

DOWNTOWN

LIVING HIGH IN LOWER MANHATTAN

9/11 ANNIVERSARY

Downtown's Decade of
Rebirth and Renewal

BACK TO SCHOOL!

Culture in Our
Classrooms with
Vanessa Williams
and Aaron Dworkin

PLUS

Fall Fashion,
Food and Travel

TRIUMPH OVER TRAGEDY

Mayor Michael Bloomberg's
Resurrection of Lower
Manhattan

FALL 2011


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DOWNTOWN

THE ADVISORY BOARD

THE COMMUNITY LEADERS AND LEGENDS THAT HAVE HELPED BUILD THIS AREA...AND GUIDE OUR COVERAGE OF IT.

■ Luigi Rosabianca

In a world of sound bites, headlines and blurbs, we would be hard pressed to find four symbols with more resonance value than "9/11." Regardless of your political affiliation or religious leanings, the feelings evoked from those two simple words are powerful. Nowhere more so than Downtown.

Even the most diabolical imaginations could not have foretold the events that unfolded that clear morning a decade ago. What was foreseeable was

the fierce reaction that inevitably occurred and continues to develop Downtown. With every floor that the Tower rises and every boom a pile driver lays, the energy here is inspirational.

This is a very different neighborhood from a decade ago. A better one.

While it may take a village to raise a child; it most certainly takes a Downtown to raise the human spirit.



Principal and Founder of
Rosabianca & Associates, PLLC



DONALD ROLAND, M.D., FACS

BOARD-CERTIFIED PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGEON.
CHAIRPERSON OF THE DOWNTOWN MAGAZINE ADVISORY BOARD

As we set out to commemorate the 9/11 tragedy in this issue, I encourage our readers to see the hope, compassion and resilience which the Downtown community has displayed since that day. God bless America.



JEFFREY MENKES

PRESIDENT AND CEO, DOWNTOWN HOSPITAL

On 9/11, New York Downtown Hospital took part in the largest, single-hospital disaster response in American history, accomplishing the nearly unbelievable feat of treating 175 patients an hour—35 times more patients than usual—more than 1,500 patients in total, including 269 firefighters, police and rescue workers, in spite of having lost electricity, steam, gas, phone and computer services. In addition, the hospital delivered food, water and hundreds of medical prescriptions to stranded residents and served free meals to almost 10,000 rescue workers, national guardsmen, police and firefighters, in just that one week alone. Yet, because Downtown Hospital was cut off from the news media, the tremendous service that the hospital staff rendered on that terrible day, in the face of danger, fear and uncertainty, has never been fully acknowledged. Indeed, the members of this small community hospital are not just survivors—they are the unsung heroes of 9/11.



MELISSA ANDREEV

PRESIDENT OF THE FIDI ASSOCIATION
AND MANAGER AT LA MAISON DU CHOCOLATE, WALL STREET

"We acquire the strength we have overcome." —Ralph Waldo Emerson



JULIE MENIN

CHAIRPERSON OF COMMUNITY BOARD 1, SERVING LOWER MANHATTAN

Ten years ago, a 16-acre hole was torn open in our neighborhood. Now 10 years later, our population has doubled, we have built new parks and infrastructure, we have two new schools and another on the way, and throughout the area we are more vibrant than ever before.



DREW ALEXANDER

HEADMASTER, CLAREMONT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Residing in an internationally diverse neighborhood of Cairo, Egypt on 09/11/01, my family and I clearly remember the shared outrage for this terrorist act and the compassion for its victims and their families. The world's solidarity against this heinous crime was mirrored in the community of Ma'adi, in the heart of the Arab world. Ten years later, the memory of the tears and embraces of our Egyptian friends still brings us great comfort and hope.



ALBERT M. LEFKOVITS, M.D., P.C.

ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF DERMATOLOGY AT MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

I remember the events of 9/11 very vividly. I lost two of my lovely patients to this terrible disaster. One was the manager of Windows on the World restaurant, who got up early that morning to organize a breakfast that was being held there. And the second was a young lady working on the 85th floor for an insurance company. Another patient, a manager for IBM, fortuitously shifted the focus of a meeting from the World Trade Center to 57th Street, and she and the other attendees were spared. The silence of the crowds walking the street was surreal, like a scene from a Sartre movie.



JEFF SIMMONS

VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATIONS, DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE

A decade ago, I was a New York 1 reporter standing in the shadow of the Twin Towers when they collapsed. A decade later, I am proud to be representing the Downtown Alliance and serve as an eyewitness to the remarkable resilience and growth at my doorstep. This district was undergoing a renaissance then. Now, it is testament to the dedicated work of so many committed individuals and organizations who may have been down, but refused to be counted out.



RORY MCCREESH

FOUNDER, DUCE CONSTRUCTION

I remember September 11, 2001 as a beautiful day that turned to hell. I will never forget that thousands of people died. I'm grateful to all the people who gave their lives to serve and protect the rest of us. I'm proud that Downtown New York is blooming and thriving and I'm thankful that I live in New York, the greatest city in the world.



AARON DWORKIN

FOUNDER OF THE SPHINX ORGANIZATION
AND A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

I was born in New York on 9/11/70. The date is irreversibly connected to me. Having devoted my life to music and young people, I honor the anniversary through this art form, and the sense of hope inherent in the innocence of youth. Music can heal many wounds and unite people.



CHRISTO

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED HAIRSTYLIST

9/11 is a day that will live in our hearts forever, especially for us New Yorkers who were in the center of the chaos. The terrorists that attacked us tried to kill our spirit and scare us into submission. Instead they brought us together and made us stronger. Our love for each other, kindness, selflessness and courage gave us the strength and resilience to re-build. As always, our prayers are with those who lost loved ones on that fateful day.



DREW NIEPORENT

CHAIRPERSON OF THE MYRIAD RESTAURANT GROUP

After the initial shock and horror of the events of 9/11, there was a concerted effort Downtown to come together as a neighborhood. There was an atmosphere of civility and resolve, and it hastened our recovery. I hope that we can recreate that great sense of community in the events commemorating 9/11.



LAUREN CRAMER

ATTORNEY, MCLAUGHLIN & STERN, LLP

Ten days before 9/11, my husband, Demetrius Fexy, and I placed the deposit on our TriBeCa loft and scheduled the co-op interview for that day. Although so many fled Lower Manhattan in the weeks that followed, we closed on the loft because of our belief in the strength and future of Downtown. Now, our daughters Eva and Helen are growing up part of the TriBeCa community with a view of the growing Freedom Tower from our rooftop.

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