, Zumba and massage therapy. For more information, please call the Assemblywoman's Community Office at 718-538-2000.

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner *March is Women's History Month*



Recognizing Women of Distinction

*Let's celebrate
Women's History Month by
recognizing the extraordinary women
in our lives!*

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner is sponsoring a Women's History Month art contest (drawings, paintings and poetry), with awards and certificates going to students from schools in the Claremont, Concourse, Highbridge, Mount Eden and Morris Heights sections of The Bronx.

Strong women influence government, science, medicine, education, literature, entertainment, business, the arts, and all facets of American life.

*Art Contest: Whom do you most admire?
Draw, paint, or write about her contributions to our country.*

All winners will be honored at:

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner's Women's History Month Wellness Celebration
P.S. 73 • 1020 Anderson Avenue • Bronx, NY 10452 • Saturday, March 26 at 11:00 a.m.



Send your submissions by 3/18/16 to:

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner

910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK • Bronx, NY 10451
718-538-2000 • Fax: 718-538-3128
joynerl@assembly.state.ny.us

For more information about this or any other community issue, contact Assemblywoman Joyner.



Public school children need our support and our funds

By Latoya Joyner

February 11, 2016

(Published by *The New York Amsterdam News*)

Unfortunately, when it comes to childhood poverty, the Bronx and Rochester, N.Y., have a lot in common.

In the Bronx, 50 percent of children live below the poverty line; in Rochester, it's a staggering 55 percent. This statistic is shameful and one that urgently needs to be addressed.

The record level of poverty, homelessness and hunger has not only persisted but also grown. It's time for a real solution. For our children, education is key to addressing poverty. A quality education can transform a child's life because education truly is the great equalizer.

But we propose more. We believe our commitment to our children must start before birth. It should begin with nurses and family outreach specialists making home visits to expectant mothers. Support must then extend to families who need access to quality, affordable child care so parents can work

knowing that their children are being well-cared for.

Pre-kindergarten is also vitally important. Pre-K is the first step in a child's education and can give them the tools to succeed early. Children who attend pre-K are more likely to graduate from high school, raise a family and buy a home. They are also less likely to use drugs or land in prison.

These early childhood programs are hugely successful. We are fortunate that both New York City and Rochester now have pre-K for every 4-year-old, but New York made a promise to provide full-day pre-K to every child in the state, and we have yet to fulfill that promise. We must expand pre-K to all 3-year-olds as well as 4-year-olds to give our kids a head start on their education.

For children living in poverty, these early childhood and education programs are especially important. Too often, these children come to school hungry, try to learn with a lack of sleep and quite often face additional societal burdens such as violence. The trauma these children absorb as a result is a significant barrier to learning. For them, school is a haven. There, they are served nutritional meals, both breakfast and lunch. They are also supplied with warmth and much-needed encouragement. School provides stability from the turmoil poverty spawns.

A quality education through college, overflowing with options in academics, the arts, athletics and extracurricular activities, is also essential. All these opportunities open up the world of exploration to a child, allowing their minds to develop and grow.

We can make the schools even better by creating an environment that not only serves the children of the Bronx

and Rochester but also serves our entire state. We need to invest in our schools by providing children and their families with everything from academic support to health and social services. We can and must create a vibrant hub where children and families receive invaluable support and are given the education and resources to succeed.

Our children are our future. We need to invest in our children and schools to ensure that every child can graduate from high school with a fighting chance of pursuing their dreams. It starts with the state fulfilling the terms of the Campaign for Fiscal Equity settlement by fully funding schools. The funding is available. The state currently has a reoccurring surplus of \$2.7 billion. Moreover, to help pave the path for our children's educational success, the 1 percent could pay just 1 percent more. This incremental increase would add another \$2.4 billion to the state's funds that could be used for our children.

Also, we must close the carried interest loophole—a benefit for wealthy hedge fund managers that precludes them from paying taxes on income. Closing this loophole and having wealthy members of the community pay their fair share could bring in up to \$6 billion in additional revenue for the state.

The wealthiest New Yorkers can make the difference to countless children across the state. Their small contribution to our state tax dollars could make the hopes and dreams of children in poverty come true. Surely, this plan is one on which all New Yorkers, both upstate and downstate, from the Bronx to Rochester, can agree.

Assemblywoman Joyner published the following op-ed in conjunction with Assemblyman Harry Bronson.

- **ASSEMBLYWOMAN OFFERS FREE TENANT SUPPORT SERVICES**

Assemblywoman **Latoya Joyner** is proud to announce a partnership with **New York City's Tenant Support Unit**. Tenant Support Specialists are available **every Thursday from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM**, and can help provide support to tenants that may be experiencing housing related issues such as:

- Harassment
- Overcharges
- Purposeful denial of essential services
- Possible eviction

For more information, please call Assemblywoman Joyner's Office at 718-538-2000.

- **ASSEMBLYWOMAN OFFERS FREE HOUSING LEGAL SERVICES**

In partnership with the Neighborhood Association for Inter-Cultural Affairs, legal professionals will be on hand to assist your housing concerns **every second and fourth Thursday, from 3:00 PM-6:00 PM (Starting March 16)**.

- **ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER PLANS JOB READINESS WORKSHOP**

Assemblywoman Joyner offers free Workforce Development Workshops. In collaboration with the SUNY Bronx Educational Opportunity Center, free workshops that will offer tips and training for resume preparation, job searching strategies and interview techniques on a monthly basis within my Community Office, which is located at **910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK Bronx, NY 10451**. The next Workforce Development Workshop will take place on **Wednesday, March 16 at 12:00 PM**.

You can register by calling Assemblywoman Joyner's Community Office at 718-538-2000.

- **ASSEMBLYWOMAN LATOYA JOYNER'S SECOND ANNUAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH WELLNESS CELEBRATION**

Assemblywoman Joyner invites the community to her free wellness celebration on **Saturday, March 26 from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM**. In partnership with P.S. 073 (1020 Anderson Avenue, Bronx NY 10452), there will be **free meditation (11am-12pm)**, **yoga (12pm-1pm)**, **Zumba (1pm-3pm)** and **massage therapy (1pm-3pm)**. Also, awards, snack and refreshments will be available.

For more information, please contact the Assemblywoman's Community Office at 718-538-2000.

- **ASSEMBLYWOMAN LATOYA JOYNER OFFERS FREE TAX PERPARATION SERVICES**

Assemblywoman Joyner & Pan-African CDI present free tax preparation services. On **Saturday, March 19**, the Assemblywoman will have tax preparers available from Pan-African CDI to help district 77 families prepare their taxes from **12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**.

To make an appointment, please contact the Assemblywoman's Community Office at 718-538-2000.