



**EAST
SIDE
HOUSE**
SETTLEMENT

Education, Innovation & Results



**School of Tourism and Hospitality
Graduates its First Students**

Students at the year-round school receive training and internships throughout the city to prepare them for their new careers. *continued on page 5*

Annual Newsletter 2016

Past and Future Words from Our Leaders

Staff members asked John Sanchez to reflect on his experiences at East Side House Settlement and Daniel Diaz to describe his plans as the new Executive Director, beginning January 2017.



Q: John, you were born and raised in the Bronx. What has changed since you grew up here?

John: As much as it has changed, the Bronx fundamentally has stayed the same, in that it always has been a place for working-class families. When I was a kid it was primarily white—Italian, Jewish, German, Irish—with some African-American and Puerto Rican families, like mine. In the 1960s there was an influx of more Latino and African American families, and today we are seeing a lot of West African, Mexican, and Dominican immigrants relocate here. Even though the faces have changed, people still come to the Bronx to work, raise their families, and to build a better life for themselves.

Q: At what point did you realize that you wanted to study social work and have a career in community development?

John: It was 1969 when I just graduated from college. Like many of the youths we serve, I did not have a lot of direction. However, for me, education led the way. At the time, Spence-Chapin, a city-based not-for-profit adoption agency, was offering free tuition to Fordham University graduate programs in exchange for work. I applied, I was hired, and that is how I ended up in social work. — CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



**Message from
Executive Director**

I have seen East Side House grow tremendously—expanding to twenty-nine sites throughout the Bronx and northern Manhattan.

page 2



A Shining Star

Christina found that staff members at East Side House were interested in getting to know her and wanted to see her succeed.

page 3



**63rd Annual Winter
Antiques Show**

Opening Night Party will be on Thursday, January 19, and Young Collectors Night will be on Thursday, January 26.

Courtesy of Apter-Fredericks

page 3



**A Learning Opportunity
Builds Community**

Human Resources Administration renewed our three-year Jobs-Plus contract for a \$3 million employment program in the Mill Brook Houses in the Bronx.

page 5



**Adding Meaning to
Their Miles**

We joined forces with New York Road Runners as an Official Charity Partner of the TCS 2016 New York City Marathon.

page 5



**Gala Preview of the
New York International
Auto Show**

It's almost that time again: mark your calendar and and be the first to see some of the world's most prized vehicles.

page 6



Bronx Haven High School

Board of Managers

Chairman	Philip L. Yang, Jr.
President	Thomas H. Remien
Vice Presidents	Courtney Booth Christensen Dolores O'Brien Miller
Treasurer	Richard E. Kolman
Secretary	Stephanie B. Clark

Lorri J. Ahl	Stephen J. Ketchum
Lucinda Ballard	George G. King
Aida Basse	Arie L. Kopelman
Debra Del Vecchio	Michael R. Lynch
Marvena Edmond	Robert L. Meyer
William S. Elder	Hon. Eugene Oliver, Jr.
Fay Gambia	Mrs. Emily Israel Pluhar
Mrs. Thomas Shircliff Glover	Robert Pondiscio
Thaddeus Gray	Andrew P. Siff
Wendy Holmes	Elizabeth Donnem Sigety
Barclay G. Jones, III	Mrs. Charles F. Smithers
Mrs. Leslie Keno	Mrs. Ruth H. Smithers
	Richard Ziegelasch

Honorary Members

- Robert F.R. Ballard*
- Mario Buatta
- Mrs. Roland W. Donnem
- Ms. Christine Janis

Executive Director

John A. Sanchez

Associate Executive Director

Daniel Diaz

*Past President



Dear Friends:

As many of you know, last spring I announced my retirement after twenty-eight years at East Side House Settlement. During my tenure, I have seen East Side House grow tremendously—expanding to twenty-nine sites throughout the Bronx and northern Manhattan and tripling the number of young adults we help graduate from high school. Every year our programs become stronger and our impact greater. I leave at a time when I feel confident about the future of East Side House, and I am certain it will continue to expand and diversify to meet the needs of the communities we serve.

In January, Daniel Diaz, our Associate Executive Director, who has been with us since 2004, will take on the role of Executive Director. He is credited for expanding our growth beyond our Mott Haven base in the South Bronx and was instrumental in creating our recent five-year strategic plan. He has a strong vision for the future, including incorporating STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) activities into our youth programming; expanding our workforce development portfolio, which helps prepare participants for employment and careers; and providing English language speaking skills for non-English speaking children and their parents, a growing demographic in our communities.

I invite you to join me in congratulating Daniel.

I would also like to thank all of you—some for decades—who have passionately supported East Side House. I know that together we have made a difference in the lives of many. Your ongoing dedication will continue to propel our success in delivering real results for residents in some of the most underserved neighborhoods in our country.

Sincerely,

John A. Sanchez
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



EAST SIDE HOUSE SETTLEMENT is a community-based nonprofit organization providing education and social services throughout the Bronx and northern Manhattan. We believe that education is the key that enables all people to create economic and civic opportunities for themselves, their families, and their community. We enrich, supplement and enhance the New York City Education system and place post-secondary options within reach of students. We provide workforce development and career readiness training infused with technology to enable community participants to improve their economic status and lead more fulfilling lives.



A Shining Star: Meet Christina Saldana

A Graduate of Our Young Adult Education Services Program

FOR CHRISTINA SALDANA, GROWING UP IN THE BRONX

was no walk in the park. As one of nine children in a single-parent home, she found her first job at age fourteen to help support her family. In reflecting on her childhood, she recalls having few role models and no real goals for her future.

In high school, Christina found herself pregnant. Determined to make something of herself, she continued to attend class, but her peers and teachers made her feel completely alienated.

“People made me believe I’d just be another pregnant teen and a failure,” she recalled.

Once her daughter was born, Christina continued to battle personal issues, including an increasingly volatile relationship with the father of her child and more economic hardship. She dropped out of high school and soon after was pregnant with her second daughter. Christina decided she needed to make a change. “I had to show my girls something different. I had to be a better

“I had to show my girls something different. I had to be a better example.”

example,” she remembers thinking. She left her boyfriend and set her eyes on her education by searching for a high school equivalency (formerly GED) program. However, program after program proved to fall short. Large classes, distant teachers, and disruptive environments left Christina disillusioned. Until she stumbled on an East Side House flyer and decided to give herself one more chance.

It didn’t take long for her to figure out that East Side House was a major step in the right direction and could help her get her life on track. Unlike her past experiences, Christina found that staff members at East Side House were interested in getting to know her and wanted to see her succeed. They placed her in an internship that enabled her to attend class and work while also taking care of her girls. She also received help from the East Side House’s Social Services offices to help navigate issues her eldest daughter was having at school.

“For the first time in a long time, I felt like I mattered,” said Christina of the warm reception she received from East Side House.

Things were looking up, but the topmost point of her journey was yet to come. After studying for months, Christina took her examination—and passed. What’s more, she will be the first person in her family to attend college! When you visit East Side House, you will be greeted by Christina who is working as a full-time receptionist until she starts school in the spring — join us in congratulating Christina on her perseverance and accomplishments.

63rd Annual Winter Antiques Show

IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN: WINTER IS COMING!

The Winter Antiques Show will celebrate its 63rd year as America’s leading art, antiques and design fair from January 20-29, 2017 at the Park Avenue Armory (Park Avenue and 67th Street).

Visitors to the Show will be dazzled by exceptional objects offered by 70 renowned experts in fine and decorative arts from around the world. From Roman antiquities to works of contemporary art, every object available for purchase at the Winter Antiques Show is vetted for authenticity, date and condition.

The Opening Night Party will be on Thursday, January 19 from 5-9 PM, and the popular Young Collectors Night will be on Thursday, January 26 from 7-9 PM. General admission to the Show is \$25, and includes a catalogue.

Tickets to the Opening Night Party and Young Collectors Night are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law, and all ticket sales benefit East Side House. To order your tickets, visit winterantiquesshow.com or call (718) 292-7392.



Q: What enticed you to stay at East Side House for twenty-eight years and what are your greatest accomplishments?

John: Community work is my passion. It has enabled me to make a slice of the world a better place. At East Side House every day is filled with new challenges so the job has always been stimulating. The accomplishment of which I am most proud is our partnership with New York City Department of Education. Not only were we able to turn some schools around, but we have been able to help thousands of young people apply and be accepted into college. I have seen firsthand what a game changer this is in the lives of young people.

Q: There are many not-for-profits that serve New York City. What is so special about East Side House?

John: Our impact. We deliver results. Over the years, we have become much more data-driven and therefore are able to measure our outcomes. Now we really can see what works and what does not. As a result we are able to make ongoing improvements as well as share our best practices.

Q: What advice do you have for your successor, Daniel Diaz?

John: The only thing in life that is constant is change. Be aware and be open to it!

Past and Future: Words from Our Leaders

— CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 —



Q: Daniel, you began at East Side House twelve years ago as a Program Director and worked your way up to Associate Executive Director. Can you tell us a little about your background leading up to today?

Daniel: Like John, I also grew up in the Bronx. I got my start in social services doing homeless outreach in the Bronx. At the time I knew Josue Rodriguez, East Side House's former Associate Executive Director, who connected me with the organization. What still impresses me most is the focus on education. Certainly education has had a positive impact on my own life: while working here, I earned my Master's in Administrative Social Work.

Q: What are you most excited about in taking on the new role of Executive Director?

Daniel: I have worked at East Side House for more than a decade and I am committed to its mission of providing educational opportunity as the pathway out of poverty. John Sanchez has done a remarkable job in growing and enhancing the organization, and I look forward to building on that work. East Side House has the potential to serve more families, and I am committed to continuing our momentum.

Q: What is your vision for East Side House as you look down the road?

Daniel: To plan and set the course for the future, the Board, John, the staff and I created a 5 year strategic plan. The plan is designed to meet the changing needs of the communities we now serve in the Bronx and northern Manhattan. Since 1963 when East Side House relocated from Yorkville to the South Bronx, our demographics have been changing. And so we took a good hard look at how our services can be expanded and enhanced to better prepare our current youth and families for their futures.

The five key areas of the plan include the expansion of our workforce development portfolio, which provides job training and placement services; the integration of English language services as well as STEM education (science, technology, engineering, and math) into our youth programs; the expansion of school partnerships to include charter schools; and the extension of existing educational programs to others schools.



Renewed Hope for Public Housing Residents

THE BRONX HAS THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE CITY with rates of public housing residents as high as 16 percent. Combined with some of the lowest graduation rates in the city, community members struggle to find living-wage jobs to support their families.

Therefore, East Side House is pleased to announce that this past spring, the Human Resources Administration renewed our three-year Jobs-Plus contract for a \$3 million employment program in the Mill Brook Houses in the Bronx. This program uses a dynamic combination of community organizing, financial empowerment, and educational and training activities to prepare and place residents in jobs.

During the past three years, more than nineteen hundred people participated in the program. Some received their high school equivalency diplomas and more than six-hundred found employment. Some two-hundred families also were assisted in filing their taxes, which brought about \$280,000 back to the community.

One young man confided, “The Jobs-Plus staff was there for me. They believed in me even when I stopped believing in myself. They’ve given me the hope that nobody can ever take away. They have left a mark here, leaving things better than they found them.”



Adding Meaning to Their Miles: East Side House Settlement’s First Team In the New York City Marathon

TO HONOR 125 YEARS OF SERVICE IN NEW YORK’S MOST UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

we joined forces with New York Road Runners as an Official Charity Partner of the TCS 2016 New York City Marathon. A team of six passionate runners pledged to train, fundraise, and run on behalf of East Side House.

“I’m of Dominican and Haitian descent, and I love that East Side House has given me an opportunity to give back to other youths,” shared one of the runners.

As the runners passed the Bronx section in the 26.2 mile race across all five boroughs, they were just a few blocks away from East Side House’s headquarters and were greeted by a cheering section that led them to the finish line!

We’d like to extend a warm thank you to our runners and their supporters, who contributed to the next generation of East Side House beneficiaries. For those interested in joining Team East Side House as a runner or a supporter, please visit EastSideHouse.org/NYCMarathon.



School of Tourism and Hospitality Graduates Its First Class



LAST JUNE, FIFTY-THREE SENIORS FROM THE SCHOOL OF Tourism and Hospitality graced the stage of Lehman College’s Lovinger Theatre to receive their diplomas.

Housed on the Jane Addams Campus in Morrisania, New York, the school is one of eleven secondary programs supported by East Side House. The tourism and hospitality industry is one of New York City’s most important economic sectors with more than 58 million tourists visiting in 2015 alone. Students at the year-round school receive training and internships throughout the city to prepare them for their new careers.

East Side House’s Risa Whipple, Department Director of Renewal Schools, has worked with the school since its inception in 2013. She commented, “Seeing that first class graduate was incredibly moving. Many of them had to work through several difficult obstacles to get to the stage that night. It was exciting to see them all graduating and moving on to a better and brighter future.

Save the Date: April 13, 2017

The 18th Annual Gala Preview of the New York International Auto Show



East Side House Hosts the 18th Annual
Gala Preview of the New York International Auto Show
at the Jacob K. Javits Center.

For tickets and information contact galapreview.org or call (718) 292-7392

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
New York, NY
Permit No. 7131

337 Alexander Avenue
Bronx, New York 10454
Tel (718) 665-5250
WWW.EASTSIDEHOUSE.ORG

Education, Innovation & Results

**EAST
SIDE
HOUSE
SETTLEMENT**

