



NEWS FROM

Speaker of the Assembly **Carl E. Heastie**



Dear Neighbor,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your unwavering support. This year has presented both challenges and triumphs, culminating in a memorable session in Albany. However, the summer season has arrived, bringing me back home to the best place on earth, and I wanted to share the numerous victories with you.

My recent newsletter highlighted several legislative accomplishments, but this edition is dedicated exclusively to you. Having the ability to share these notable community wins brings my team and I great joy. As your representative in Albany, advocating for our community and the specific needs of my constituents is a top priority.

I extend my best wishes for a joyous summer filled with cherished moments with your loved ones, friends and neighbors. I encourage you to actively participate in our thriving community by attending the many events throughout the season. From BBQs to family day events, no weekend will be short of exciting happenings.

As you know, your input is crucial in guiding our efforts to create a thriving and inclusive community. We are stronger when we work together! If there is any way that I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office is here to serve you.

With Love and Hope,

Carl E. Heastie
Speaker of the Assembly

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Local Funds Secured in State Budget

- **St. Nicholas Chess for Kids, Inc - \$10,000** – Funds will provide materials and supplies to run an after-school chess program for local youth.
- **East 233rd Street Senior Center - \$10,000** – Financial assistance will provide materials for senior programs and activities.
- **Wiz Kids Books B4 Basketball - \$30,000** – Funds will be used to purchase new materials and supplies for activities.
- **Girl Vow Inc. - \$50,000** – funds will be used for programming and other activities.
- **Fresh Air Fund - \$1.6 million** – This program, also known as Camp Junior, is an innovative project that allows Bronx youth to experience summer camp in upstate New York. The funding will provide disadvantaged youth with the opportunity to leave the city and spend two weeks learning about nature and the great outdoors.



Groups Funded Through Special Projects Program

- **Jewish Association for services for the aged for the Bay Eden Senior Center - \$30,000** – to support programming for Bay Eden Senior Center.
- **Williamsbridge NAACP E.C.E.C. Inc. - \$50,000** – support for the center's early childhood program.
- **Wake Eden Community Baptist Church - \$125,000** – summer STEM program.
- **Gun Hill Basketball Association, Inc. - \$25,000** – basketball programming.
- **New York Zoological Society - \$85,000** – to assist in conservation efforts.
- **Nest Music Conservatory, Inc. - \$50,000** – to help provide music education to youth in the Bronx through out-of-school programs, live events, and academic empowerment.
- **American Debate League - \$155,000** – to support programming and prepping children for debate competitions.

Speaker Heastie Makes Community Cleanliness a Priority

Community wellness continues to be a top priority for residents of the Northeast Bronx, this includes the cleanliness of its streets. During the summer months, we see an increase in the amount of garbage along many of our business corridors as well as dumping in the area.

Maintaining a clean and beautiful community is not just a goal but a shared responsibility. To assist in these efforts, Assemblyman Heastie has continued to work alongside the New York City Department of Sanitation to identify areas that require hidden cameras to assist in deterring illegal dumping.

Assemblyman Heastie has also provided funding of **\$342,000** to The Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless (ACE) to provide supplemental cleaning of our busiest streets (specifically the Boston Road, Gun Hill Road, and White Plains Road business corridors). These investments assist our community in keeping our streets clean while enhancing the quality of life for all residents.



Speaker Heastie Secures Funds for Argus Cameras in the District

Community safety continues to be a top priority for residents of the Northeast Bronx.

Last year, Speaker Heastie made investments in Argus Cameras, also known as 'eyes in sky' or surveillance cameras, an initiative that will enhance community safety. This year, Speaker Heastie has allocated **\$332,000** for the 47th NYPD Precinct, reflecting a commitment to building a safer Northeast Bronx Community.

Investment in Food Programs Provide Increased Stability for Families

This year's state budget allocated substantial funds to food assistance programs, crucial for families across the state. Children are especially vulnerable to food insecurity, making the implementation of Universal Free School Meals an important and necessary win.

Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, the Universal Free School Meals program will assist families in meeting their children's nutritional needs and ensure they attend school with confidence.

Here in the 83rd Assembly District, Assemblyman Heastie also provided:

- **St. Luke's Community Food Program - \$30,000** – Funds will go toward community pantry.
- **ICNA Relief USA - \$15,000** – Funds will assist in alleviating human suffering by providing caring and compassionate service and food services to victims of adversities and survivors of disasters.
- **New York Common Pantry, Inc. - \$179,000** – For food services in the NYC community.



#TeamHeastie distributing food at a Community Event

#FreeSummerMeals for all 18 and Under a Reality in NYC

Schools have become a lifeline for many children to be fed, but during the summer when school doors close, a crucial lifeline is lost. Speaker Heastie alongside Senator Jamaal Bailey, Councilman Riley, NYC Schools, and No Kid Hungry have worked together to assist families. Now through August 29th Summer Meals (Breakfast and Lunch) will be available to all youth 18 and under at select NYC Public schools, local parks, community pools, and libraries. To learn more visit: <https://www.opt-osfns.org/schoolfoodny/meals/default.aspx>



Rachel Sabella, No Kid Hungry, Senator Jamaal Bailey, Speaker, Jamaal Yapp, Office of Councilman Kevin Riley, Ariana Collado, NYC Public Schools Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos

Speaker Heastie Allocated Funding for Mind Builders Creative Arts Center

Speaker Heastie helped **secure over \$1,685,000 in this year's state budget for the Mind-Builders Creative Arts Center.** The center provides children with enrichment and instruction in music, dance, theater, and other arts programs. These funds will be utilized to expand the centers operations and ensure that the community has access to the arts.

Education in the arts offers numerous benefits, including giving those involved an avenue to channel creativity and expression, increase critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and fostering emotional intelligence in both children and adults. This program offers an opportunity for young adults to have hands-on experience with shared cultural arts and activities. The programs are conducted year-round, a win for the Bronx.

#TeamHeastie Hosts their Annual Community BBQ in Haffen Park

This year's community barbecue was a resounding success, **bringing over 400 families** to Haffen Park for the annual celebration. The event featured a variety of vendors, numerous resources for information retrieval, constituent services, food, festivities and even the presence of many government partners.

The tradition continues, and #TeamHeastie expresses their sincerest gratitude to everyone who attended. See you all next year. Different time, same place.



Speaker Heastie during the annual #TeamHeastie community BBQ with NAACP Williamsbridge Branch



Assemblyman Heastie Allocates \$50,000 in Funds to Local Libraries

Assemblyman Carl Heastie has dedicated funding to local New York Public Library Edenwald, Allerton, Baychester and Wakefield Branches to support their continued operations. Libraries are vital in communities everywhere as they provide free resources and internet access to all. **"Libraries are community hubs that bring people together, help in continued learning, and create a gateway to a sea of information. They assist in bridging the ever-growing digital divide by providing free internet access to everyone who needs it,"** said Assemblyman Heastie. Members of the community, especially our youth, rely on libraries.

Speaker Heastie Awards Local Schools Funding for Afterschool Programming

Speaker Heastie has allocated over **\$500,000** in state funding for afterschool programming across the district. As the cost of childcare increases, access to affordable afterschool programs have become limited. Directed funding to these schools will provide essential support to families who may not have childcare options once the school bells rings.

- Baychester Academy P.S169
- Pelham Gardens Middle School
- Leaders of Tomorrow M.S.113
- P.S.121 (Education through Music)
- P.S.68
- P.S.87

“Afterschool programs give academic support to our children in the form of tutoring and homework help, skill development and socialization,” said Speaker Heastie. “Families should not have to worry about the safety of their children once the school day ends. We must continue to work towards giving families options and access to the necessary programs for their child’s success.”

Assemblyman Heastie Invests in our Communities Children through Debate Programming

Debate programs provide structured environments for children of all ages which assist in improving academic and communication skills while also preparing them for future leadership roles. As such, **Speaker Heastie has provided over \$150,000 to program operators Debate4All and American Debate League** to provide these quintessential skills to community children.



Assemblyman Heastie attended the annual District 11 schools Soap Box Derby

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Speaker
Carl E. Heastie

“Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer in the Bronx. Enjoy the warm weather, make lasting memories with family and friends, and stay safe!”

– Speaker Carl E. Heastie

