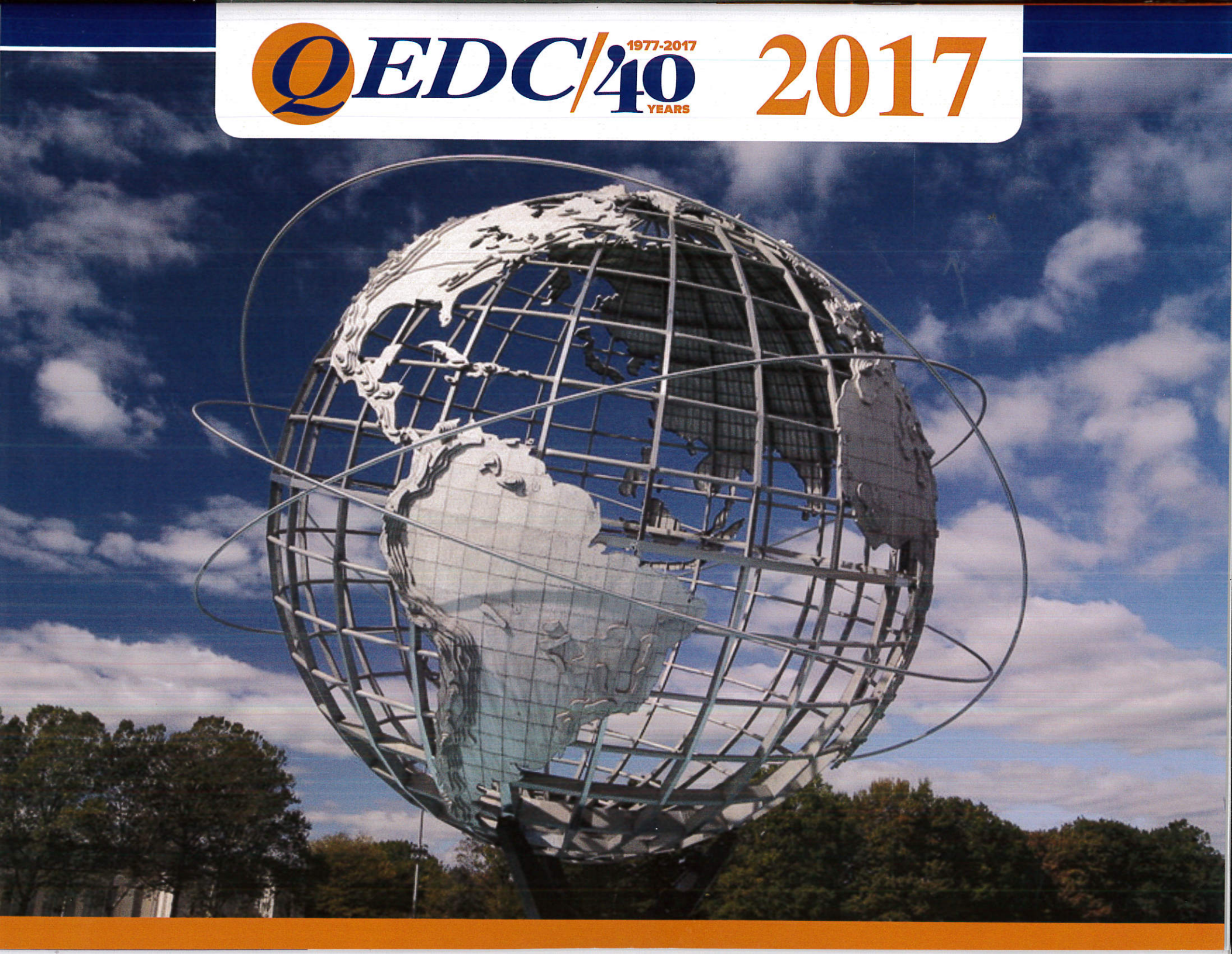
QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS 2017



Queens Center - Lunar New Year

QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

JANUARY 2017

QEDC's mission is to create, attract and retain jobs in Queens through programming that grows neighborhoods, assists small businesses and promotes recreational and cultural attractions.

In 1977, New York City was a very different place than it is now. The population was shrinking, and disinvestment was obvious in our neighborhoods and infrastructure. But, some Queens business leaders, government officials, and nonprofit executives were determined that the borough could change course and become a place where people wanted to live, do business, and enjoy their free time. They founded the Queens County Overall Economic Development Corporation with the mission to create, attract, and retain jobs through programming that grows neighborhoods, assists small businesses, and promotes recreational and cultural attractions. We dropped the "O," but QEDC has remained true to its mission, and over the last 40 years, we have been instrumental in revitalizing dozens of local shopping streets, assisting more than 10,000 people to start or grow their small businesses, and helping make Queens a world-class tourism destination. We're proud of our accomplishments and look forward to providing services in upcoming years.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18 *WBC Power Breakfast Borough Hall 8:30 am*	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 *M/WBE Orientation Seminar Entrepreneur Space 10 am*	27	28
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NOTES

DECEMBER

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FEBRUARY

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FLUSHING
TOWN
HALL

QEDC 1977-2017 40 YEARS

FEBRUARY 2017

Most businesses in Queens have fewer than 10 employees. QEDC has developed a range of programs that includes consulting, technical assistance and a space for new and growing entrepreneurs. We work with many community groups and have served businesses from Astoria to St. Albans; Bayside to Breezy Point and all neighborhoods in between!

There are almost 50,000 businesses in Queens, and most have fewer than 10 employees. Our programs help people launch and grow their companies. They includeeducating,counseling,andtraining entrepreneurs. This takes on many forms, such as assisting clients in getting business certificates, providing them in-depth business planning, and helping them to obtain licenses. As expected in the world's most diverse county, we work with people from all over the globe who make Queens their home. We take great delight in seeing our clients succeed – from businesses like Fabulous Freddie's, a beauty supply shop in East Elmhurst, to Thai Rock, a restaurant and performance venue in Rockaway, to Mendez Printing in Jackson Heights. These are just some of the businesses that have benefitted from QEDC's services and are now contributing to the local economy.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day	21	22	23 *WBC Power Breakfast Borough Hall 8:30 am* *M/WBE Orientation Seminar Entrepreneur Space 10 am*	24	25
26	27	28				

NOTES

JANUARY

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MARCH

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Entrepreneur Space – Birthday Party

QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

MARCH 2017

The tastiest incubator in New York City is QEDC's Entrepreneur Space!

No matter the fluctuations in the economy, we all need to eat! This biological fact, combined with consumer trends toward sophisticated tastes and desires to try foods from different cultures, has helped make our Entrepreneur Space commercial kitchen incubator a success. Opened in 2010, the E-Space has served more than 500 clients. Each one starts small – with an idea and a recipe. Using our kitchen and working with staffers who provide technical assistance and business counseling, the client converts that idea and recipe into a business that creates revenue, jobs, and mostly importantly, tasty products. E-Spacers sell their products – which range from candies to baked goods to sauces and snacks – in local markets, regional stores, and on-line. Some go on to open their own production facilities. For example, Corey and Sara Meyer's Little Bird Kitchen ships their delicious products around the country. Stephanie Golden was making a few batches of her Biggies Crack Toffee treats on a monthly basis until she was discovered by Oprah Winfrey. Now she's in the kitchen regularly. The E-Space has been recognized by, and receives support from, the United States Department of Agriculture and the New York State Regional Economic Development Council.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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5	6 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 *M/WBE Orientation Seminar Entrepreneur Space 10 am*	31 *Entrepreneur Space Birthday Party! 6 pm*	

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FEBRUARY

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QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

APRIL 2017

Women in leadership positions is the norm, not the exception, in our borough

Queens women certainly make history! Consider Flushing resident Gertrude Ederle, who was the first female to swim the English Channel; Ethel Merman, whose accent let you know she was from Astoria each time she opened her mouth on stage and screen; and Borough Presidents Claire Shulman, Helen Marshall, and Melinda Katz. Having women in leadership positions is the norm, not the exception, in our borough. Local women go into every industry, from food manufacturing to consulting to auto repair. Bonne Fête Baking, owned by Filipino immigrant Pilar de Guzman, has been growing steadily since she made her first batch of cookies at the Entrepreneur Space in 2010. Elizabeth Schwartz, a winner of our annual StartUP! Business Plan Competition, helps scores of clients improve their communication skills via Better Speech Now. Audra Fordin is the fourth-generation owner of Great Bear Auto Repair. These are some of the many females who have received guidance from our Women's Business Center. Recently the SBA honored our WBC as the region's best Women's Business Center.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Passover	12	13	14 Good Friday	15
16 Easter Sunday	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27 *M/WBE Orientation Seminar Entrepreneur Space 10 am*	28	29

NOTES

MARCH

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MAY

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QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

MAY 2017

At Queens Taste you can sample foods from all around the world in a few hours without a passport and at far less cost – while supporting QEDC and helping small businesses grow

We always remind folks to watch their diets in late April so they can splurge on the first Tuesday in May at Queens Taste, our annual gala. What began as a small gathering of 10 restaurants highlighting their cuisines to QEDC's board and friends has become an eagerly anticipated event that attracts hundreds of people. Though we know that many attend to help us raise funds, we also know that they enjoy great food from more than 50 purveyors. At Queens Taste you can sample fare from all over the borough – and that really means "from all over the world." In the space of few feet, you can enjoy momos, dumplings, wontons, and raviolis; and wash them down with beverages from Brazil, Italy, and even our neighbor…Brooklyn! In other gourmet news, QEDC sponsors Dine In Queens every fall. For three weeks, more than 100 restaurants offer special pricing on lunch and/or dinner meals. This means authentic flavor at reasonable prices. Dine In Queens is a great way to step out of your culinary comfort zone and explore the world, food-wise and without a passport.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	2 *Queens Taste Gala at NY Hall of Science! 6 pm*	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Mother's Day	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 *M/WBE Orientation Seminar Entrepreneur Space 10 am*	26	27 Ramadan starts
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

NOTES

APRIL

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Jackson Heights - Pride Parade

QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

JUNE 2017

The real New York City is exemplified in our neighborhoods. They are colorful, unique, and diverse with character, flavor and authenticity. That's why Queens is a great place to raise a family, start a business, and enjoy life!

Queens is a collection of neighborhoods. And each neighborhood has its Main Street, whether it's Steinway Street in Astoria, Myrtle Avenue in Ridgewood, Jamaica Avenue in Woodhaven or the aptly named Main Street in Flushing. These thoroughfares are the faces of their localities, where we shop, dine, meet neighbors, and enjoy ice cream on warm summer nights. They need to be strong and vital. One of QEDC's first projects in the 1980s was commercial revitalization. This included merchant organizing, capital improvements, and implementation of business improvement districts. QEDC is proud to have worked with almost every neighborhood shopping street in the borough. Today, we spearhead graffiti-removal efforts and do customized studies on how to improve retail environments.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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4	5 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	6	7	8	9	10
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18 Father's Day	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Eid al Fitr	27	28	29 *M/WBE Orientation Seminar Entrepreneur Space 10 am*	30	

NOTES

MAY

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Corona - Louis Armstrong House & Museum

QEDC/40 1977-2017 40 YEARS

JULY 2017

Visitors from all over the world come to Queens to enjoy our cultural and sporting venues, stay in our many hotels, eat at our wonderful restaurants, tour our fabulous museums, and shop on our commercial streets. We've been discovered!

The photographs that adorn this calendar represent some of our great cultural and recreational attractions. Queens has really come into its own as a destination. The Queens Tourism Council, operated by QEDC, is comprised of hotels, cultural venues, sports facilities, historic houses, and a gaming spot. Supported by the Queens Borough President's Office and the NYC & Company Foundation, QTC works diligently to let the world know about the nation's most diverse county. This includes promoting landmarks such as Queens Museum, Museum of the Moving Image, and SculptureCenter; the USTA, Citi Field, and Rockaway Beach, the eastern seaboard's surf-and-sun center; as well as major attractions such as Resorts World Casino New York City and small gems like the Louis Armstrong House Museum. We provide updated information via the *"It's In Queens"* website, weekly calendar eblasts, and social media.

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Flushing Meadows Corona Park - USTA

QEDC 1977-2017 40 YEARS

AUGUST 2017

Starting a new business is always a challenge. QEDC can help you with our many programs and services, including the New Ideas to New Ventures seminar and individualized business counseling.

Starting a new business is a challenge. There's so much to ponder. That's why QEDC offers New Ideas to New Ventures on the first Monday of each month. The 90-minute seminar provides basic information on what to consider when embarking on a business venture. Many clients think it's a great way to start the business planning process. And when they get going, we encourage them to enroll in the StartUP! Business Plan Competition that kicks off at the end of summer. StartUP! requires contestants to take classes in Planning, Operations, Finance, and Marketing that are offered throughout autumn and early winter at the Queens Library. Additionally, clients can meet with counselors to refine their plans, which are submitted to judges in late winter. Finalists are announced at our spring networking event and asked to present their plans to all the judges. Three winners are announced at Queens Taste. Last year's victors were Richard Mumith of Queens Food Tours, Michael Piggot of Gamechat, and Daphne Yeh of Yeh's Snacks. They join more than 50 past winners – many of whom are still operating successful businesses.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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6	7 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	8	9	10	11	12
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Jamaica Bay

QEDC 1977-2017 40 YEARS

SEPTEMBER 2017

Helping people to get their licenses, permits, and certifications is an important part the QEDC agenda. We pride ourselves in working with people from all over the world, many times in their language and with cultural sensitivity.

There's a difference between a home contractor and a handyperson. Contractors are licensed and insured. They can handle big jobs and they can grow their businesses. Handypeople might be skilled, but if they are not licensed, their companies can't grow. Five years ago, we noted that there were many such handypeople in Queens. Many were immigrants with limited English and knowledge on how to transform a cash operation into a legal enterprise. Thus, we initiated Home Improvement Contractor Training, an 18-hour course (consisting of three six-hour classes) that covers all aspects of getting a license from the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs. We provide guidance in filing the application and assist clients when they take the test. Classes are offered in English, Mandarin, and Spanish. More than 500 people have enrolled in HICT and now own legitimate, thriving businesses.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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3	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Rosh Hashanah	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Yom Kippur

NOTES

AUGUST

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OEDC - Dine in Queens!

QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

OCTOBER 2017

A business plan is essential when opening a new business. The Entrepreneur Assistance Program is a comprehensive 20-session course that leads to the completion of a business plan that one can take to the bank. Many of our EAP graduates have gone on to win our StartUP! Business Plan Competition and have created successful companies that contribute to our economy

We refer to the Entrepreneurial Assistance Program as a "mini-MBA" because clients take an intensive, 20-session course culminating in the creation of a business plan that they can literally take to the bank. Taught by a professional business counselor, EAP takes place two evenings a week for 10 weeks each fall. Guest lecturers in the fields of law, accounting, marketing, and finance provide added value. All participants present their plans to the group and receive constructive criticism. Plus, they're automatically enrolled in StartUP! Not surprisingly, many StartUP! winners are EAP clients. Plus, in the last year, we initiated PRIME SKILLS, a modified version of EAP for residents of low-income communities. We also help eligible clients receive their M/WBE certification.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Diwali	20	21
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SEPTEMBER

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QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

NOVEMBER 2017

QEDC is thankful for the support of many government agencies, foundations, banks, and elected officials.

Our supporters are Ares Printing; Astoria Bank; BNB Bank; Board of QEDC; Capital One Bank; Citi Community Development; Citi Foundation; Coffeed, Con Edison; Delta Air Lines; Emily Lin + Associates; Farrell Fritz; Flushing Bank; Gotham Realty; Hollis Center Mall; IBEW Local 3; Jet Blue; Kaufman Astoria Studios; LIC Flea & Food; M&T Bank; National Grid; NYC & Company Foundation; NYC City Council; NYC Department of Small Business Services; Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito; Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer; and the Queens Delegation; NYC Economic Development Corporation; New York Community Bank Foundation; New York Community Trust; New York Daily News; NYS State Assembly Members Catherine T. Nolan, Michael Simanowitz; and former member Margaret M. Markey; New York State Empire Development Corporation; Office of the Queens Borough President, Melinda Katz; Queens Center; Queens Courier; Resorts World Casino New York City; SCNB Bank; Sholom & Zuckerbrot RE; Santander Bank; Signature Bank; Silvercup Studios; Small Business Administration; Square Wine & Spirits; TD Bank Foundation; The D&F Development Group; The Driscoll Group; The Mattone Group; The NYC District Council of Carpenters; The Port Authority of NY & NJ; The Queens Tourism Council; The Shops at Atlas Park; The USTA; United States Department of Agriculture; and Z Hotel NYC. **$1,000 in donations and/or services*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	7 Election Day	8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

NOTES

OCTOBER

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Holiday Tree Facts:
100,000

QEDC/40 1977-2017 YEARS

DECEMBER 2017

It takes a borough - QEDC is delighted to work with many organizations in carrying out its mission.

QEDC is delighted to work with so many organizations in carrying out its mission: Accion East; Allen AME Church; Baruch College; Bayside Village BID; Beach 116th Street Partnership; Business Incubator Association of NY; Business Outreach Center; CAMBA; Center for the Women of NY; Central Astoria Local Development Corporation; Chaya Community Development Corporation; Douglaston LDC; Downtown Flushing Transit Hub; Emerald Isle Immigration Center; FEMA; Flushing YMCA; Friends of Corona Plaza; Greater Jamaica Development Corporation; Hollis LDC; ITAC; Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement House; Jamaica Center BID; Kiva Zip; Lawyers Alliance; LIC Partnership & BID; LaGuardia Community College; Make the Road; Myrtle Avenue BID; National Association of Professional Businesswomen; Neighborhood Entrepreneur Law Project; Neighborhood Plaza Partnership; New York Designs; NYU/Tisch Tourism Program; Ocean Bay CDC; Queens Collective; Queens Chamber of Commerce; Queens Community House; Queens Public Library; Queensborough Community College; QueensWay; Renaissance Economic Development Corporation; Rockaway Revitalization & Development Corporation; SCORE; St. John's University; Street Vendor Project; Sunnyside Chamber of Commerce; Sunnyside Community Services; Sunnyside Shines; The Fortune Society; Thomas White Foundation; United Centers for Progress; Woodhaven BID; Woodside on the Move; York College; and 82nd St. Partnership.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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3	4 *New Ideas to New Ventures Borough Hall 6 pm*	5	6	7	8	9
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24 31	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa starts	27	28	29	30

NOTES

NOVEMBER

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JANUARY

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QEDC/40
1977-2017
YEARS

The Unisphere was designed and built for the 1964-65 Worlds Fair and is the centerpiece of Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. Though it was commissioned to celebrate the beginning of the space age it has become something more than that to the people of Queens, New York, the United States and the entire world. Queens is the world's most diverse community. Since the Flushing Remonstrance, a document written in 1657 by local citizens affronted by the persecution of their neighbors - and credited as being a precursor to the Bill of Rights - Queens has welcomed people from every corner of the globe. As such the Unisphere has come to symbolize that we are one - no matter where we come from we share a common purpose - to live together peacefully and make the world a better place.

The Queens Economic Development Corporation wishes our community the best for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. Please contact us if we can be assistance in starting or growing your small business: learning about our many programs: or are interested in our many recreational and cultural attractions

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QEDC 1977-2017 40 YEARS

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