

For Immediate Release

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**'GATES OF ATLANTIC', A PUBLIC MURAL EXHIBITION IN EAST NEW YORK DEBUTS THIS WEEK,  
PRODUCED BY THE LDCENY**

***Open For Public Viewing Monday, August 10, 2020***



(New York, New York) [The Local Development Corporation of East New York](#) empowers low-to-moderate income women and minorities with programs that promote economic sufficiency, build assets and improve their lives and those of their families. The center works with local businesses to build industry and commerce, create jobs and improve economic opportunities for local residents and neighborhood enterprise.

The LDCENY has a clear focus on changing the reality and narrative of East New York. Recognizing the ways the community is under-resourced and underserved, the Neighborhood 360 program has enabled the Local Development Corporation to bring investment and neighborhood focused transformation to the small business community. The hope is for a new sense of pride and increased feelings of community amongst the residents and businesses nearby.

Through democratic public art projects like the Gates of Atlantic and an upcoming outdoor light sculpture in collaboration with the New York City Department of Transportation, entitled 'Skywave', these projects are making it possible for residents to experience fine art and inspire a future generation within the confines of their own community.

*Gates of Atlantic*, conceived by the **Local Development Corporation of East New York**, was funded by the **NYC Department of Small Business Services**, to curate the exhibition with [The Culture LP](#) (CLP), a community of visual artists, musicians, educators, and creatives with varied expertise, today announced the debut of the mural arts exhibition, *Gates of Atlantic* is a public mural exhibition on a dozen roll down gates for nine (9) small businesses in the East New York neighborhood, celebrating the resilience and unity of the community.



Curated by [Cierra Britton](#), The CLP's art consultant, this effort was originally supposed to launch in May 2020, but with the pandemic and subsequent quarantine the timeline had to pivot with flexibility. It was also important to the artists and The CLP team that the messages conveyed through the murals stood in solidarity with the brothers and sisters fighting for justice and Black liberation. Every artist that participated in this expansive art project is of Black or Latinx descent, which furthers the objectives of community and economic empowerment when it comes to Black and Brown culture.

The featured artists and businesses include:

- [Egypt](#), Graffiti Egypt for [Baybee Lounge Day Care](#)
- [Thee Prince Melo](#) for [BKLYN Eats](#) and [BKLYN Juice Bar](#)
- [Bianca Romero](#) for [AAMCO Transmission](#) and [EZ Pawn Corp](#)
- [Janel Young](#) for the [Gardenia Flower Shop](#)
- [Angel](#) and [Jose](#) for [La Mexicana Hidalguense](#)
- [Jordan Moss](#) for [Marien Grocery](#)

- [Quiana Parks](#) for the BKNY Printing



The exhibition has already garnered lots of recognition and met with an immense amount of gratitude, from the business owners to community members to congressional leaders in the area.

*“During this time, it is wonderful to see the continued artistry and excellence New Yorkers bring to their neighborhoods, contributing to the vibrancy of this City,”* said **Jonnell Doris, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Small Business Services**. *“We are building thriving neighborhoods by using innovation to unify our communities and uplift our residents.”*

*“It is with a grand sense of pride that I wish to thank the LDC of East New York and the Department of Small Business Services for their collaboration on Beautifying the landscape on Atlantic Avenue. The gates murals on the store fronts tells our story,”* **[Darma V. Diaz](#) (54th AD District Leader)**

*“As we engage in the regeneration of ENY, designed by the residents and businesses owners reflecting harmony and unity - the best is yet to come,”* **Bill Wilkins Director of Economic Development - LDCENY**

*“I thank and congratulate the artists that have worked to breathe life through art into our commercial districts. The simple act of bringing our community together to use underutilized spaces as canvasses for expression helps begin the healing of our communities that have suffered through decades of neglect. Throughout my tenure I made it my mission to force the city to reinvest in our commercial districts and we have been able to accomplish that. I am proud of the work of the LDC of ENY and the artists and I am even prouder today to call myself an East New Yorker,”* **former Council Member Rafael Espinal**

The *Gates of Atlantic* exhibition will officially debut for public viewing on Monday, August 10th and runs from the corners of Georgia Avenue to Warwick Street along Atlantic Avenue in Brooklyn, New York.

For more information and latest updates on *Gates of Atlantic* visit [www.gatesofatlantic.com](http://www.gatesofatlantic.com), follow the hashtag #GatesOfAtlantic on all social platforms and follow The Culture LP on Instagram ([@theculturelp](https://www.instagram.com/theculturelp)) and Twitter ([@theculturelp](https://twitter.com/theculturelp)).

**About the LDC of ENY:**

The LDCENY works with a diverse and changing demographics that include low-income women and minorities. Our entrepreneurial programs are suited for anyone looking to empower themselves and become self-sufficient. We support expanding small and mid-size business owners with ancillary services and procurement opportunities through our industrial programs. And in recent years, we have been carving a space in the development of affordable housing in East New York through our housing development initiatives.

The delivery of our services is supported by workshops, networking events, one-on-one counseling, training and technical assistance. They are provided by a passionate team of professionals and offered in several languages.

**About the NYC Department of Small Business Services:**

The NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) helps unlock economic potential and create economic security for all New Yorkers by connecting New Yorkers to good jobs, creating stronger businesses, and building thriving neighborhoods across the five boroughs.

**About The Culture LP:**

We are a community of visual artists, musicians, educators, and creatives with varied expertise. Our collective is on a mission to improve quality of life for the global majority (Black and Brown people) through the power of the arts. Since 2012, we have nurtured the careers of artists, connected countless creatives, and established an engaged local media platform.

Brands, artists, and organizations work with us to develop cultural programs, and connect directly with multicultural creators.

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