

## **Interactive Educational Programs Coming to Coney Island**

### **Education through Exploration, Explore the Waters of Coney Island**

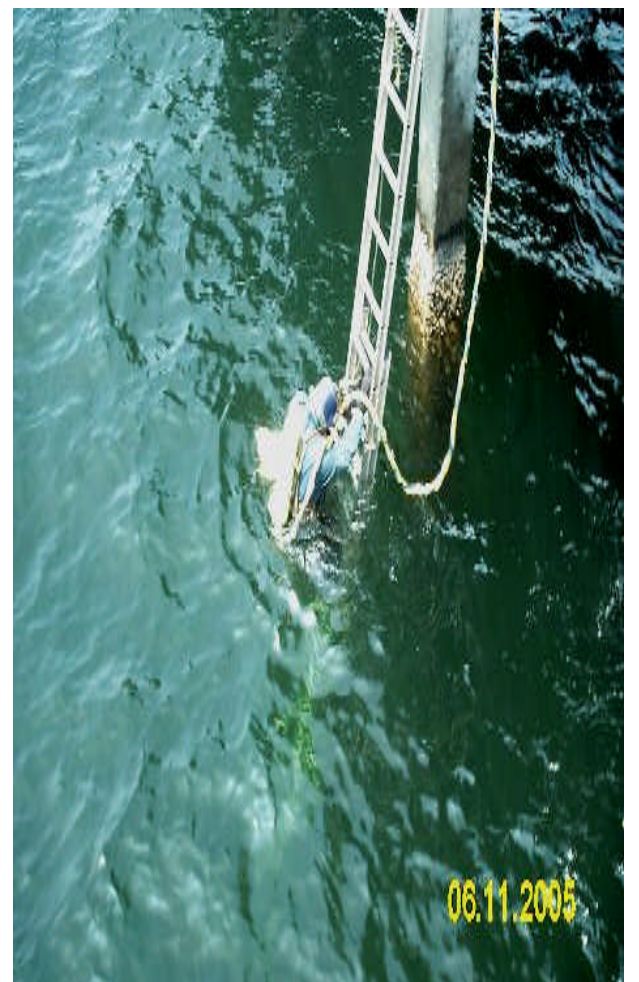
**Coney Island has become a place where Educators, Historians, Commercial Divers, and Community Leaders collaborate to contribute their expertise to create new and exciting educational programs.**

**Three new interactive programs are coming to Coney Island. These unique learning programs are bringing a different level of excitement back into education, and strive to improve academic performance. For example, "Classroom on the Pier" is Cultural Research Divers interactive educational program. Students can explore the undersea world of Coney Island. Educators, Historians, and Commercial divers have teamed up with PhDs from the New York Aquarium to bring this educational program to a new level. The students learn about marine biology, marine archaeology, marine architecture and environmental concerns all in one program.**

**The commercial divers explore the sea floor, using the latest in high-tech underwater video and communication systems, to broadcast this unique program to the students on the surface. The future will likely bring live Coney Island underwater video links from over the Internet to every school appropriately wired. The Research Diving program is a collaborative effort of many experts working together by combining their different fields of expertise. The end result is a winning, innovative educational strategy for Coney Island.**



**(Above) A Research Diver enters the water for the Classroom on the Pier Program. (Below) The Research Diver exiting the waters of Coney Island**



Three programs are in development with the Educational Cooperative. Our second program is called, Carol Albert's Astroland's "Cyclone Physics": This program, by design, excites students in learning physics.

First, the students have the opportunity to ride the Cyclone. After having experienced the ride, they'll learn how the ride works. Student will learn the physics, design, and the science behind the invention and operation. Since we're in Coney Island, it's conducive that students win small prizes for correct answers. And, with "Quick Quiz" student can win large prizes for best marks, but all students will receive a souvenir of their learning experience. All our programs are grade-appropriate, from K to College.

Dennis Vourderis, Deno's Wonder Wheel Geometry Math Class is part of this program. Students learn math, win prizes and ride the rides for free. Our goal is to excite young students to become engineers and to show them the jobs and resources that are available to them.



Cyclone Physics and Wonder Wheel Math will soon be available.



Our third program is the Journalist Reporter for Fifth Graders.

The Let's Talk Brooklyn cable show will utilize Public Broadcasting Cable. Students are afforded the opportunity to become Television Reporters. Fifth Grade students interview professional businesses in the community. The Student will learn from the professionals and experience first hand what future careers could be available to them. Our vision is to guide these young professionals into Network Broadcasting jobs. The program focuses on helping others by gaining personal skills self-respect, character development and self-discipline. Young volunteers also find more motivation and engagement in studies with a greater tolerance for diversity and with broader perspectives. Critical thinking and problem solving is learned were the students must make up there own on the spot questions. The show will be aired on Brooklyn Cable Access Television (BCAT) this summer. The Journalist Reporter program includes the "Broadcasting of Excellence" award Dinner and the hope to change another young life.

Here are some partnerships through the Educational Cooperative:

The Astella Development Corporation, Astroland Amusement Park, New York Aquarium, Astoria Federal Savings Bank, Brighton Beach Neighborhood Assoc. Brooklyn Cable Access Television, Brooklyn Cyclones, Edwin Cosme - Coney Island Sports Foundation, Brooklyn Public Library, Coney Island Oral History Project, Cultural Research Divers, Coast Guard Auxiliary, Island, Coney Island Community Board 13, Coney Island Board of Trade, Coney Island Chamber of Commerce, Coney Island Economic Development Corp., Coney Island Polar Bear Club, Councilman Recchia, CERT, Courier Life Publication, Assembly Member Adele Cohen, Deno s Wonder wheel, District 21 Region 7, Friends of the Boardwalk, Junior Achievement of New York, Inc. , New York State Marine Education Association, Kings Borough College, Neighborhood Improvement Organization, New York City Housing Authority, New York City Parks Department, PS 188 Brooklyn, PS 97- Forest Park, Queens, Local Union 1456, YWCA, Washington Mutual Bank, 60 Precinct, New York City Fire Department

For more information about the programs, contact the Astella Development Corporation

# Coney Island s P.S. 188 Broadcast All-Stars Are Honored at Red Carpet Reception

Twelve fifth grade students from P.S. 188 in Coney Island received first-ever honors at a red carpet reception at the Coney Island Library for their work as cable TV broadcasters.

These young talented students have worked for the last two months producing a show for Brooklyn Cable Access Television (BCAT) titled Let's Talk Brooklyn-The Business Report. At the reception, students and guests saw the premier screening of the cable show.

The idea for the show came following the school's Career Day at P.S. 188 on March 16. On that day, students had the opportunity to meet and ask questions of the professionals who came to share information about their jobs. Those interviews, along with interviews with local business owners, were broadcast on the BCAT show.

"The purpose of the show," said Scott Krivitsky, creator of the TV show and teacher at P.S. 188, "is to help empower local students from the community and to create an initiative between business, education, community, and government leaders.

Astella Development Corporation funded the creation of DVDs that recorded students' interviews with merchants and business people on Mermaid Avenue. Astella's staff will distribute the DVDs to elected officials, funders, and community and business leaders.



*Judi Orlando and Georganna Deas of Astella Development Corporation, Mr. Gene Ritter, cultural research diver and Scott Krivitsky, P.S. 188 teacher and head of community outreach, join community leaders, business owners, and the P.S. 188 Broadcast All-Stars. Students present at the event are Devin Grimm, Belba Bangoura, Edwin Pacheco, Iyanna Niles, Jonathan Morales, Ying Yin Zhong, and Mikhail Khoshayve.*

Following the library event, the students were given tickets to the Brooklyn Cyclone Game that night and they were recognized over the loud speaker at the game.

"Moving forward," said Krivitsky, "with the tremendous support from Astella Development Corporation, I would like to do more shows involving other schools, students, and also recognizing other businesses in Coney Island."

*Special thanks to Mr. Fred Tudda, Principal of P.S 188 and Mr. Boris Fishman, Assistant Principal of P.S. 188*