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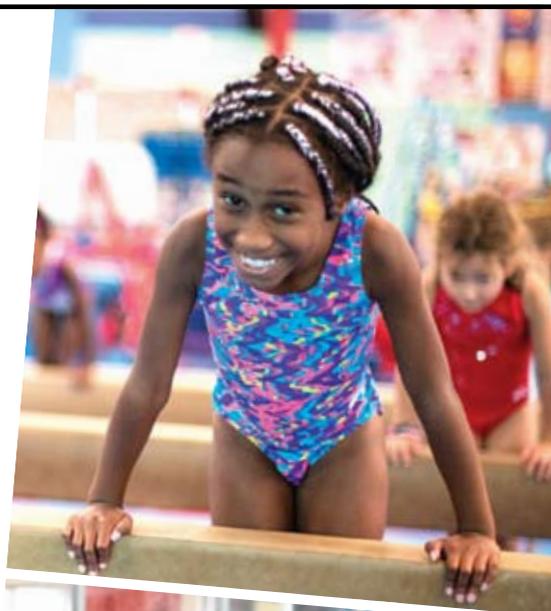
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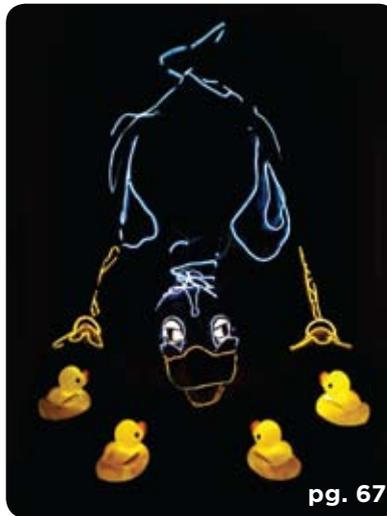


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editor's note

Spring Forward

March in New York City isn't always the poster month for the dawn of spring. Honestly, March is just as likely to feature surprise blizzards or impromptu sleet storms as it is to offer up balmy breezes and picnic-worthy sunny afternoons. But here at *New York Family*, we try to look on the sunny side of the season, and our March 2019 issue reflects that optimism—especially because we're lucky enough to have "The View" co-host Sunny Hostin as our cover mama!

With her cheery disposition—coupled with an amazing work ethic, a passion for nature, and devotion to her family—Hostin is pretty much instant sunshine (our interview certainly thawed me out when we spoke on a freezing day in January). Check out my feel-good interview with her about career, family, and beekeeping (yes, you read that correctly) on page 40.

The coming of spring also has us thinking of the joys of new life. For new and expectant parents, I invite you to take a look at our interview with baby- and toddler-expert Dr. Tanya Altmann on page 24 (it's all about making healthy choices for your young child) and read up on the best car seats of the year on page 46.

Plus, we also have an exclusive look at The Wing's new childcare and parenting support facility (the Little Wing) on page 16, an interview with fab foodie Eden Grinshpan on page 20, and a lovely



family travel dispatch from Santa Fe, NM, on page 62. It's all sure to have you feeling that warm, fuzzy spring feeling in no time!

Happy Spring!

Mia Weber

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Good news for cat-lovers and shoe-shoppers: Hello Kitty and Converse are back with another full collection of apparel, accessories, and footwear. The best part? This adorable new collaboration is available in both adult and kid sizes, making it a must-have mommy-and-me accessory pick for spring. As Converse puts it: “Both Converse and Hello Kitty are blank canvases that exist in a synergistic medium where Hello Kitty is whoever we want her to be and Converse sneakers are worn however we want to wear them.” Available in a variety of colors and prints, the Hello Kitty graphics can be seen on the popular Converse All-Star and One-Star sneakers. [Converse.com](http://converse.com)



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SHOPPING

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This past winter, CAMP opened a 10,000 square-ft flagship store in the Flatiron District. Billed as a “family experience” CAMP combines merchandise, play, media, and experience for a store that’s unlike any other. The store sells a variety of cool clothes, gifts, toys, and books, but it boasts a partnership with Milk Bar—open daily and serving original Milk Bar classics like Crack Pie and B’day Truffles, plus an exclusive CAMP-themed sundae and Counter Culture Coffee—as



well as a robust schedule of classes and activities. The store offers 2-3 activities every day that range from singalongs with Counselor Dan to Marshmallow Animal Craft Classes and Book Signings. camp.com

GREAT APP

ellie

Founded by New York City mom Hayley Nivelles, ellie is a new app that aims to streamline the communication process for moms’ groups. The primary goal of ellie is to make things easier for the administrators of moms’ groups, and give group members what they deserve—a centralized place to connect and efficiently communicate with other parents, in a manner that gives them control over the content they consume. Additionally, users can request to become part of existing groups through the app. Groups can set to public or private, with the name and description for the group always being visible to users searching. my-ellie.com



NEW SCHOOL

Academy of Thought and Industry

A new program for purpose-driven teens is opening soon in the East Village! The Academy of Thought and Industry (ATI), a network of high schools for purpose-driven teens, is opening a new campus at 1 Avenue B on Houston Street in August 2019. Space for 35 teens is anticipated. The ATI Manhattan campus joins existing (and highly-regarded) schools in Austin, San Francisco, and St. Louis, as well as an online offering that will be piloted during the summer of 2019. ATI is founded on the belief that teens flourish socially and emotionally when they have an opportunity to pursue significant real-world achievements. thoughtandindustry.com

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Ideas of March

This month March Madness is officially upon us, and hopefully the flowers in Central Park will start to bloom. It is hopefully time to leave the winter hats and gloves behind and break out the spring jackets.

One of my fabULySS favorite accessories for any busy on the mom on the go are the Salt Straps. They were just recently featured in the New York Times. The detachable crossbody straps add a modern dose of chic to your favorite bag. Handwoven by fair-trade artisans in Colombia and finished here in the city, a portion of proceeds goes towards building a local school room through the Wayuu Taya Foundation. Two Brooklyn fashionista moms and friends created and built Salt together. I love when mompreneurs do something that they are passionate about.

Visit shoppesalt.com

If your kids are foodies like mine and love to cook, they will love the deLySScious cooking classes at Nonna Beppa. The SoHo restaurant is offering pasta-making classes every other Sunday for you and your children. Bring home Sunday night dinner for the family that will be yummy. The best part is that the kids will love the experience of making the homemade pasta from scratch with you.

Register for classes at Nonna Beppa [290 Hudson Street between Spring and Dominick Streets, nonnabeppa.com, (917) 639-3996

Parenting is no snap, even if you are the Duchess of Sussex and Prince Harry! That's why Magnetic Me, the New York-based fabULySS magnetic-fastening layette company, is making it easier for parents on both sides of the pond to celebrate their newest arrivals this spring with the launch of its limited edition "An Heir is Born" collection. The company created its first sold-out royal baby collection for the birth of Prince George in 2013, and has now launched a collection that specifically honors the newly married royals' American and British heritage.

See the collect at magneticme.com

Upper East Side mom Alexis Fishman is the go-to guru to get everything done. She started her business, TaskAlexis, as



From Magnetic Me's "An Heir is Born" collection.

an eBay consignment store. She now helps busy New Yorkers by offering solutions for everything you're just not sure how to do. Use her services to find service and product recommendations, sell gently used items, and just get things done.

Visit taskalexis.com

There's a new fabULySS show opening this month — "Accidentally Brave." It is the must-see new play of the season that explores what it means to navigate a world with no certainty. An inspiring true story about discovering a new normal when everything you thought you knew comes undone. Actor and playwright Maddie Corman shares her story of perseverance and hope when the unthinkable tests her marriage, family, and values.

"Accidentally Brave" at DR2 Theater (103 East 15th Street between Union Square East and Irving Place, accidentallybrave.com)

The R Baby Foundation and Michael's Mission have joined together to host Two Charities, One Mission: Saving Lives, an '80s-themed benefit concert on April 4 at the

Hammerstein Ballroom in New York City. Rev Run from Run-DMC will headline and close out the evening and will be accompanied by acclaimed DJ Mel DeBarge. R Baby Foundation is the first and only not-for-profit organization focused on saving babies' lives by raising \$11 million towards critical improvements in pediatric emergency education, training, equipment, and technology. Michael's Mission is focused on improving the quality of life and treatment options for those suffering from colorectal cancer through education, research, and patient support.

Two Charities, One Mission: Saving Lives gala in the Hammerstein Ballroom at the Manhattan Center (311 West 34th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues, babyfoundation.org April 4, 6-10pm.



Lyss Stern is the founder of Divamoms.com, bestselling author *Motherhood Is A B#tch* and *If You Give A Mom A Martini*, and a mom-of-three. Follow Lyss on Instagram @diva_moms.



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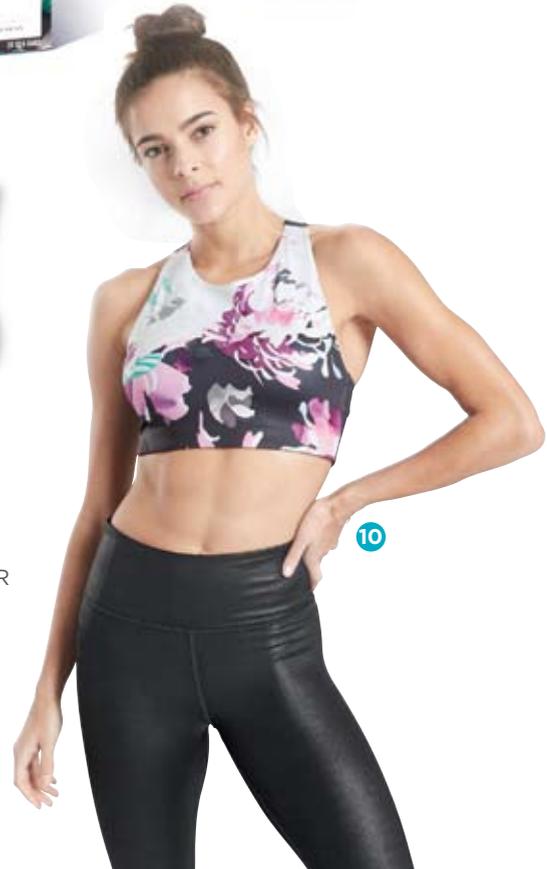
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By Mia Weber



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Just WING It!

With the launch of the Little Wing in its SoHo flagship, the Wing is now offering childcare & parenting support to members

By Mia Weber

If you're a #MillennialMom in New York City, chances are that you are familiar with the Wing. Founded two years ago by CEO Audrey Gelman (former deputy communications director for Scott Stringer's comptroller campaign) and COO Lauren Kassan (whose background is in business development in the fitness industry), the Wing is a chic network of membership-based work and community spaces designed especially for women, with locations in the Flatiron District, SoHo, and DUMBO, as well as in San Francisco and Washington DC.

Set against soothing hues of millennial pink, goldenrod, and mint, the Wing offers a myriad of services aimed at empowering its membership of modern working women—for example: Fully stocked beauty rooms, conference rooms, breast pumping rooms,

a café with an all-female kitchen staff, a library of books by, for, and about inspiring women—and as of now, with the launch of the Little Wing in their SoHo flagship space on Mercer Street, that list of services includes childcare and parenting support.

“The big Wing is a network of women-focused co-working and community spaces... We have all different types of programming and events, as well as a workspace,” Kassan, who is a new mom herself (her son Quincy is 1) explains. “So many of our members have children or are thinking about having children, so it was really important to us to provide something to make their lives easier and create communities.”

On the surface, the Little Wing is a childcare facility and service for members of the Wing with kids ages 6 months to 9 years—it will offer babysitting in two-hour time slots with the company's Wingsitters

(\$25); children's enrichment classes in art, theater, yoga, and more (\$28); and open play (\$25) sessions—but it goes beyond what the typical childcare drop-off or playspace provides. Most notably, the Little Wing will also offer support groups and workshops with an emphasis on creating connections and community among working moms. It's this commitment to serving the whole family that Kassan is especially proud of.

“I have a baby—he's 1—so when we were thinking of what the now-Little Wing would be, we weren't really sure how it would take shape and for us, [it was about] really learning from our members and what they want from a space like this,” she says. “For me personally, going through the early times of motherhood, I really wanted to understand how we could create that space of convenience so our members can drop their kids off here, get work done, take their

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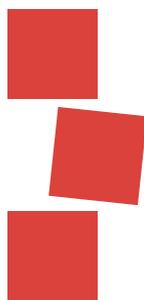
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meeting, and have some quiet time—but also [create a space] of community for our members.”

The parent support groups and workshops will be updated monthly, and will be offered in partnership with Gelman’s mother Lisa Spiegel, the co-founder of SoHo Parenting (founded in 1987 and widely considered to be the first parenting center in Manhattan). There is a regular open mother’s group (to take place in the mornings) as well as topic-based workshops (which will take place in the evenings to accommodate parents who work a more traditional schedule).

“[Lisa Spiegel] is going to be overseeing a lot of our workshops and support circles based on varying topics—everything from potty-training to co-parenting to queer parenting—and making sure they’re incredibly thoughtful and intentional for a diverse group of parents,” Kassan says.

The goals of intentional community building are echoed by Spiegel as well. “It’s sort of a ‘circle of life’ kind of thing because [my daughter] Audrey was an infant when I was starting *my* business, and it grew over the past 30 years to provide high quality counseling and support services and community to parents and families,” she explains. “So it was so exciting to be a part of the launch of the Little Wing and help the Wing not just support mothers who are working by providing childcare—which is essential and amazing, to be able to work and know your child is close by and feel comfortable with the quality of the care—but also to provide ways to support families in similar ways to how we’ve been supporting families at SoHo Parenting for over 30 years.”

One of the ways that Kassan and Spiegel hope to foster support with their programming for parents is to help the mothers of the Wing cast off the pressures of perfection that can come across in social media and the societal stereotype of what a working parent should look like.

“The focus of the ongoing mother’s group [at the Little Wing] is really to be a safe space to talk about the realities of motherhood rather than the curated Instagram version of motherhood that really is, in essence, a tyranny,” Spiegel says. “There has always been pressure on women to be perfect and to do everything and to present that ‘I’ve got it together’ face, but it’s never been there as much as it is now. So the idea [is to have] a space that combats the physical isolation that sometimes women have in parenting, but also that sense of sort of cyber-loneliness.



The Wing’s chief operating officer Lauren Kassan.

The idea that there’s all this information and expectations that are just bombarding women? This is the antidote to that.”

The Little Wing space itself is physically very bright and inviting, and certainly an antidote, in and of itself, to the bustle of the city streets outside. The color scheme echoes that of the big Wing and all the furnishings are from Crate&kids. There’s a big playroom stocked with plush beanbags and toys aimed at sparking imaginative play, as well as a library of kids’ books curated by Brooklyn bookshop Stories. Plus, there’s on-brand mommy-and-me merch for sale, and a café called Perch on the Fly (the big Wing’s café is called Perch) in the works that will sell quick snacks and meals.

“Perch on the Fly will be our grab-and-go. There will be kids’ bowls and

kids’ meals,” Kassan says. “They were all crowdsourced from our members and we learned what their kids liked to eat and made recipes based on that, and they’re named after [members’ kids]. There’s a Quincy bowl for my son—which is spinach, quinoa, and chicken.”

As far as future goals for the growth of the Little Wing? Kassan is certainly thinking big: “We want Little Wings all over the country and the world,” she says. “As we grow our big Wing, the hope and the goal is that we can open Little Wings everywhere so we can continue to provide this sense of community for our members everywhere.”

The Little Wing is located within the Wing SoHo at 52 Mercer Street. To learn more, visit the-wing.com!

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Chef in the City

Noted NYC chef & foodie Eden Grinshpan dishes on motherhood, her downtown restaurant DEZ, and her passion for travel

By Radhamely DeLeon

Whether she's going viral for doing the robot while strapped to a breast pump or sharing photos of her and her almost-2-year-old daughter Ayv, chef, food blogger, and TV personality (you can catch her North of the border on "Top Chef Canada") Eden Grinshpan is definitely not one to keep up glossy appearances of motherhood. It's clear from her unabashedly silly posts that she has found a happy medium between herself as a person and as a mom.

Food is understandably a very big factor in their household. As a certified fabulous foodie herself, Grinshpan, a Brooklyn mama, was excited to start introducing solid foods to her daughter's diet so they could bond over bites. Though she tries to widen Ayv's palette as much as she can, it's not always easy. "The older she gets, the more she knows, the pickier she gets," Grinshpan says. "It's been a little bit of a battle."

With all of the healthy food options available to families now, like Grinshpan's recently opened restaurant DEZ (where she is the co-owner and executive chef) it's especially easy to get hung up on strict vegetable-based diets. So, how does one balance her little one's meals? Moderation is key.

"[My daughter] likes sugar, she likes sweet things. She gets a lot of fruit, she loves fruit... But, you know, she gets a little junk," Grinshpan says. "I had to let go a little bit because I was a little controlling over everything being healthy, but I'm very much a believer of trying to keep it 75-80 percent healthy, and the rest you can kind of be easy."

Grinshpan's love for cooking first began when she started watching the Food Network as a sophomore in high school. She recalls being "obsessed" with Food Network stars Ina Garten, Nigella Watson, and Jamie Oliver. When it came time to decide where she should go to college, culinary school was





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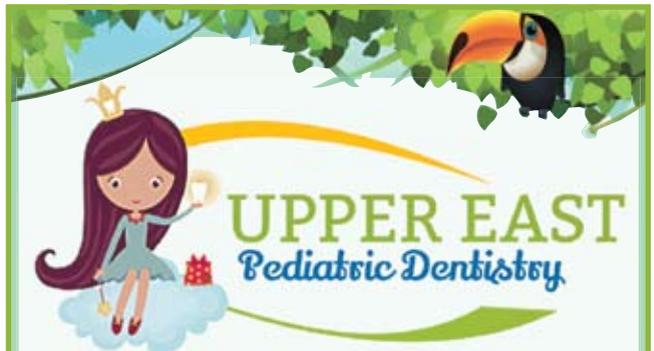
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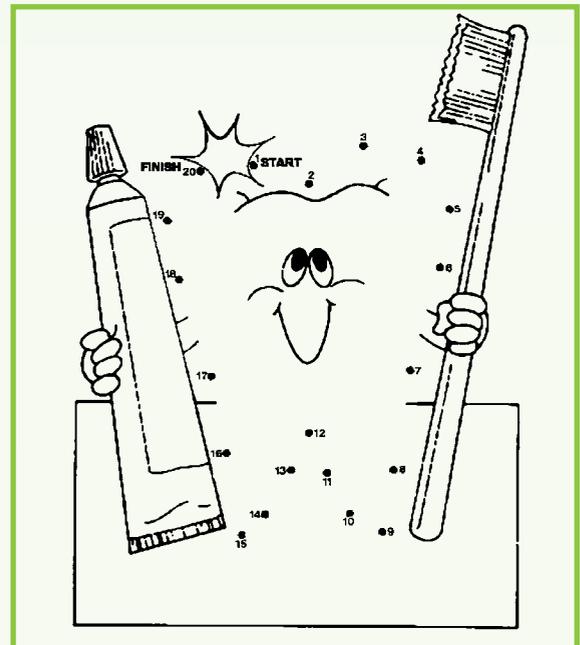
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“the only thing that really made sense.” Thus began the start of her culinary career, or what she likes to call her “love affair with food and cooking.”

She enrolled in Le Cordon Bleu in London where she graduated with a *grande diplomé* in pastry and cuisine. Rather than looking for work, Grinshpan, whose heritage is Canadian and Israeli, sought to see the world.

“A lot of people are afraid of being uncomfortable or not close to what they know, but honestly I’ve never grown more than when I was away. I really, truly believe my time abroad was my education,” she says. Grinshpan then went on to backpack through India and Southeast Asia, and lived in London for two years.

Even at the time of our interview, they had just returned from a family trip to Israel. How have their travels changed now that Ayy’s joined the family? Parents are often afraid of taking long flights with their children, but Grinshpan feels the benefits outweigh the cons.

“For me, it’s kind of like ripping off a

“A lot of people are afraid of being uncomfortable or not close to what they know, but honestly I’ve never grown more than when I was away. I really, truly believe my time abroad was my education.”

Band-Aid. You do it, you get it over with, and you get to have an experience,” she explains. “To be able to take Ayy to Israel and to eat the food that I grew up eating, and to see the places, that mean so much to me.”

These travels, as well as Grinshpan’s own Israeli roots, are what inspired her the vibe for her restaurant, DEZ (short for “desert”), a fast-casual Middle Eastern eatery located

in the heart of Nolita. Co-founded with Samantha Wasser, (who is known in the food world for the NYC vegan restaurant by CHLOE) DEZ’s fresh and tasty meals are ideal for everyday dining with a twist.

As we caught up over the phone, there was a small cry in the background. Grinshpan laughs. “She’s here,” she says, referencing her young daughter. “She was supposed to go down an hour ago, but guess what? She’s watching ‘Peppa Pig!’”

Whether she’s sharing candid photos of her breastfeeding in the back of a car (#NormalizeBreastFeeding), or her hilarious take on the traditional maternity shoot (a tower of gourmet doughnuts were involved), Grinshpan is definitely honest about the realities of being a parent.

“Yeah, [my husband and I] get flustered sometimes, but in the end, we just laugh about it because it’s just so ridiculous,” she says. “The things we get flustered about in the grand scheme of things, they’re nothing.”

To learn more about Eden Grinshpan, visit edeneats.com!



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starting out

Back to Basics

Dr. Tanya Altmann's latest book speaks to 150 of new parents' top concerns

By Kelly Guidry

Being a parent isn't an easy job. Whether it's your first time or you have multiple children, each experience feels new and raises a brand new set of questions. Ever wondered what to do if your child is allergic to regular milk, or when to start looking for child care, if you choose to do so? Dr. Tanya Altmann has all of the answers.

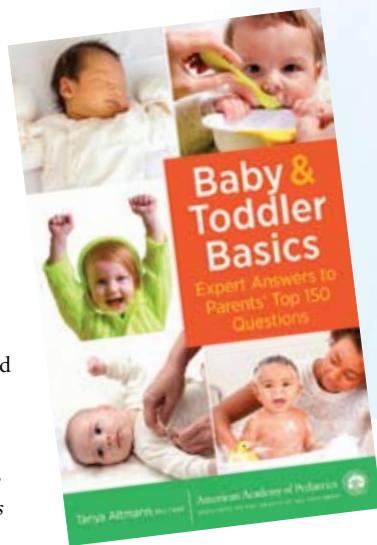
In her latest book, *Baby & Toddler Basics: Expert Answers to Parents' Top 150 Questions*, Altmann—alongside the American Academy of Pediatrics—narrowed down a list of the top 150 questions they have been asked multiple times by parents and patients, which she says was no easy feat.

"I've been seeing patients and talking to parents for about 20 years and there are hundreds if not thousands of questions that parents ask, but over and over again, the same questions seem to keep popping up. As a pediatrician... you end up repeating yourself a lot throughout the day," Altmann says. "I surveyed pediatricians and parents [and] I also talked to all of the pediatricians at UCLA, and came up with a list that we all agreed were the top 150 questions that parents ask their pediatrician."

Narrowing down the questions into specific categories, such as skin, vaccines, formula feeding, and more, Altmann made it easier than ever for parents to get their concerns answered since a lot of the time, the types of questions parents ask typically fall under a general category—whether they know it or not.

"I find that questions do come in groups," Altmann says. "I teach residents at UCLA and one day, we'll talk about fevers in kids or illnesses and the next day, it'll be about constipation or poop, and then it'll be about feeding."

Rather than having to read chapters on specific topics, Altmann's question and answer format allows parents to quickly find what



they are looking for so they don't have to read five or more pages to get their answer.

"I always love the Q&A format because you can look in the index, look at the chapter, find your question, and read the answer," Altmann says. "That's what pediatricians do all day long: Answer questions, field phone calls, and nowadays, there [are] emails as well, so the Q&A format is always a nice setting to read no matter what the topic is."

Altmann believes that what sets her book apart from all the other baby books out there is that the answers given are backed by science with the additional help of her own personal experience as a mother to her three boys: Avrick, 12, Collen, 10, and Maxton, 3.

"When I look back at books I've written and news segments I've done before I had kids, I think 'What was I talking about?' because although I knew the medicine, I didn't really know the practicality of it," Altmann says. "For instance, I used to say 'If your child slips and falls and gets a goose egg on their head, put ice on it.' But now, as a parent, I know that child is not going to let you put ice on their head, so I have to say 'If they'll let you.'"

As a pediatrician and mother herself, Altmann knows that when a problem arises with a child, it can be stressful, but if she could give one piece of advice, it would be to "trust your instincts."

"People have been having babies forever, before the internet, before swaddle blankets

and bouncy chairs that calm your baby and rock them to sleep," Altmann says. "If you feel that something isn't right or you're concerned, then definitely call your pediatrician [because] that's what we're here for. If you're concerned, don't wait because there are serious things that do come up and I'd rather have someone wake me up and me tell them 'You know, it's actually okay, we can follow it up in the morning' then have them not call me and something more serious happens."

At the end of the day, Altmann hopes that the advice she provides helps parents determine whether they need to go to their pediatrician or if they can solve the issue on their own, as long as they steer clear of "Dr. Google."

"I hope that parents enjoy it as an easy and accurate source to look up questions that they have so they don't turn to Dr. Google," Altmann says. "While it's amazing that there's so much information at your fingertips, there's also a lot of fake news out there. You want to make sure that people have an accurate source, but also know when to call their pediatrician. I hope by breaking it down to the simple categories, they can realize that if the answer isn't there, then they can gather information to get what they need or find out these are one of the times where I do need to take my baby in to be seen or call my pediatrician."

For more information on Dr. Tanya Altmann and her book, *Baby & Toddler Basics: Expert Answers to Parents' Top 150 Questions*, visit drtanya.com!





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Why Consider Charter Schools?

By Shnieka L. Johnson

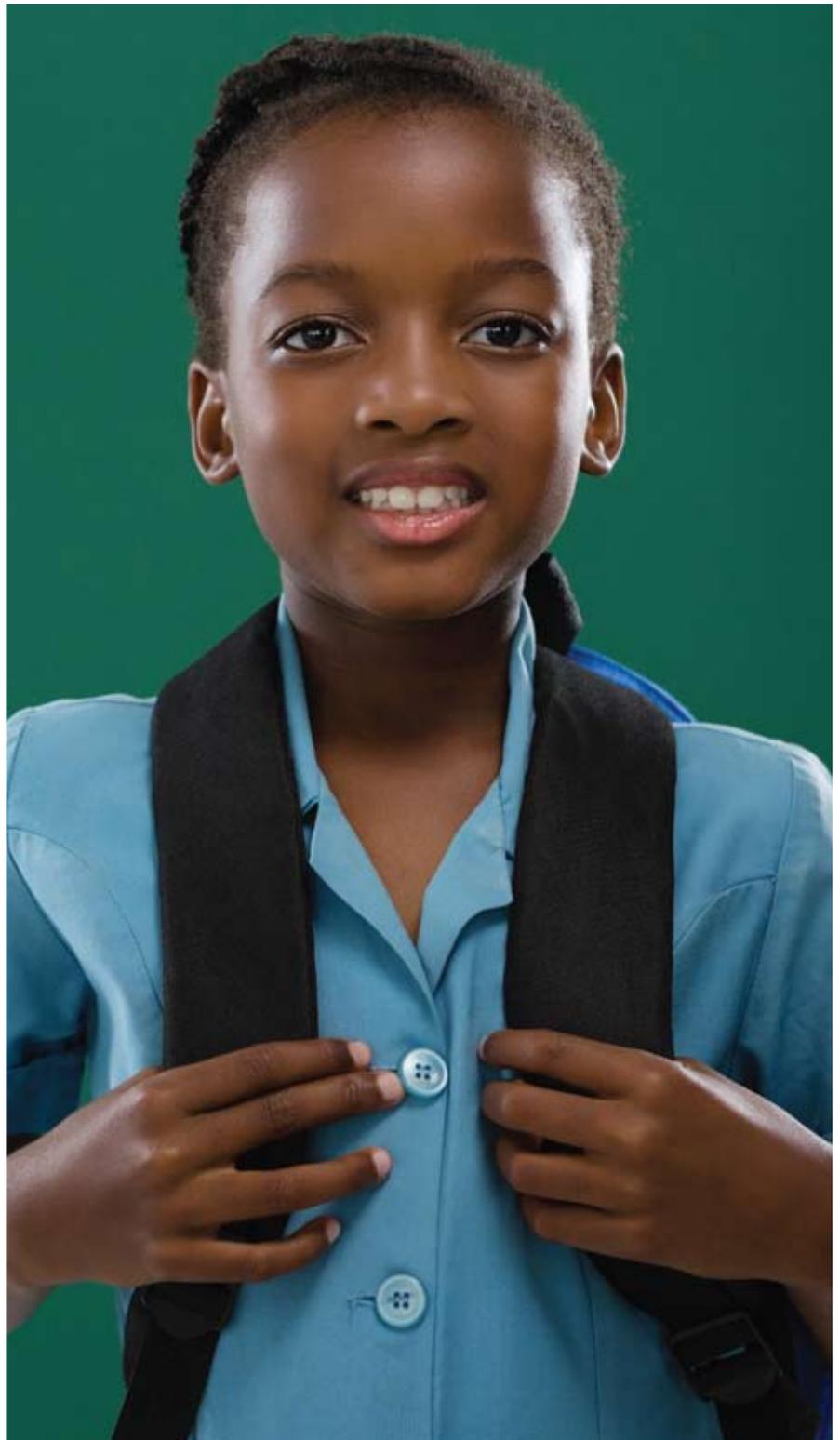
It is prime school-search season in New York City. If you are one of thousands of families weighing their child's educational options for pre-Kindergarten, elementary, middle, and high school, you are in the thick of applications, essays, and assessments or testing. Aside from your normal work and daily activities during this time, you now must add researching schools, contacting administrators, and touring neighborhood options to your busy to-do list. This is true whether you are considering public or private schools.

So, how does one choose the best option? Begin with the big decision—public or private. Then, take a look at the options within your preferred category.

For those utilizing the City's public school options, you have many options in your district, with priority at your zoned school, and you will also have access to a host of charter schools.

Charter schools (founded by not-for-profit Boards of Trustees) receive government funding, but unlike public schools, they operate independently under a contract (or "charter")—an example of what has been labeled by some as "public asset privatization" or contracting out. Many of the city's charter schools utilize public school space. Since the passing of the New York Charter Schools Act of 1998, there has been debate from government officials and families alike on whether these schools should be considered public. According to the United States Department of Education, given that charter schools are open to all students and do not charge tuition, they are categorized right alongside your area public schools.

"We serve the communities in which we are located, and in 2019–2020, we will offer kindergarten through second grade," says Emily Kim, the Chief Executive Officer of



Zeta Charter Schools, which has sites in the South Bronx and the Inwood/Washington Heights areas. Zeta opened its doors in the fall of 2018.

Charter schools may not have all the regulations of a districted school, but they are accountable for academic results and upholding promises that the charter school stemmed from. With well over 200

charter schools in the city, there are tens of thousands of New York City families that are served by these institutions, and these schools have thousands more on their waitlists.

So, why are so many families choosing charter schools? Charter schools have more flexibility in their offerings, a longer school year, extended daily hours, and additional

programming.

“Much of my experience is in charter education, and I love how charters are free to innovate and raise the excellence bar for children,” Kim says.

Although every charter is different (the model, goals and policies may vary) — overall, they are outperforming their neighborhood counterparts on state tests (English language arts and math).

“Parents deserve to have a high-quality school option, as well as a choice as to where they send their children to school. Charters provide parents with much-needed educational options for their children, which raises the bar for public education generally,” Kim says. “We serve families, and want them to be close partners with us in their children’s education. Through this partnership, we ensure children meet their highest and best potential.”

Many families are drawn by the opportunity to send their children to high-performing charter schools. Most operate through a lottery placement system due to the demand.

“Charters provide parents with much-needed educational options for their children, which raises the bar for public education generally.”

“We were zoned for a failing public school (math and reading scores were in the single-digit percentile) and private school is too costly,” says Tiffany G., who is a parent at Harlem Hebrew Language Academy Charter School. Her daughter, now in fourth grade, started at the school in kindergarten.

“Public schools in New York are wonderful, if you are wealthy and thereby able to afford an affluent neighborhood where high-quality public schools can be found. For many who are not wealthy or able to afford expensive neighborhoods, public schools are poor performing, sometimes perilous places. The current public school system exacerbates our city’s economic system of have and have-nots, while many charter schools offer a high-quality of education accessible to all New Yorkers regardless of income,” she says. Adding: “There is a tremendous amount of variety

among charter schools, as they are not bound by all the same regulations as public schools. Shop around to find the school that is the best fit for your child’s learning needs.”

For families in the midst of the school search, an online common application (available via nyccharterschools.org) represents approximately 75 percent of New York City’s charter schools adding ease to the process of applying. The online form, due by April 1, makes searching school options and information on each accessible. New York families interested in applying to charter schools should check individual school websites for listings of tours, open houses, and application instructions.

Shnieka L. Johnson is an education consultant and freelance writer. She is based in Manhattan, where she resides with her husband and son. Contact her via her at shniekajohnson.com.



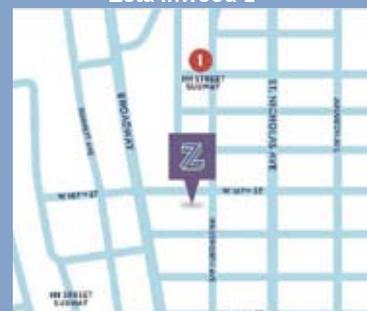
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With 2 New Locations Opening this Spring, Tennis Innovators Furthers Their Mission in Making Tennis Accessible to City Kids

By Elizabeth Winn

Over the past six years Tennis Innovators (TI) has grown from a weekly one-hour program of four students at the YMCA on 105th Street to a thriving company with numerous programs, over 500 students, and 11 locations. This April, TI is opening two new program locations at tennis courts in Riverside and Astoria Park, allowing them to continue their mission of making tennis accessible to young players all throughout the city.

“These new locations allow us to expand by reaching new players at different levels, and in return, those players receive a bigger and better offering from TI,” says Co-Founder and Executive Director Juan Andrade.

TI’s mission is to show their passion for the game through quality coaching and high level programs. Coordinating group lessons based on both age and experience level, TI personally curates every group and takes the



time to build the best experience for their players. Expanding the program now allows TI to offer even more. Along with their upcoming Summer Camps, at their two new locations TI is offering lessons at a discounted rate in order to offer tennis to kids of a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds.

“We’ve created a chance for kids in many different neighborhoods to experience

tennis year-round without having to pay high club memberships for a lesser experience,” Andrade says.

Tennis Innovators is more than just a tennis program for young athletes; TI really is a community where both players and coaches share an excitement about playing technique-oriented games.

TI also strives to make tennis genuinely enjoyable for students. “We ask ourselves: ‘Is there a way to make every aspect of tennis fun so that players are never bored and never get jaded about tennis?’” Coordinator Matteo Rubino says.

Andrade echoes that statement: “It’s all about making sure they find that great moment in their TI experience to spark an interest to play the game for years to come,” he says. “As our students grow and improve, we will come up with new challenges, games, and drills to keep developing their tennis.”

To learn more about Tennis Innovators, visit tennisinnovators.com!

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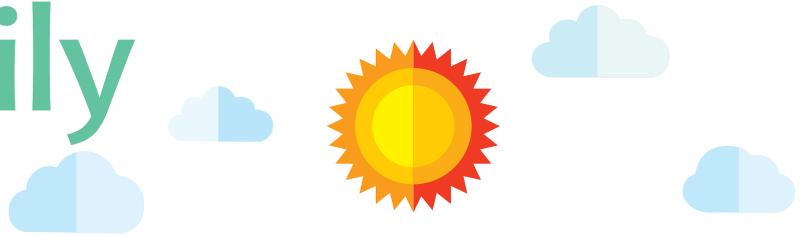
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Our program is designed for kids 3-6 years old who want to absorb the warm and lovely culture of Italy. They will have fun Italian style: learning and practicing Italian, meeting new friends and enjoying a unique summer in the city. The program includes Giochiamo in Italiano, where campers learn Italian through play, music, theater and games; Cinema Italiana, Italian movies and cartoons; Arte Insieme, which encourages kids to be creative, make art and speak Italian; and Le Uscite, taking kids to museums to discover Italian art!

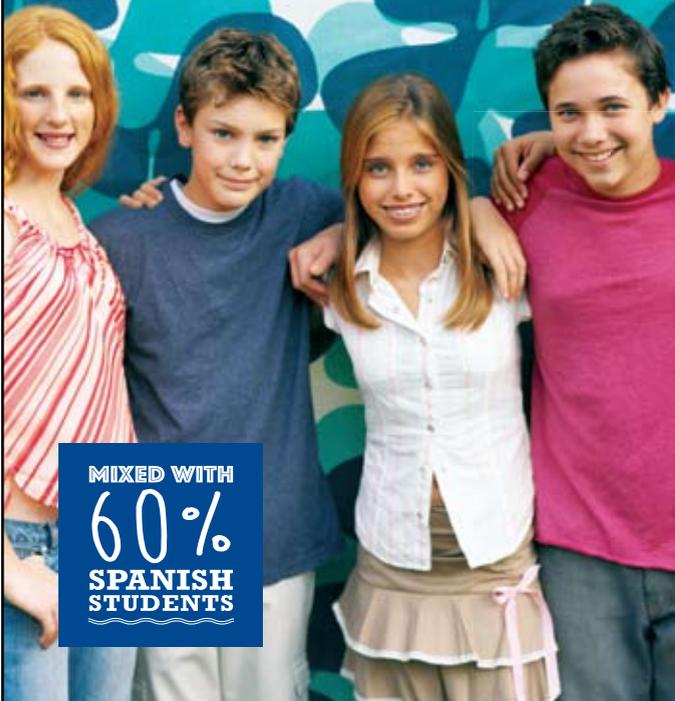
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formanschool.org

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Tribeca
212-731-0668
gallitheaternyc.com
galliny@gmail.com

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www.holmescamp.org

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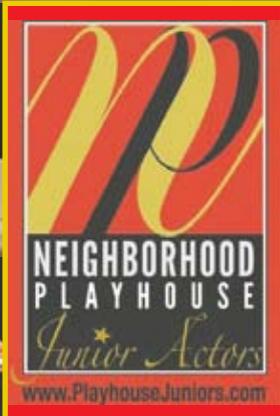
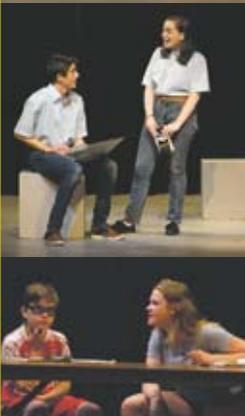
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212-600-1010

launchmath.com

info@launchmath.com

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14streety.org

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646-519-5057
oasischildren.com

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Riverdale and Manhattan
917-753-0280
<https://riverdalecountry.finalsite.com/>
gtucker@riverdale.edu

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or analytical reading/writing. Riverdale instructors work in small classes rooted in the science of "learning how to learn," which provides students with tools that will strengthen their study skills and academic coursework.

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917-426-3263
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Welcome to the Sunny Side!

The View Co-Host **Sunny Hostin** gets personal about work, family & living the good life in Westchester (complete with beehives & a chicken coop)

By Mia Weber

The first thing you notice about “The View” Sunny Hostin is that she really lives up to her name. When she and I met in her dressing room (complete with chic framed photos, a plush sofa, and an uber-organized makeup vanity) at the ABC studios near Columbus Circle, the temperatures were clocking in at a high of 14 degrees F and a low of 4 degrees F—and yet, she warmed the day right up with her bright smile and cheery demeanor.

To be fair, Hostin has plenty in her life to smile about right now. She lives the best of both city life (at work in Manhattan) and suburban life (at home in Westchester, where she loves to garden and tend to her bee hives and chicken coop). She’s killing it as part of the tight-knit “sorority” of diverse co-hosts on “The View” (alongside Whoopi Goldberg, Joy Behar, Meghan McCain, and Abby Huntsman) and as the Senior Legal Correspondent (for which she’s an Emmy-winner) for ABC News. She co-owns a restaurant in New Rochelle called Alvin & Friends that counts Supreme



Photo by Heidi Gutman



Photo by Lorenzo Bevilaqua

Above left: Sunny Hostin with her children and husband; above right: On "The View" with Martha Stewart and their chickens.

Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor as a regular. And, most importantly in her eyes, she's enjoying a thriving relationship with her teenage son, Gabriel, and tween daughter, Paloma.

"My son is 16 and my daughter is 12...and I have loved every single stage of being a mom, and I feel like it gets better and better," she gushes. "Everyone told me that it gets harder... But I just feel like it's not that it gets harder, it just changes. It's an important job, being a mom, and I've loved every single minute of it."

Hostin, 50, also truly loves the work she does. A lawyer who long harbored dreams of being on television, Hostin came to "The View" via a career path paved first with a law degree and her natural gift for public speaking, and stints at Court TV, Fox News, and CNN.

"[Growing up], I definitely wanted to be a journalist and I wanted to tell other people's stories. But at the time, and this was pre-Oprah, my mother was horrified at the thought of her kid who was smart and who she had invested so much in saying: 'I want to do television!' She was like: 'No one looks like you on television! What are you talking about?' She really didn't get it, that I wanted to tell other people's stories," Hostin recalls, adding that though her father encouraged her dreams, her mother advised her to pursue law school. "I loved law school and it was such a great fit for me, but in the back of mind I kept thinking: 'I really should be doing something else.'"

After studying journalism undergrad at SUNY Binghamton and then going to law school at Notre Dame, Hostin went on to work as a trial attorney for the Justice Department and federal prosecutor before deciding to give the stay-at-home-mom life a try after giving birth to her son. "After I had my son, I thought I was going to be a stay-at-home mom, but that wasn't a great fit because I was driving everyone crazy," she says. "I decided I was going to



Photo by Lorenzo Bevilaqua

be the best stay-at-home mom ever! I was making my own food for Gabriel and I was the best dog owner and the best gardener and it was just too much."

During this time, Hostin attended a law conference where she was called upon to speak in public—afterwards, she was approached by Sabrina Thompson, a producer for Court TV, who complimented her on her speaking prowess. Two weeks later, Hostin was on-air on Court TV; about six months after that, she was making appearances on "Nancy Grace" and Fox News; and another short six months later, she was a regular on CNN as a host and legal analyst. Eventually, she came to ABC as an overnight anchor for ABC News, and began guest-hosting on "The View" in 2012, where she has now been an official co-host since 2016.

During a moment of calm between taping an episode of "The View," and rushing back to Westchester to gather snacks for her daughter's basketball game that day ("I'm the 7th grade basketball parent...I'm the one who brings the snacks"), I caught up with Hostin about balancing city and country, work and family, and her personal passions and hobbies ("You know who I got into bees? Whoopi Goldberg! She's becoming a beekeeper this spring!").

Your kids are 16 and 12—how has the adjustment been as a mom as your kids get older?

It is going really well. I hear all these horror stories from other parents—like: "Oh! You're going to hate the teenage years!" But I haven't really had that. Certainly, they're growing and trying new things—actually, my son just got his learners' permit for driving last weekend, and of course, my friends said it was going to be horrible, but it was kind of cool! He's like: "Can I drive home from the post office?" and I was like: "Sure!" He was driving kind of fast—I had to say: "Hey, wait a minute!"—he's got kind of lead foot and the speed limit is 35 on our street. But I just liked seeing the independence.

What does your family like to do together?

Both of my kids are athletes and my daughter plays 7th grade volleyball, basketball, and track and field, and



Photo by Heidi Gutman

my son just decided to stop swimming—he'd been swimming since he was like 2—and now concentrates just on football and track and field. I spend a lot of time going to the games. I have a game today for my daughter and we spent Saturday at the New Balance indoor track meet. We are also looking at colleges for my son—I can't believe he's graduating in 2020! We're a very active family, so we do a lot of outdoor things. Yesterday it was about making sure my chickens were warm enough because it was like 1 degree out when we woke up!

I love that you keep chickens at home—but I was wondering: How do you keep them warm in the winter?

We added extra hay, we made sure that all the windows in the coop were closed, and the kids helped me. We actually bought some heating pads for the chickens and we bought a heated roost bar and we also put Vaseline on their waddles so that they didn't get frostbite. It sounds crazy, but...we put this blue ointment [on one of them]—we have one Bantam chicken and we were a little worried about her because she's smaller than the others, and she doesn't want to huddle with them, so we wanted to make sure she was the warmest one.

I'm eager to hear about your bees as well!

I'm fascinated by bees because they're prehistoric and they've been around forever. People have used honey as a salve, it's used to fight infection, and it's one of

our ancient ointments. My grandmother from Puerto Rico used to use it when I would get scrapes. She said it would protect the skin from scars. I always thought that everyone did that but I guess they don't? So it has been something that I was always interested in... I've read a lot about how bees are becoming extinct, and we really have to think about that. If bees become extinct, where's our food coming from? It'll be catastrophic!

It's so great that you've spoken about your passion for bees quite a bit on "The View."

I found this company Best Bees and they installed the bee hives [at my house]... I befriended the owner of the company—his name is Noah—and he is the most interesting guy ever. He comes to our house and what was supposed to be a 30 minute meeting became a three hour lesson on bees and beekeeping and honey... He taught me how to harvest honey and he taught my daughter how to make candles from the bees' wax. We are out of control! Of course, I brought him to the show because I made honey and beekeeping some of my Favorite Things for Christmas. He works with NASA and Whole Foods—he's a bee whisperer. I introduced him to [my co-host] Whoopi Goldberg, and now he's been at Whoopi's house. But Whoopi's getting two bee hives so now I have to get another hive because I can't be out-bee'd by people! I have to be the top beekeeper!

You have your bees, chickens, and family all

"The View" co-hosts: Sunny Hostin, Joy Behar, Whoopi Goldberg, Meghan McCain, and Abby Huntsman.



Photo by Heidi Gutman

out in Westchester, but you grew up in the Bronx, and you work in Manhattan. Did you always see yourself moving to the suburbs?

I always wanted to have a house. I would watch movies and we'd go to Puerto Rico and see houses. I do love the city life, and I don't think I could live in a place where I couldn't get to a city within an hour or a half an hour because I love the energy. I remember when I went to law school and undergrad, really, I felt like I missed the pace and the energy. So I've always lived within traveling distance to a city, but I did want this kind of life.

Do you have any tips for parents thinking about making the move to the suburbs?

To be sure, it's not the easiest transition, because there's the travel time, especially if you work in the city—I have to build in at least an hour every day. The restaurants close early and it's not like the city that never sleeps. You don't have the same amenities, for sure, but there really is something special about, when you leave the city... I remember seeing the snow fall and actually seeing the glistening of the snow while walking my dog. I love it.

Switching gears a bit—let's talk about your work. What has your experience been like on "The View"? What do you enjoy about it?

What I like most about it is that it's such an incredible, incredible platform. It's a legacy show—there aren't that many shows that have been on for over 20 years, and have this mix of pop culture, current events,

politics, and you have five women who are from different backgrounds, and we're talking about the stuff that everyone is talking about. A lot of people have tried to duplicate or replicate what we do, but they don't do it as well and I'm not sure why. I think that it's probably multi-factorial, but it's because we just know how to do this, and it's just the legacy of it all. I love being part of that—it's like a sorority that has only 22 members.

What are some of the challenges of the job?

I love being able to reach people where it matters for them and be a voice for the community—it's wonderful and it's a real privilege—but with that comes a tremendous responsibility and that can be very hard sometimes. Because, one, you completely lose your anonymity in a way that I don't know that I expected. I was on CNN for many, many years...but then all of a sudden I'm on "The View" and 3 million people watch this show. So you get on the train as a native New Yorker and people are staring at you... It's very different for someone like me, a kid from the Bronx.

What's the dynamic like with your co-hosts?

I think the mix is good because we all understand that this is different and unique and we protect each other. And we're lead by someone who has been on the show forever, Joy Behar—we listen to her, she's been through it all, she's seen it all. Whoopi moderates—and she's also been through it all and seen it all. So we have a very good support system and that's extremely helpful. I think, without that, it would be extremely difficult. We also leave our disagreements at the table and, really, if we had people who didn't understand that, it would be impossible, because we tackle really tough, tough issues.

Between work, motherhood, and your personal passions, what does the work-life balance equation look like for you?

I really put my family first. It's more important to me than anything else... There are certain things that will fall by the wayside but I *will* have the snacks for my daughter's game today. I prioritize what's important to me. I have everything on my Google calendar—everything! I print it out, usually on Sunday night so I know what my day and my week and my month all look like. I make sure that my kids' stuff is prioritized and my family's stuff is prioritized. To be sure, some things fall by the wayside, unfortunately. I'm sure it has happened to every working mom, and stay-at-home mom...it just happened to me recently: My son is taking this SAT prep course and I could have sworn it started at 1:30pm last week, but it was at 1pm. We showed up at 1:30pm and he missed half an hour. But hey, he was there and he'll live.

To learn more about Sunny Hostin, visit sunnyhostin.com & abc.go.com!

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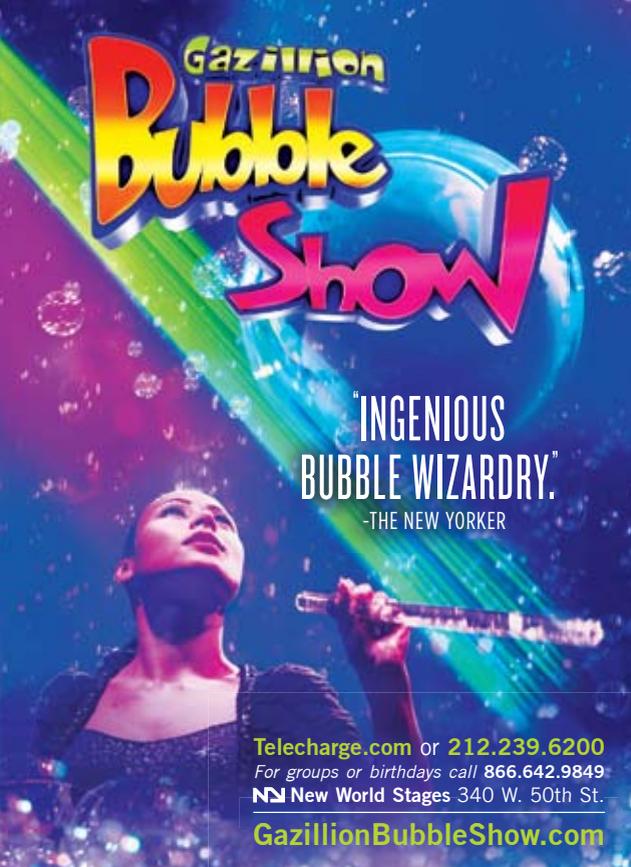
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Game of Thrones

Our guide to the best car seats of the year for 2019

The old adage of “safety first” rings especially true when picking out the right car seat for your baby or toddler. Our selective guide to 18 great car seats on the market for 2019 has every family covered when it comes to this essential piece of gear. From every-stage seats to high-tech smart car seats (they alert you if you leave baby in the car accidentally and warn if baby unbuckles themselves), and from newborn seats to boosters, there’s a seat for every parent and child’s need and stage in life.



Baby Jogger City View Space Saving All-in-One Car Seat:

The new City View is Baby Jogger’s first all-in-one car seat. With its slim design, the City View allows extra space needed for fitting passengers of different ages safely and comfortably.

Recommended for children weighing 4-100 lbs., this new seat features a slim design (which allows extra space for fitting passengers across the back seat of

any vehicle), an Anti-Rebound Bar, push button LATCH for easy install, a removable cup holder, a 10-position harness and headrest, a 5-point harness, a 4-position recline, and an infant insert. Plus, it grows with your child (rear facing from 4-40 lbs., forward facing from 22-65 lbs., and high back booster from 40-100 lbs.). \$349.99, babyjogger.com

Baby Trend Hybrid Plus 3-in-1 Car Seat:

The Hybrid Plus 3-in-1 Car Seat comes complete with a slate of impressive features. It offers a machine-washable seat pad, three modes of use (so it will grow with your child for years to come), multi-size cup holders, one-hand harness adjustment, padded harness covers and arm rests, and removable and hand-washable seat pad, inserts, and harness covers. Plus, it’s totally LATCH compatible. This seat is suitable forward facing from 22-50 lbs. \$89.99, target.com



BOB B-Safe 35 by Britax:

The BOB B-Safe 35 by Britax combines unmatched protection with distinctive BOB style. With just an adapter (sold separately), you can create the perfect BOB travel system using the B-Safe 35 and your favorite BOB stroller. The seat features SafeCell Impact Protection, a deep foam-lined shell for Side Impact Protection, an impact-stabilizing steel frame, SafeCenter LATCH

Installation, an ergonomic handle, removable head pads, a spring-assisted recline, and much more. Plus, it’s made in the USA and certified for aircraft travel. \$229.99, bobgear.com



Britax Endeavours Cool N Dry Collection Infant Car

Seat: The Britax Endeavours infant car seat and Infant Car Seat Base with Anti-Rebound Bar (ARB) are designed, engineered, tested, and assembled in the

United States and are crafted to complement modern automotive interiors. The Endeavours is also equipped with Click & Go compatibility, featuring a one-handed, quick-release lever to use effortlessly with all Britax strollers while on the go. Plus, the infant seat includes a flip-forward belly pad to keep buckles and straps out of the way when placing children into



the seats. The Cool N Dry Collection model is designed to deliver premium seating comfort for baby during short car rides or long road trips thanks to its specially woven high-performance fabric infused with bamboo charcoal to wick away moisture and allow ample air flow. *Infant car seat: \$299.99; infant car seat base with ARB: \$139.99; buybuybaby.com*

Chicco MyFit Harness+Booster Car

Seat: Chicco's MyFit Harness+Booster Car Seat is designed to keep your growing child comfortable and content with the security of a 5-point harness. A nine-position extended headrest and easy transition to a belt-positioning booster accommodate years of growing. For kids weighing 25-65 lbs., the MyFit has a traditional 5-point harness that accommodates growing toddlers; for older children weighing 40-100 lbs., it converts to a belt-positioning booster. *\$199.99, chiccousa.com*



Clek Fflo: The Fflo was designed with international best practices for extended rear-facing use. It comes with a steel anti-rebound bar, which improves stability by limiting rotation of the car seat, adding extra protection for your child's head in the event of a collision. Plus, integrated into Fflo is an Energy Absorbing Crumple Technology (EACT) designed to reduce the forces transmitted to a forward-facing child in a collision by transferring them to the aluminum honeycomb deformable cores integrated into the seat base. Its Advanced Side-Impact Protection is designed to protect your child's head in a side-impact collision using its adjustable headrest with deep side-wings layered with energy-absorbing foam, a metal substructure which prevents twisting, and more-energy absorbing foam layers on both the inside and outside of the frame. *From \$299.99, clekinc.com*



Cosco Finale 2-in-1: The Cosco Finale 2-in-1 DX Booster Car Seat features extended use in both of its two modes. It starts by keeping kids securely in a five-point safety harness all the way up to 65 lbs. In its second mode, as a belt-positioning booster, it has them covered up to 100 lbs. In both modes, the deluxe fabric offers prime comfort and style. Plus, this car seat is American-made and super lightweight, and features a dishwasher-safe and detachable cup holder, machine washable and dryable fabrics, and more. *\$59.99, target.com*

CYBEX Sirona M: The new Sirona M is the only smart-phone synced convertible car seat on the market, with SensorSafe 2.0 technology. It's suitable from birth to 65 lbs. (about 4 years). The seat features ISOFIX technology, which allows for a one-click installation, thereby reducing risk of an improper install. This car seat also integrates important safety technology into the chest clip of the car seat to alert when unsafe conditions arise (when the driver accidentally leaves the child behind in the car, or a child unbuckles themselves while the car is in motion, for example). Plus, you get magnetic belt holders for easy entry and exit from the seat, a one-pull LATCH removal system, harness pads with anti-slip backing and comfort padded buckle cover, and many more premium features and all the quality that parents expect from CYBEX. *\$329.95, cybex-online.com*



Diono Radian 3RXT: Enjoy the journey with the Diono Radian 3RXT all-in-one convertible car seat, lovingly engineered to always protect. At the core of the Radian 3RXT is a unique mechanically engineered dual spine fabricated from automotive-grade high-strength steel that provides an unyielding structure to protect and shield. Aluminum-reinforced side walls, lined with energy-absorbing EPS foam, manage and dissipate energy, while memory foam and luxury padding puts your mind at ease as your little one travels safely in style and comfort. The reinforced adjustable head support provides additional side impact protection. And if you want to avoid those bulky car seats, look no further as the sleek, slim design of the Diono Radian 3RXT allows for a three-across fit or plenty of room for passengers. \$299.99, us.diono.com



Doona Infant Car Seat: Doona is the only infant car seat with fully integrated wheels—that means that it converts from car seat into stroller with the easy push of a button! Doona was designed to provide parents with a safe and practical mobility solution for their baby, both in and out of the car. Doona meets the highest quality and safety standards in both the car seat and stroller categories. A great option for both urban and suburban families, Doona is suitable for babies 4-35 lbs. and up to 32 inches tall; it also includes an infant insert which cradles and supports your newborn safely and properly. \$499 (base is included), doonausa.com

Evenflo EveryStage DLX All-in-One Car Seat: The Evenflo EveryStage DLX All-in-One Car Seat delivers a safe and unrivaled comfort and installation experience. This all-in-one offers 10 years of safe and secure use as an Infant Seat + Convertible + Booster Seat, from 4-120 lbs. Its Easy-Click LATCH system outperforms top competitors with a much tighter installation for a wiggle-free seat without having to get into the vehicle (based on consumer research of rear-facing installations with competitive LATCH systems). This seat grows with your child (it's suitable up to 120 lbs. as a high-back booster); plus, it features 10 positions, five recline positions, an energy absorbing base, and live video installation support. \$229.99, evenflo.com



Graco Nautilus SnugLock LX 3-in-1 Harness Booster: The Graco Nautilus SnugLock LX is equipped with SnugLock Technology for a hassle-free installation using either vehicle seat belt or LATCH. In three easy steps, you can feel confident you've got a secure install. The 3-in-1 Harness Booster converts from a 5-point harness booster (22-65 lbs.), to a high back booster (40-100 lbs.) and to a backless booster (40-100 lbs.). The backless booster can also be converted to a slimmer backless booster (40-120 lbs.) by removing the arm rests. The Nautilus SnugLock LX 3-in-1 Harness Booster is also available in a Nautilus SnugLock DLX model that features a RapidRemove cover. \$219.99, Gracobaby.com

Maxi-Cosi Magellan Max: The Maxi-Cosi Magellan Max is an innovative new 5-in-1 convertible car seat that accommodates children from birth to age 10 (about 5-120 lbs.). The Magellan Max easily transitions between five modes of use: Baby Rear-Facing, Toddler Rear-Facing, Toddler Forward-Facing, Child Forward-Facing, and Belt Positioning Booster. Plus, it is the only convertible car seat equipped with Maxi-Cosi's patented Adjustable Side Impact Protection, which creates a customized fit for all growth stages and ensures maximum protection in the proper position. Finally, this seat provides even more convenience, equipped with premium features including an EZ Out harness system to keep straps and the crotch buckle from getting caught and bunched under your child. \$399.99, buybuybaby.com



Nuna PIPA lite lx: The PIPA lite lx is ultra-portable, weighing only 5.7 lbs. Its feather-weight design includes Nuna's exclusive Dream Drape while blending aeroflex foam, Merino wool, and TENCEL lyocell fiber blend for ultimate comfort and protection. It also features a removable UPF 50+ canopy with flip out eyeshade, a customizable and removable headrest, and five point harness. Recommended for babies weighing 4-32 lbs., the PIPA lite lx true lock base installation and high-end details offer an impressive slate of premium safety, convenience, and aesthetic features; it has a supremely secure design that exceeds American safety standards. \$399.95, nuna.eu/usa



UPPAbaby MESA in Jordan (Charcoal Mélange): The MESA infant car seat is designed with intuitive innovations parents can see and features that remove the guesswork. The SMARTSecure System combines auto-retracting LATCH connectors and a visual indicator that turns from red to green for simple and accurate installation. The adjustable no re-thread five-point harness and SIP ensures a proper fit. The Jordan and Henry fashions are the first and only Naturally Fire Resistant Car Seat on the market. State and federal safety standards still require all car seats meet flame retardant standards; however, the MESA in Jordan and Henry, which are constructed of a merino wool blend bonded to foam, pass government and regulatory guidelines without the application of chemical flame retardants. \$349.99, uppababy.com



Peg-Pérego Primo Viaggio 4-35 Nido: This sleek car seat offers a variety of enviable safety and design features. It comes complete with an Extendable Pagoda Hood (which is UPF 50+ and protects baby from all elements), a base with a Load Leg that protects baby by stabilizing the car seat and reducing rotations by 50 percent in a front collision, an elongated Anti-Rebound Bar that protects baby by minimizing impact forces and reducing rotations by 50 percent in a rear collision, a Dual Stage Cushion System that helps the seat grow with baby, and more. \$349.99, us.pegperego.com



Safety 1st 3-in-1 Grow and Go EX Air: The 3-in-1 Grow and Go EX Air gives your child a safer and more comfortable ride with extended use at each stage, including up to 50 lbs. in the safer, rear-facing position. This seat is built to grow with baby for extended use through three stages: Rear-facing while baby is 5-50 lbs., forward-facing at 22-65 lbs., and belt-positioning booster at 40-100 lbs. It also offers Air Protect (an advanced cushion system that provides extra protection), a machine-washable and dryer-safe seat pad, a QuickFit Harness for easy adjustment, and a three-position recline. \$199.99, target.com



Urbini Sonti: The Sonti is an easy-to-install and super-lightweight infant car seat. It has been rigorously crash and side-impact tested, and it offers increased side impact protection with deep sidewalls and an extended layer of energy-absorbing foam. Additionally, the Sonti features an extra grip belt lock-off on car seat base to achieve a snug installation, a four-position adjustable base with level indicator, a special infant body support to properly position babies 4-6 lbs., multiple harness and buckle slots to achieve snug fit, and more. This car seat is suitable for babies weighing 4-35 lbs. \$69.99, walmart.com



For more baby gear guides, visit newyorkfamily.com!

MITZVAH MUSTS

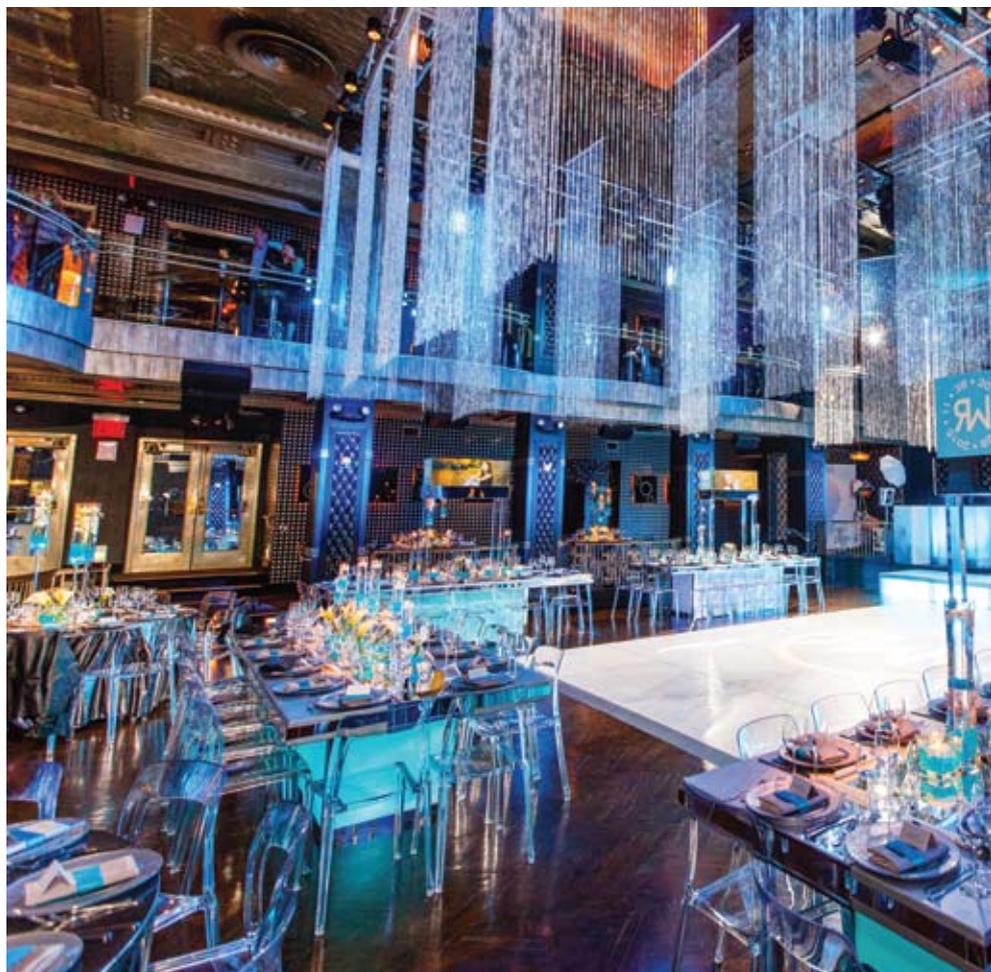
We've gathered the best venues & celebration pros to celebrate your child's day in style!

A bar or bat mitzah is a special time in your child's life: It marks his or her journey into adulthood. To help you plan this milestone celebration, we've put together a guide to the best venues in and near NYC—regardless of what aesthetic you're going for, from sporty to glam, we've got you covered.

Contemporary

Your guests will swoon over **Eventi's** 20,000-square-ft. indoor and outdoor space, featuring a 30-ft. open-air screen, glorious city views, and a stylish ballroom with high ceilings and draped columns that can seat 230 guests. Enjoy sweeping East River views at **Apella's** sun-drenched venue with a sleek interior design with a variety of seating arrangements to accommodate 100-plus seated guests with dancing. **Current's** chic, open space is bathed in natural light with windowed walls overlooking **Chelsea Piers'** marina, a custom-lit ceiling, and state-of-the-art technology. Host a black-tie affair for over 240 people in the **Conrad New York's** luxurious ballroom or opt for an intimate celebration in an event room.

Upper Story is a contemporary space with a classic feel featuring soft colors, a spacious balcony, and oversized windows offering awe-inspiring city views that can host up to 180 people at a seated dinner with dancing. Old-world charm blends with contemporary design at **Guastavino's**, a ballroom with vaulted ceilings, soaring arches, and tiled columns that can fit 450 seated guests. For a swanky mitzvah with a unique layout, the **IAC HQ** offers an 8,550-square-ft. space oozing with style, windowed walls, high ceilings, a video wall, and dimmable lighting for a memorable affair.



Sophisticated

Steeped in luxury, the **Park Hyatt New York's** 8,000-square-ft. residential-style space includes a majestic ballroom with white, Italian onyx walls and a terrace with jaw-dropping views. **The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers** offers a waterfront space with a loft-like feel showcasing sleek flooring, period lanterns, and an enclosed terrace that can hold 800 guests. Designed with modern and minimalist elements, **Tribeca 360's** stunning 30,000-square-ft. space has large windowed walls offering magnificent Manhattan views and can fit 400 seated guests. When the sun sets, the party heats up at **Sunset Terrace**, a chic space with industrial elements, floor-to-ceiling windows offering panoramic Hudson River views, and seating for 150 guests with dancing.

The spotlight will be on your child at the **Ziegfeld Ballroom**, a '60s movie theater turned modern event space with no columns, dark wood, and sparkly chandeliers that can seat 1,000 guests. The **Glasshouses** has two

elegant spaces with an understated design featuring neutral colors, glass walls, and marvelous Hudson River views that can each seat 150 guests. Enjoy an industrial chic vibe at **Trattoria Il Mulino**, which can host 130 guests in its main room and 45 people in its private room for an unforgettable experience. Finally, built in 1923 and designed by the renowned architectural firm of Delano & Aldrich, **583 PARK AVENUE** is a glamorous, yet classic, sure to offer a unique look for your mitzvah celebration.

Classic & Traditional

For a refined mitzvah, **202 East's** elegant space has everything you need: beautiful high ceilings, a cool color palette, adjustable lighting, and wall-mounted candles creating a soft environment for 120 guests. Add Parisian flair to your mitzvah when you reserve the **Bryant Park Grill**, a NYC treasure that can host large parties in its chic dining room, rooftop, and garden that has a heated tent for winter festivities. Keep it classy at **Battery**



Left: Edison Ballroom. Above: Tribeca 360.

Gardens' waterside venue, showcasing panoramic city views, windowed walls, wraparound terraces, and separate spaces for teens and adults that can accommodate kosher events. Love historic venues? The UN's Delegates Dining Room is a versatile state-of-the-art event space with walled windows, sweeping East River views, and a large terrace. The posh **Harmonic Club** offers updated, flexible spaces exuding old-world glamour and boasts a stately ambiance for a regal affair. Looking for an iconic city setting? Try the St. Regis. This elegant hotel offers Beaux Arts charm, an elegant ballroom, and more.

Minimalist

Art fans will love **White Space Chelsea's** elegant gallery space for its roomy layout, tall ceilings, and gallery lighting. Keep the current exhibition up or make the space your own. For a sophisticated venue with a minimalist design, check out **Space's** 6,500-square-ft ballroom with customized LED lighting, projector, and wireless capabilities. **Helen**

Mills offers a 4,000-square-ft, loft-like space outfitted with white walls and the latest audiovisual technology for a fun night of eating, games, and dancing. Have a picture-perfect mitzvah at **Splashlight**, offering unassuming, expansive spaces with tons of natural light and high ceilings that can be combined for a larger party.

Host an elegant celebration at **Midtown Loft's** 5,000-square-ft. functional space with an upbeat style, marble bathrooms, adjustable lighting, tall ceilings, and large windows offering incredible skyline views. Throw an understated classy affair in one of **Home Studios'** spacious lofts that are drenched in natural light and outfitted with white walls, maple floors, exposed brick, and tall ceilings. **Union Square Ballroom** offers a clean space with a warm, elegant vibe with vaulted ceilings, state-of-the-art technology, and seating for 150 guests and the ability to use the lounge for larger mitzvahs. Party under the stars at **Studio 450's** penthouse duplex with a rooftop terrace boasting stunning skyline views, an abundance of natural light, and white walls perfect for any theme. For a classier, more mature celebration, **Amali NYC** should be on your radar. Their 20,000-square-ft. space fits up to 400 people and features 20 different unique food vendors, making it one of the most dynamic food halls in NYC.

Musical

If music is the soundtrack of your child's life, **Gramercy Theatre** is a music venue that has a 2,000-square-ft. main room with a stage and state-of-the-art lighting and sound. **SIR Stage37** is a versatile event and performance space with a clean look and contemporary flourishes that's a fave among famous musicians. For a mitzvah that rocks, the **Hard Rock Café** offers a restaurant-style venue featuring memorabilia from musical legends, private rooms, stage, and live entertainment.

Over-the-Top

You won't find a more lavish space than the **Angel Orensanz Foundation**, a neo-Gothic style venue with dramatic high ceilings, stained glass windows, and a wraparound balcony overlooking the dance floor. **Cipriani 42nd Street** is a magnificent work of art with an old-world feel boasting a 12,000-square-ft ballroom with soaring ceilings, gigantic marble columns, and exquisite chandeliers, and a spacious terrace. Throw a ritzy mitzvah and support NYC outreach programs when you book the **Prince George Ballroom**, an ornate, 5,000-square-ft. ballroom with classical and Neo-Renaissance touches and modern amenities. **Capitale's** ballroom radiates historical grandeur with its towering columns, art glass skylight, and a 65-ft ceiling, and can seat 700 people for a

royal celebration.

Make a statement with a mitzvah at the **Mandarin Oriental's** jaw-dropping ballroom, styled with an East Asian flair, 18-ft.-high windowed walls, sparkling chandeliers, and breathtaking Central Park views. For a glitzy affair with a club-like atmosphere, the Edison Ballroom boasts three rooms, state-of-the-art technology, a 200-inch screen, and separate areas for kids and adults. Celebrate in grand style at the W New York Union Square's Great Room featuring Beaux-Arts detailing, floor-to-ceiling windows, and a 23-ft. high vaulted ceiling. It's located on a private floor for an exclusive affair. You can't get more over-the-top than the top of the **One World Observatory!** **Aspire** at One World Observatory is a gorgeous 9,000-square-ft. flexible space which offers on-site amenities and expansive views that your guests will love.

Theatrical

Grab 10 of your child's best friends and celebrate with the **Blue Man Group**. Party packages include priority access, discounted tickets, swag, and your child's name on a LED screen. For a dramatic mitzvah, book



photo by Heidi Green

583 Park.

the **Harlem Stage Gatehouse**, a performing arts space with an outdoor lounge that can fit close to 200 people.

Museum-Quality

Dance in outer space at the **New York Hall of Science**, which offers a few spaces including a 4,000-square-ft, oval-shaped gallery space with white walls and an exhibition area that can fit 750 guests for cocktails. The Museum of Jewish Heritage has spaces with spectacular harbor views, including a large event hall with floor-to-ceiling windows that can fit 400 people and a chic lobby space that can seat 150 people. Party underwater at the National Geographic Encounter, which can host up to 600 people for a unique undersea bash that includes admission to the encounter exhibition.

Lounge Vibes

If you're looking for a sleek space with a nightclub feel, **404** can accommodate a service and reception, an adult and kid party, or a bash separating the dance floor, games, and the adult seated dinner/lounge. **Lexicon** is a cozy nightclub designed with warm colors, cherry wood accents, and a sunken dance floor making it great for an upbeat celebration. Raise the roof at **Stage 48/Cantina Rooftop**, a multilevel venue featuring a ballroom with a stage, a lounge with a performance space, and a stylish, year-round rooftop with unobstructed skyline views. **Taj II Lounge** is a restaurant

and lounge designed with opulent Indian-accented décor perfect for a sophisticated party. Overlooking the Hudson River, the **Hudson Terrace** is an upscale lounge and nightclub offering three spaces, including a rooftop, with distinct vibes and the latest audiovisual technology. **Arena NYC** offers a multilevel space fusing old-world elegance with modern flourishes and has programmable lighting, a stage, a DJ box, and a runway so your child can strut into adulthood.

Action-Packed

Basketball fans will love **Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine**, a restaurant-style venue that has a free throw basketball court, TVs, and a lounge. **SPiN NY** puts a fancy twist on ping-pong at its 12,000-square-ft lounge space offering private rooms, on-site catering, and games. Energetic guests will have a ball at **Bowlmor Lanes** where bowling, games, laser tag, and billiards will keep them entertained all day. It's game on at **Dave & Buster's**, a superb venue for kids who love gaming. **D&B** offers all-inclusive packages, private rooms, and can fit 2,000 guests for a super-fun time.

Kids will have a field day at the **Field House at Chelsea Piers**, where the mezzanines can be combined to fit 250 people and is near all activities. For an upscale, sporty mitzvah, you can bowl in **Lucky Strike's** main area or reserve a VIP lounge with four private lanes, bar, and DJ station. Play games and dance the night away

NYC Mitzvah Pros

Fantastic local vendors to make for a perfect mitzvah!

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Heidi Green Photography,

heidigreen.com

Michael Jurick Photography,

jurick.net

Sarah Merians Photography &

Video Company,

sarahmerians.com

EVENT PLANNING & CATERING

EMRG Media,

emrgmedia.com

Expressway Music DJs,

expresswaymusic.com

Gourmet Advisory Services,

gourmetadvisory.com

Successful Affairs,

successfulaffairs.com

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Beineinu - Between Us

beineinu.com

Jewish Ceremonies,

jewish-ceremonies.com

Park East Synagogue,

parkeastsynagogue.org

COMMEMORATE YOUR CHILD'S
BAR OR BAT MITZVAH
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OPEN OCEAN EXHIBITS.



Photo Credit: Gretchen Yengst



Photo Credit: Justin Chauncey

CELEBRATE IN A
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VENUE FILLED WITH
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Photo Credit: Mark Leslie



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WHERE TO MITZVAH IN NYC

A selective list of local mitzvah venues (Including all of the venues featured on pages 50-53!)

- 202 East**, 202east.com
404, 404nyc.com
583 PARK AVENUE, 583parkave.com
Amali NYC, amaliny.com
Angel Orensanz Foundation, orensanzevents.com
Apella Event Space, apella.com
Arena NYC, arenanyc.net
Battery Gardens, batterygardens.com
Blue Man Group, blueman.com
Bowlmor, bowlmor.com
Bryant Park Grill, arkrestaurants.com/bryant_park
Capitale, capitaleny.com
Cipriani 42nd Street, cipriani.com
Clyde Frazier's Wine and Dine, arkrestaurants.com
Conrad New York, conradnewyork.com
The Craft Studio, craftstudionyc.com
Current, piersixty.com/current
Dave&Busters, daveandbusters.com
Delegates Dining Room, delegatesdiningroom-un.com
Edison Ballroom, edisonballroom.com
eSpace, espaceny.com
Eventi, hoteleventi.com
Factory 220, factory220.com
Fieldhouse at Chelsea Piers, chelseapiers.com/fh
Gansevoort Park Ave, gansevoorthotelgroup.com
The Garrison, thegarrison.com
Glasshouses, theglasshouses.com
Gramercy Theater, venue.thegramercytheatre.com
Guastavino's, guastavinos.com
Hard Rock Café, hardrock.com
Harlem Stage Gatehouse, harlemstage.org
Harmonie Club, harmonieclub.org
Helen Mills, helenmills.com
Home Studios, homestudiosinc.com
Hudson Terrace, hudsonterracenyc.com
IAC Building, iac.com
Lexicon, metronomenyc.com
LIFE...The Place To Be, lifetheplacetobe.com
Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers, piersixty.com
Lucky Strike Lanes, bowlluckystrike.com
Mamaroneck Beach & Yacht, mamaroneckbeachandyacht.com
Mandarin Oriental, mandarinoriental.com
Maritime Aquarium, maritimeaquarium.org
Meadowlands Racing, thebigm.com
MetLife Stadium, metlifestadium.com
Midtown Loft, midtownloft.net
Museum of Jewish Heritage, mjhnyc.org
NY Hall of Science, nysci.org
NY Yankees Steakhouse, nysteam.com
NoMa Social, nomasocial.com
One Atlantic Events, oneatlanticevents.com
One World Observatory, oneworldobservatory.com
Park Hyatt, newyork.park.hyatt.com
Prince George Ballroom, princegeorgeballroom.org
Sands Atlantic Beach, thesandsatlanticbeach.com
SIR Stage37, stage37events.com
Slate, slate-ny.com
SPACE NJ, spacenj.com
SPiN, newyork.wearespin.com
Splash Light Studios, splashlight.com
St. Regis New York, stregisnewyork.com
Stage 48/Cantina Rooftop, stage48.com
Studio 450, studio450ny.com
Sunset Terrace, chelseapiers.com
Taj Lounge, tajlounge.com
Trattoria Il Mulino, trattoriailmulino.com
Tribeca 360, tribeca360.com
Upper Story, upperstoryny.com
Union Square Ballroom, unionsquareballroom.com
W New York Union Square, wnewyorkunionsquare.com
White Space Studios, whitespacechelsea.com
Woodberry Jewish Center, thewjc.org
Yankee Stadium, newyork.yankees.mlb.com
Ziegfeld Theater, theziegfeldtheater.com

at **Slate**, a posh lounge and club offering ping-pong, pool, foosball, and a dance floor. **The Craft Studio** is a vibrant space with disco balls where kids can enjoy an activity-packed party and create memories that will last a lifetime.

Sporty Chic

Book **MetLife Stadium** for your mitzvah and earn points with football fans, as the venue offers spaces ranging from an intimate, dark wooded lounge to a festive party in a large open area with on-field patio access. Score a home run with a mitzvah at **Yankee Stadium**, where you can party in a suite on game day or celebrate in an event space for a sporty chic affair. Another option is to dine with Yankees greats in the New York Yankees Steakhouse's clubhouse, stylish vault room, or traditional event room. **Meadowlands Racing** offers a nightclub, lounge, outdoor, and restaurant-style spaces for an out-the-box mitzvah.

Beyond NYC

Nestled in the Hudson Highlands, **the Garrison** offers indoor and outdoor spaces boasting tons of natural light for a chic mitzvah. **The Mamaroneck Beach & Yacht Club** has 13 acres of sprawling waterfront in Westchester that includes a formal garden, tented terrace, and a main dining room for a classy, relaxed celebration. Book the **Sands Atlantic Beach** in Long Island for a glitzy ballroom with lavish chandeliers that turns into a club with all-inclusive packages. For an edgy space with modern touches, **Factory220** in NJ has a 30,000-square-ft loft studio with an industrial feel that will delight hip kids.

Party all night at **SPACE NJ's** ballroom lounge that's perfect for an over-the-top bash. The all-inclusive package includes a DJ, décor, custom menu, laser tag, mini bowling, and more. Or throw a mitzvah rooted in tradition in Atlantic City at **One Atlantic Events'** contemporary space featuring windowed walls, a curved ceiling, magnificent lighting, and breathtaking views for a dance party on the ocean. Head to **LIFE...The Place To Be** in Westchester for a modern industrial space with a nightclub feel boasting plasma and projection screens, mini bowling alleys, climbing wall, arcade, adult lounge, and ceremony site. **NoMa Social** is a Mediterranean restaurant by day and New Rochelle's party spot at night outfitted with velvet seating, hanging lights, and more.

Love the ocean? Book your mitzvah at the **Maritime Aquarium** in Norwalk, CT, for a unique under-the-sea celebration.



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Family Living: Town & Country

Expert insights for considering the key city vs. suburbs question

By Andrew Kramer

New York City is a fabulous place to raise a family—however, as your family grows, the question of where to make your home grows to even greater importance. The answer to the city vs. suburbs question is different for every family—so we spoke with top brokers working in Manhattan and some of the most desirable neighborhoods surrounding the city to get their take on what’s on offer for parents in both NYC and the suburbs right now.

MANHATTAN

There’s nothing quite like living in the greatest city in the world. We’re surrounded by endless cultural offerings with every conceivable culinary choice at our doorstep and conveniences that can’t be beat.

And when it comes to housing, Manhattan also offers a full spectrum of options...whether an apartment, townhouse, loft or a high rise tower with commanding views. For many city slickers there does come a point when they start to think about life beyond Manhattan—a more serene environment, more space, greener pastures and, more times than not, affordability.

However, in the past decade Manhattan is winning out over the suburbs as the destination of choice. More new construction condos have been built with large apartments, boasting three, four, or even five bedrooms that are chock full of wonderful amenities like playrooms, basketball courts, billiard/recreation rooms, party rooms, swimming pools, etc. to cater to this growing market. It’s also commonplace for Manhattanites to live in apartments that have been combined to accommodate the space they need.

Generally speaking, Manhattanites live in less space than their suburban counterparts and they pay more for it. With the average price of an apartment in Manhattan hovering in the \$2 million range, large apartments here come with a premium price tag. During the Fourth Quarter 2018, \$1,404,117 was the average price for a two-bedroom co-op (\$2,274,385 for a condo) and three-bedroom and larger co-ops averaged \$3,159,741 (\$8,225,107 for condos). I have come across opportunities, south of 96th Street, where a

two-bedroom is trading for under \$700,000 or a three-bedroom apartment can be had for under \$1.5 million. However, those properties generally come with “issues” such as no view, no doorman, high maintenance, etc. Those looking for value on this island tend to look north of 96th Street, whether it’s Hamilton Heights, Central Harlem (with an influx of more affordable new condo developments in the past 10 years), Washington Heights, or Inwood, where your dollar goes a lot further. —Andrew Kramer, *Brown Harris Stevens*, (212) 317-3634, ajkramer@bhsusa.com

RIVERDALE, THE BRONX

An easy MetroCard swipe (and only two subway stops North) of Manhattan, Riverdale is a bucolic enclave of the Bronx that is nestled alongside the Hudson River to the East, Van Cortlandt Park to the west (with 1,146 acres, it’s actually larger than Central Park) and Westchester to the North. Rolling hills and lush green space characterize the areas landscape with a diverse housing stock to choose from.

Manhattanites can trade their Classic Six or three-bedroom co-ops (or two-bedroom condos) apartments for a beautiful landmarked or contemporary estate in Fieldston or the Estate Area. Lovely smaller single-family homes in South and North Riverdale, with diverse architectural styles and wonderfully low New York City taxes, are comparable in price to a Manhattan one- or two-bedroom.

And when it comes to apartment living, there’s a multitude of building styles and sizes, ranging from prewar to mid-century/postwar cooperatives to sleek new condominiums (many with Hudson River views) for a fraction of their Manhattan equivalents. At the high-end of the market, new construction condominiums are trading in the \$700 per square-ft. range (translating to under \$1.5 million for a 2,000-square-ft. three-bedroom) and spacious prewar and postwar co-ops (many with doorman) three-bedrooms begin in the \$500,000 range with two-bedroom co-ops starting in the mid \$300,000 and up (1,000-square-ft. newer construction condos in the \$600,000 range) with Junior 4s and one-bedrooms co-ops in the \$200,000 range with studios going for a song.

This vibrant community, spanning less than five miles, top to bottom, with a population of approximately 40,000, is home to a plethora of parks and cultural venues, houses of worship, shops, and restaurants, and is served by Fresh Direct. Riverdale is an ideal choice for those looking for big city convenience in a more suburban setting. —Andrew Kramer

WESTCHESTER

Thinking about moving out of the city to Westchester? The nearby county is great families. Westchester has a lot to offer besides affordability. You get more interior and exterior space compared to many other areas. If you are one who likes to entertain, you can find a home that has a deck large enough to fit a table and chairs, BBQ, and a backyard.

Throughout Westchester there are many activities such as indoor ice skating facilities, indoor and outdoor tennis centers/courts, horse trails, golf courses, mini golf, and town pools. In the winter you can be an easy car ride away to fabulous skiing. In the fall you can find many apple and pumpkin orchards. Many local parks have organized sports that offer baseball, soccer, lacrosse, and more.

If you are looking for the urban to suburban feel, you can find many communities that offer homes within walking distance to Metro North. Depending on where you live in Southern Westchester, your commute could be a 30-minute express train into Grand Central Station. You also have options to walk to restaurants or local stores around town. The Westchester, an indoor shopping mall, located in White Plains, offers shoppers a variety of stores. You may feel you are shopping on Madison Avenue without weaving through car traffic or tourists.

If you are looking to move to bucolic New Rochelle, you may be able to find a beautiful four-bedroom home for under \$1 million. In parts of White Plains, your taxes may be lower for a four-bedroom because of all the corporations in the area. In fact, many people both live and work in White Plains. If you want to be in a waterfront community there are plenty of affordable opportunities in Rye, Mamaroneck, and the River Towns. —Jennifer Askowitz, *Silversons Realty*, (917) 747-3847, jaskowitz@gmail.com



CONNECTICUT

We find that there is a natural migration from the city to the suburbs. Especially young couples and young families find that the city was great while they were there, but the suburbs offer a terrific environment to raise children. Don't be deceived that it is another state. Lower Fairfield County, which includes Greenwich, Stamford, Darien, New Canaan, and more, is closer to NYC than many areas in Westchester and Long Island, with much lower property taxes. Many families are searching for a more down to earth environment to raise kids and a more relaxing environment to come home to after a hard day's work. Commuting is easy with trains to Grand Central and there are many opportunities in the Stamford/Greenwich area as well.

There are options for apartments, townhouses, and single family homes, large and small, and the dollar certainly goes further than many of the other suburbs. The more affordable Stamford and Norwalk towns offer apartments/condos in the \$200,000-650,000 range and homes from \$400,000 to \$1 million and up. Other towns, such as Greenwich, Darien, New Canaan and Westport offer condos for \$500,000 and homes that go into the multi-millions. —*Jodi Boxer, Boxer Realty Group at Keller Williams Prestige Properties, (203) 249-1690, Jodi@boxerrealtygroup.com*

BERGEN COUNTY, NJ

Located directly across the Hudson River from Manhattan in the northeastern of New

Jersey is Bergen County—a thriving suburb of the NYC metropolitan area. Just a short bus or car ride across the GW Bridge, you'll discover the quiet and serene neighborhoods situated amongst lush foliage. Bergen County offers a wide and diverse housing stock to satisfy every taste and budget. A three-bedroom/two-bath single family home in move-in condition range from \$450,000-500,000 and \$550,000-600,000 fully renovated. Larger 4-5 bedroom new construction homes trade in the \$750,000-850,000 range and \$1.1 million to \$3 million at the high end of the market.

Bergen County is also home to big name department stores and shops to please everyone. Routes 4 and 17 offer everything from TJ Maxx, Ikea, Century 21, Whole Foods, Bloomingdale's, Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus, and so much more. When it comes to suburban living with easy access to New York City, Bergen County can't be beat! —*Aline Smolanoff, Keller Williams Townlife, (201) 957-4800, alinesmolano@kw.com*

LONG ISLAND'S FIVE TOWNS

Living in the Five Towns, located in the southwestern portion of Long Island, can be summarized in three categories—lots of grass, a comfy home with large rooms and close proximity to the ocean. The outdoors become an extension of your home—with plenty of parks, access to the boardwalk, numerous recreation options, and plentiful shopping.

Each of the communities has its own character and vibe and include Cedarhurst, Woodmere, Hewlett, Inwood and tiny unincorporated villages called Hewlett Bay Park, Hewlett Harbor, and Woodburg. Cedarhurst, where the median price for a single family home is \$726,500 (condo \$490,000 and co-op \$260,000), is known for its high-end fashion boutiques. Woodmere has a mixture of both original and large custom designed homes, with a median price of \$738,000 (condo \$659,000 and co-op \$185,000). Lawrence is at the high end of the market with its large size properties (many with guest quarters) where \$1.025 million is the median price (condo \$648,000 and co-op \$180,000). \$558,885 is the median price for a home in Hewlett (condo \$490,000 and co-op \$140,000) and \$427,500 in Inwood (condo \$427,500 and co-op \$219,000), the Five Towns' most modest community.

The commute to Brooklyn and Manhattan is on the Long Island Railroad and takes just 45 minutes, and each town has its own station with parking. The public schools are highly rated and there are also a number of well-regarded private school options. Another benefit of the Five Towns is that the community is just minutes from JFK airport, making business and leisure travel very easy. —*Szilvia Bitton, V.I.Properties, (516) 791-1313, szilviabittonvip@gmail.com*

For more family real estate tips, visit newyorkfamily.com!



(Above) Canyon Road is full of art galleries. (Left) The region is know for its hot peppers.

Destination: Santa Fe

New Mexico offers families adventure by way of art, history & the outdoors

By Bethany Kandel

Are you looking for a vacation that has lots of outdoor activities, delicious regional food, and sunny skies year-round, plus history, culture and more fascinating museums than you can possibly visit? Then think about heading to **Santa Fe, New Mexico**. There's no way can kids be bored in Santa Fe. It's a lively, flavorful, fun place, whether you're eating spicy chilis, buying handmade souvenirs from local artisans in the outdoor markets, hiking mountains, or admiring the nightly spectacle of the incredible sunsets.

Art is everywhere: Even if your kids aren't big museum-goers, give some of the ones here a shot; there are dozens to choose

from. **The Museum of International Folk Art** is a toybox of treats with its incredibly detailed dioramas, dollhouses and puppets. Steps away is the **Museum of Indian Arts & Culture** where you can walk through ancient pueblo recreations and listen to the songs and stories that tell the origins and history of the Native people of the Southwest.

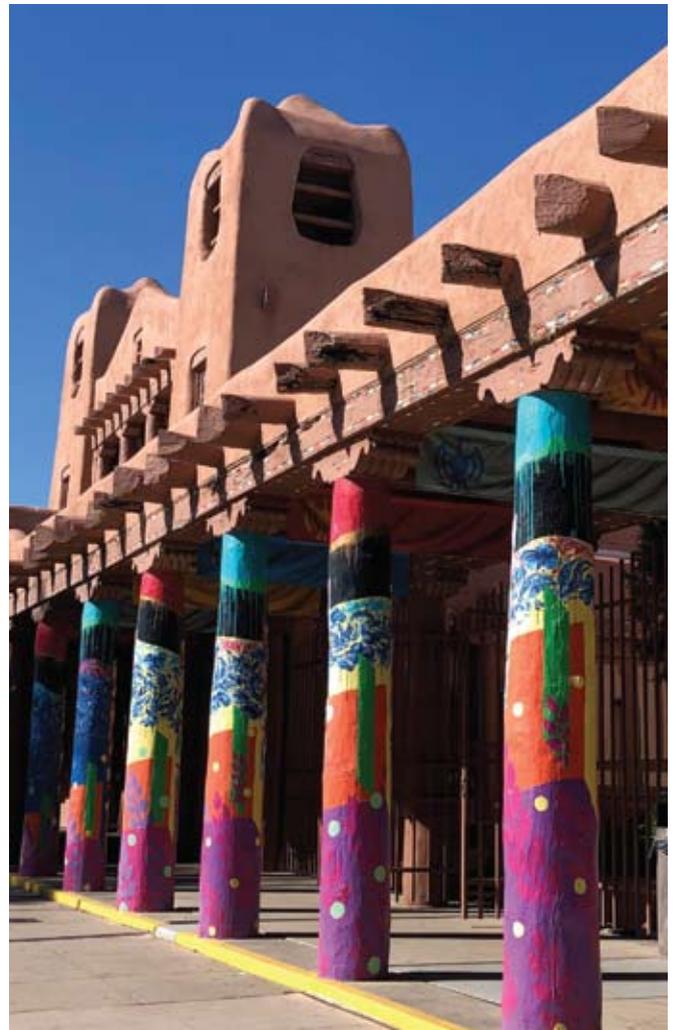
Even the colorful **Georgia O'Keefe Museum** is fun for older kids who can appreciate her landscapes and flowers, mountains, and even cityscapes. Want to see what local artists are up to? Take a stroll down **Canyon Road** and pop in and out of the hundreds of galleries there. Most have outdoor sculpture gardens, perfect for fun selfie shots your kids will love.

And if that isn't enough, Santa Fe is also home to a bug museum, plus a children's

museum, featuring indoor and outdoor hands-on exhibits, climbing wall, giant train set and drop-in art classes.

Out-of-sight adventure: For a truly magical experience for even the most jaded kid, head to **Meow Wolf**, an immersive art installation that words cannot describe. It's kind of like Oz meets Narnia on steroids. Explore the neon forest, room after room of hidden doorways that open up to secret worlds; climb a treehouse, enter a secret portal through the refrigerator, play musical dinosaur bones and get lost in a chaotic wonderland. There's even a children's activity area where kids can channel all the creativity they've seen and create their own installation.

Spa-ing: If mom and dad get some time off, head a few miles out of town to **Ten Thousand Waves**. At this serene Japanese-styled bathhouse nestled in the woods at the base of the Sangre de Cristo mountains, you can get an oxygen facial, herbal wrap, or foot massage, soak in one of many hot tubs and lounge around in the fresh mountain air in a kimono while sipping your choice of teas from a huge menu of options. Or right in



(Above) Neon forest at Meow Wolf immersive art exhibit. (Right) Museum of Contemporary Native Arts.

town, hit the **Spa Sage**, the full-service spa at La Posada resort, and treat yourself to a couple of hours of escape.

Outdoor Santa Fe: For the skiers, **Ski Santa Fe** is only minutes from downtown. There's also horseback riding, golfing, fishing, and tons of hiking nearby with great scenic vistas.

If you don't want too much activity, Santa Fe is a great town for walking. Peruse the stalls along the plaza where local Native Americans sell their hand-sculpted animals, silver jewelry and painting, or find fun alleyways where there are hidden fountains, flora, and stores with beautiful clothing and knick-knacks. You can always take a local jeep tour into the desert for some off-road adventures. Or take a walking tour—there are those that focus on native cuisine, ghosts, architecture and chocolate.

Food: Chocolate. Need I say more. Santa Fe is a chocolate-lovers haven. You can sign up for a chocolate-tasting tour or visit a few spots on your own. Head to one of the two locations of **Kakawa Chocolate House**

where you'll find numerous hot chocolate elixirs on tap. Based on recipes recreated from historical sources, you can try pre-Columbian to Colonial American creations in beautiful hand-painted mugs from Oaxaca, Mexico. Want something spicy? Try the Chili Elixir. Sample a few before choosing...it's going to be a tough choice. Pair the liquid deliciousness with their innovative truffle flavors (goat cheese sage or cherry chili) that will have your mouth watering.

With all your activity, you're going to need lots of sustenance. Santa Fe is a food-lovers dream with dozens of world-class restaurants. Taste authentic native cuisine like the huge breakfast burritos at Tia Sophias and for the sophisticated palate, a modern take on old world cuisine at Sazon (where you can have a baby grasshopper tortilla – maybe better for an adults-night out!). For the adventurous, be sure to try the local red and green chilis offered with most meals; or be brave and ask for "Christmas" any time of the year and you'll get both.

Beware (especially with kids); if they say the peppers are "hot;" they truly are! The

spicy hot fudge sundae at The Shed seemed like a treat, but it was more than most could handle, even with the vanilla ice cream on top to cool the palette.

Stay: Staying at the historic **La Fonda** on the Plaza is like being in a fun, yet classy and comfortable museum. There is art on every wall and in every corner. Every headboard is hand-painted by a local artist as are some of the shower tiles. Even the glass covering the fire extinguishers is decorated as are all the gorgeous windows surrounding La Plazuela, the restaurant in the hotel's central courtyard. It's a blast of old-world Santa Fe elegance, with modern amenities, a pool and fitness room and a rooftop lounge with amazing sunset views.

Be sure to take the free tour to learn about the hotel's role in the city's history; it's part scavenger hunt, part history lesson. Young ones also get a drawstring backpack upon check-in, filled with goodies including a flashlight to do their own exploring.

For more information, itineraries and a calendar of events, check out: santafe.org.



COUNTING DOWN TO SUMMER

By Jess Michaels

It may be cold outside and camp may be far from your mind, but if you are considering camp for this summer—or even 2019—there are ways to research and plan for camp throughout the year. The American Camp Association, New York and New Jersey, suggests the following month-by-month camp planner with ways to plan for your child’s summer camp experience.

For Summer 2019

FEBRUARY/MARCH

Home Visits and Camp Fairs: These are both good ways to get to know a camp director and about a camp program. Ask about the camp’s mission statement and what type of child is successful at camp. Camp Fairs are free events that bring dozens of camps straight to parents, allowing parents to have one-on-one

conversations with many camp directors to find out about their camp program. They can be a great way to find out about a few camps all within a short period of time. Check out the New York Family Camp Fairs to meet with camps you may be interested in. Also consider a home visit from the camp director. He or she will come to your home for a visit which allows you to get to know the director and for the director to get to know your family.

APRIL/MAY

Spring Festivals/Open Houses: Many camps host spring festivals and open houses at camp

which is another great opportunity to visit the camp and talk to the camp leadership if you haven’t made a camp decision yet. If you’ve decided on a camp already, attending the spring festival is a good way for your child to see the camp again and get acquainted with it before camp begins.

Share Positive Messages: As camp approaches, talk to your child about the camp program and the activities he or she will be participating in. Parents should let their child know that they are confident in the child’s ability in having a successful camp



Asphalt Green

experience. It's also a great time to re-watch the camp video to get your child excited for the amazing summer ahead.

Touring: If you are considering camp for 2019, this is a good time to schedule a tour for July or August. Touring during the summer gives families a chance to see camp in action with campers enjoying all the fun activities. A tour also gives you a chance to ask the camp leadership questions while you are in the camp environment.

JUNE

Pack Together: If your child is going to overnight camp, pack together. Your child will feel more secure if they know what they are bringing to camp and you can use the time packing together to talk with your child about how much fun camp is going to be.

Mail a Letter to Camp: Send a letter to sleepaway camp so your child has a letter the first day they are at camp. Let them know how much fun they are going to have at camp.

JULY/AUGUST

Camp is finally here!

For Summer 2020

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Fall Festivals/Open Houses: Many camps have open houses and fall festivals that offer families a chance to see the camp facilities and get a feel for the camp. It is also a good opportunity for families to get to know the camp director and

ask questions about the camp philosophy and program while in the camp setting.

Search For A Camp With Your Child:

Parents and campers should take time to look over a camp's website, social media profiles, and videos. They will give families a sense of what a particular camp is like. Most camp websites have camp photos, videos, virtual tours, and maps which will give parents and children a glimpse of the camp and the camp program. The more involved a child feels in the decision of choosing a camp, the more successful the camp experience will be.

Look For Camp Early For Savings: Families who have already decided on a camp for their child shouldn't wait to register. Many camps offer early bird specials. Registering early can be a real savings for parents and also ensures that your child won't be shut out of the camp program he or she wants. Ask the camp if they offer payment plans which can make it easier for parents to pay for camp over the year. Some camps also allow you to prepay the camp season and will give you a significant discount. Need Assistance? Renee Flax at the American Camp Association, NY and NJ, is available year round to offer free, one-on-one advice in helping you find the right camp for your child. Renee will talk to you about your child, what you are looking for in a camp, and offer you a couple of suggestions on camps that would be a good fit for your family.

DECEMBER/JANUARY

Talk to Friends and Neighbors: It's great to

ask friends where their children go to camp but keep in mind each child is different and while one camp may be good for that child, it might not be the best fit for others. Getting recommendations from friends is a great starting point, but remember to do your own camp research.

Talk to Camp Directors: Parents want to make sure they click with the camp director. Speaking with the camp director and asking some key questions is a good way for families to find out about a camp's philosophy and if it matches your own. Get to know the camp director through phone calls, correspondence, and in person. Make sure to give the camp director an accurate picture of your child and what your specific goals are for your child's camp experience.

Make Camp Part of the Holidays: Instead of purchasing another toy or electronic device for your child, you can make camp a holiday gift.

Prepare Child for Overnights: If you are considering sleep-away camp, schedule sleepovers with friends and relatives and make sure these overnights are successful. If your child felt panicked and needed to come home in the middle of the night, they may not be ready for sleepaway camp.

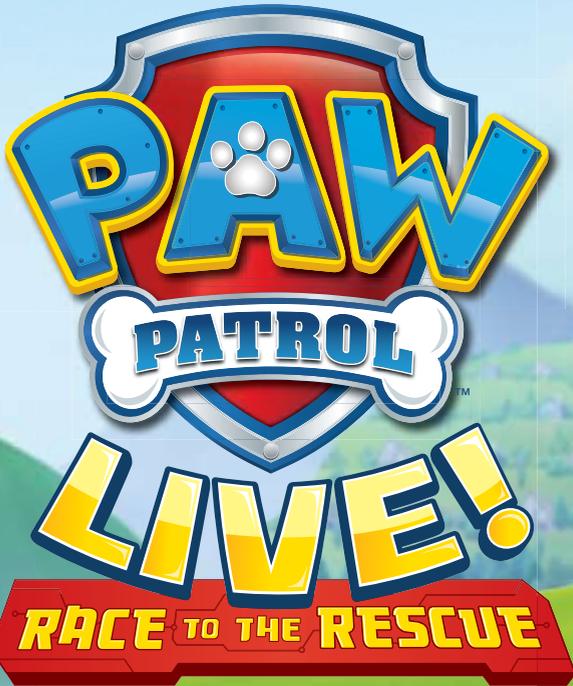
For more info on New York Family's Camp Fairs, visit newyorkfamily.com!

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calendar



MARCH

UGLY DUCKLING, PRETTY LIGHTS

Prepare to be dazzled by awesome light features at the upcoming “The Ugly Duckling” show by Lightwire Theater at Tribeca PAC on March 16. Lightwire Theater brings a classic tale to the modern stage in an unforgettable theatrical experience. Lined with electroluminescent wire, the beloved story of “The Ugly Duckling” plays out on stage through a cutting-edge

blend of puppetry, technology and dance. With super-cool visuals, poignant choreography and the creative use of music ranging from classical to pop, this production brings this story into a new and brilliant light. This show is great for ages 5-10. 11am. *Tribeca PAC [Borough Of Manhattan Community College, 199 Chambers Street. tribecapac.org]*

1 FRIDAY

Ballet Academy East's Annual Winter Performance Series. Get ready to enjoy an outstanding ballet performance by George Balanchine's "Valse-Fantaisie," staged by Darla Hoover, and "Elégie," staged by Deborah Wingert, as well as a new work by BAE Principal Jenna Lavin. Be there to see these elegant dancers grace along the stage in their annual Winter Performance Series and be blown away. Daily, through March 3. Times vary. \$55. *New York Live Arts, 219 West 19th Street. (212) 410-9140. balletacademyeast.com.*

Harlem Perspectives II. Shining the spotlight on talented Harlem artists, FACTION Art Projects presents their second annual exhibition highlighting the artwork of locals who live above 110th street. This year the exhibition will be presenting work by a variety of artists who deconstruct history through their art. Each of these artists use their art to explore a personal or political narrative and sings the songs of many untold stories. Art is a great way to expose your growing child to culture and a multitude of perspectives. FACTION Art Projects month long exhibition might just do the trick. *FACTION Art Projects, 2602 Frederick Douglass Boulevard. factionartprojects.com.*

2 SATURDAY

Harlem Perspectives II. See March 1.

Ballet Academy East's Annual Winter Performance Series. See March 1

Boogaloo Familia. Take a wild ride through music's vibrant history. Experience everything from the cultural impacts of Latin Boogaloo to the dance crazes from Spanish Harlem's very own streets. Let loose, get boogie with it, and shake to the rhythm of the music with Just



Art Time

Young artists are sure to delight at this cool event from the Uni Project (which creates learning environments in public space across New York City) at Chelsea Market this month! The DRAW program began a residency at Chelsea Market this winter, offering locals, visitors, and shoppers a place to sit and draw together in a fun and welcoming setting. Come find DRAW on Sunday March 3, and Sunday, March 10, from 11am-2pm, on the lower level of the market, called Chelsea Local. Kids and parents can feel free to draw whatever they want, or to follow prompts created by artists. There will be additional special activities every week. DRAW is free and for all ages. *Chelsea Market [75 9th Avenue. theuniproject.org.]*

Kidding at Symphony Space. Members \$14; Non-Members \$17. *Symphony Space, Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre, 2537 Broadway. symphonyspace.org.*

Pinkalicious the Musical. Pinkalicious can't stop eating pink cupcakes despite warnings from her parents. Her pink indulgence lands her at the doctor's office with Pinkitis, an affliction that turns her pink from head to toe (a dream come true for this pink loving enthusiast). But when her hue goes too far, only Pinkalicious can figure out how to get out of this predicament. 11am. *St. Lukes Theater, 308 West 46th Street. pinkaliciousthemusical.com.*

A Dr Seuss Celebration. With Dr. Seuss themed games and activities, come out to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Seuss! There will be activities like "Pin the Hat on the Cat" and "The Fish Bowl Toss." Bring your family out to enjoy the great outdoors and listen to the stories that you and your kids grew up to. Ages 6-13; 11am-2pm. Free with a Recreation Center Membership (Memberships are free for youth who are 17 years old and younger). *Highbridge Recreation Center, 2301 Amsterdam Avenue. nycgovparks.org.*

3 SUNDAY

Ballet Academy East's Annual Winter Performance Series.

See March 1

DRAW at Chelsea Market. The DRAW program began a residency at Chelsea Market this winter, offering locals, visitors, and shoppers a place to sit and draw together. Come find DRAW every Sunday from 11am-2pm through March 3 on the lower level of the market, called Chelsea Local. Draw what you want, or follow prompts created by artists. Special activities every week. DRAW is free and open to artists of all ages. *Chelsea Market, 75 9th Avenue. theuniproject.org.*

Studio Art Sessions at the Jewish Museum. Families explore new themes each week in these drop-in art workshops. Paint, draw, sculpt, or craft a work of art inspired by exhibitions on view. Parents can visit the Jewish Museum's website for details. Ages 3 and up. Runs 1-4pm every Sunday through May 12. *The Jewish Museum, 1109 5th Avenue. thejewishmuseum.org.*

8 FRIDAY

Operation Slumber. The Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum is hosting an overnight slumber party for all the adventurers in your family! Giving guests exclusive access to the ship, Space Shuttle Pavilion, planetarium shows, unlimited simulator rides, and more, you and your family's wanderlust will be satisfied. Board the Intrepid and sleep among the stars! Food, youth T-shirts, and a 60-day return pass to the museum is included. Group price: \$99 per person, Individual price: \$130. Group price: \$99 per person, Individual price: \$130. *Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, West 46th Street and 12th Avenue. intrepidmuseum.org.*

Unicorn Yoga Rainbow Adventure. What's better than doing yoga? Unicorn themed yoga at Karma Kids Yoga! Dress up in your best sparkly, glittery

clothes to embark on this magical yoga experience. Get ready for this mystical journey of wonder while still practicing the art of yoga. Have a glittery time and make sure to register in advance. Ages 5-8; 6:30-8pm. *Karma Kids Yoga, 25 West 23rd Street. karmakidsyoga.com.*

9 SATURDAY

Pinkalicious the Musical. See March 2

A4TY: A Day of World Premiere. The Bloomingdale School of Music (BSM) proudly presents its annual student composing project. Encouraging students of all ages to compose their own music, BSM commissions professional composers to write new pieces for its students. Showcasing over 30 student's compositions, these compositions will be featured in one of BSM's two concerts along with presenting the premier of composer Taylor Brook's new work! On March 9, BSM students will perform original works along with Taylor Brook's new piece at 2pm and 5pm. \$12. *Let's Dress Up! 345 East 85th Street. symphonyspace.org.*

"Beauty and the Beast". With the performance of beautifully crafted marionettes, the Just Kidding at Symphony Space and the National Marionette Theatre brings a tale as old as time to life. In this worldwide favorite, Belle learns that appearances are not all that they seem and beauty can be found in the most unexpected places. Join one of the oldest continually-running marionette theatres in America for this stunning rendition of "Beauty and the Beast." Showtimes at



Photo by Yne Leal

Experience Spanish Harlem

Calling all kids and families who love to dance. Take a wild ride through music's vibrant history. Experience everything from the cultural impacts of Latin Boogaloo to the dance crazes from Spanish Harlem's very own streets at Just Kidding: Boogaloo Familia on March 2. Music and dance combine in this interactive journey through 1960s Spanish

Harlem. Let loose, get boogie with it, and shake to the rhythm of the music with Just Kidding at Symphony Space! This is event is great for kids of all ages. Tickets are \$14 for Symphony Space members; \$17 for non-members. The show starts at 11am and has a run time of one hour. *Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre [2537 Broadway, Manhattan. symphonyspace.org.]*

11am and 2pm. Members \$14, Non-Members \$17. *Peter Jay Sharp Theatre, 2537 Broadway. symphonyspace.org.*

10 SUNDAY

DRAW at Chelsea Market. See March 3

Studio Art Sessions at the Jewish Museum. See March 3

Second Sundays Dig Drop-In. Kids can discover a passion for ancient artifacts in the museum's simulated archaeological dig,

open on the second Sunday of each month through May 12. Ages 3-10. Free with museum admission. *Jewish Museum, 1109 5th Avenue. thejewishmuseum.org.*

12 TUESDAY

The 28th Annual Bunny Hop. The 28th Annual Bunny Hop will welcome children to a wonderland jam-packed with fun activities and entertainment for the entire family—all while raising critical funds for MSK's Department of Pediatrics. The VIP entry time for ticket package purchasers is 4:30pm. The long-running Bunny Hop, which heralds the arrival of spring, is a family event and is a wonderful evening for people of all ages, filled with magicians, costumed characters, special performances, delicious treats and much more!

The event will be sponsored by Bonpoint, and the Chairs of this year's event are Lindsey Coleman, Carolina de Neufville, and Anna Burke Patterson, along with Honorary Chairs Savannah Guthrie and Jenna Bush Hager. *283 Park Avenue, society.mskcc.org.*

16 SATURDAY

Operation Slumber. See March 8

Pinkalicious the Musical. See March 2

St Paddy's Day Parade. Don your snappiest green outfit and bring the whole family to join in on the longtime Irish tradition of New York City's St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 16, 2019. St. Patrick's Day commemorates the death of Saint

SUBMIT A LISTING
 This calendar is dedicated to bringing our readers the most comprehensive list of events in your area. But to do so, we need your help! Send your listing request to calendar@newyorkfamily.com—and we'll take care of the rest. Please e-mail requests more than three weeks prior to the event to ensure we have enough time to get it in. And best of all, it's FREE!

Patrick, one of Ireland's most notable patron saints. The parade runs down 5th Avenue from 44th Street to 79th Street. The parade starts at 11am and ends around 5pm. Come be a part of one of New York City's oldest traditional celebrations and avoid getting pinched by wearing all the green in your closet! Free, 11am-5pm. *5th Avenue from 44th Street to 79th Street, nycstpatriksparade.org.*

Jedi Academy. Learn the ways of the Jedi and find the great force within your hearts during this comedy variety show! Created by the critically acclaimed family entertainer David Engel, Jedi Academy is sure to captivate audience members of all-ages and involve them in the fun. With exciting physical challenges, magical mayhem, light-saber lessons and more, Jedi Academy is sure to make your young explorers leaving feeling like they've been on an intergalactic adventure. 11am; Member \$14, Non-Member \$17. *Leonard Nimoy Thalia Theatre at Symphony Space, 2537 Broadway, symphonyspace.com.*

17 SUNDAY
Studio Art Sessions at the Jewish Museum. See March 3

Picture This! Each program begins with a 10 am gallery program that includes interactive art-viewing activities and a storybook reading, followed by an opportunity to create original artworks and a concert at 11:30 am featuring an acclaimed performer. Ages 4-7. 10am-12:30pm. Tickets are \$25 general public, \$22 Jewish Museum Family Members. *Jewish Museum, 1109 5th Avenue, thejewishmuseum.org.*

18 MONDAY
Spring Break Camp at the Guggenheim. Are your kids creative? Do they like art? If so, perhaps the Guggenheim's Spring



Photo by Dominick Totino

St. Paddy's Day

Don your snappiest green outfit and bring the whole family to join in on the longtime Irish tradition of New York City's St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 16, 2019. St. Patrick's Day commemorates the death of Saint Patrick, one of Ireland's most notable patron saints. The parade runs down 5th Avenue from 44th Street to 79th Street. The parade starts at 11am and ends around 5pm. Come be a part of one of New York City's oldest traditional celebrations and avoid getting pinched by wearing all the green in your closet! Free, 11am-5pm. *[5th Avenue between 44-79th Streets, nycstpatriksparade.org.]*

Break Camp is for you! Through gallery and studio exploration, campers will get to develop their own artistic style by learning new artistic techniques from teaching artists who will introduce them to new approaches to art and a variety of mediums. 9:30am-4pm. \$600/\$500 for members. *Guggenheim Museum, 1071 5th Avenue, ny.guggenheim.org.*

19 TUESDAY
Spring Break Camp at the Guggenheim. See March 18

20 WEDNESDAY
Spring Break Camp at the Guggenheim. See March 18

A Kids Skating Party with Olympian, Brian Boitano. Give your kids a skating experience of a lifetime with two-time time world champion and Olympic gold medalist, Brian Boitano!

On Central Park's Wollman Rink your child will get to learn to skate from one of the world's best athletes. Afterward, you will get to meet Brian and pose for a photo to capture this once in a life-time experience. This event is for Mastercard cardholders exclusively. \$300; 5:30-7:30pm. *Wollman Rink, Central Park, priceless.com.*

21 THURSDAY
Spring Break Camp at the Guggenheim. See March 18

A Kids Skating Party with Olympian, Brian Boitano. See March 20

22 FRIDAY
Operation Slumber. See March 8

Spring Break Camp at the Guggenheim. See March 18

23 SATURDAY
Pinkalicious the Musical. See March 2

"Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street". See this hip-hop musical that explores the beauty of city life and tells the story of Young CJ and his reluctant stay with his Nana. As CJ begins to move out of his comfort zone, he finds himself closer to his roots and starts to see things in a different light. Daily, through April 13. Prices vary. *Linda Gross Theater, 336 West 20th Street, atlantictheater.org.*

The Magic School Bus: Lost In The Solar System. The class and Ms. Frizzle are on the way to the Planetarium, when they suddenly get lost. Join them as they blast into an outer space field trip that gets interrupted by rivals. As they are on the brink of getting torn apart as class, young classmate heroes will have to save the day, or risk getting stuck in space forever. *Tribeca PAC at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, 199 Chambers Street, tribecapac.org.*

Who is Miles Davis?. Enjoy an afternoon of jazz led by Sean Jones at Jazz at Lincoln Center as you learn about the trumpeter, Miles Davis. This concert gives a narration of Miles Davis' life accomplishments and gives insight to how his inspirations influenced his visions in the world of jazz—a great outing for the family! *Jazz at Lincoln Center, 10 Columbus Circle, jazz.org.*

24 SUNDAY
Studio Art Sessions at the Jewish Museum. See March 3

"Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street". See March 23

25 MONDAY
"Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop

On Market Street”.

See March 23

Archaeology Mondays.

Unique in New York City, the Jewish Museum’s simulated archaeological dig highlights replicas from ancient to modern times in a hands-on experience. Kids can collect stamps in a special passport each visit, and receive a gift after three digs. Ages 3-10. From 3-5pm. Free with Museum Admission. *The Jewish Museum, 1109 5th Avenue, thejewishmuseum.org.*

26 TUESDAY**“Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street”.**

See March 23

27 WEDNESDAY**“Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street”.**

See March 23

28 THURSDAY**“Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street”.**

See March 23

29 FRIDAY**“Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street”.**

See March 23

30 SATURDAY

Pinkalicious the Musical. See March 2

“Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street”.

See March 23

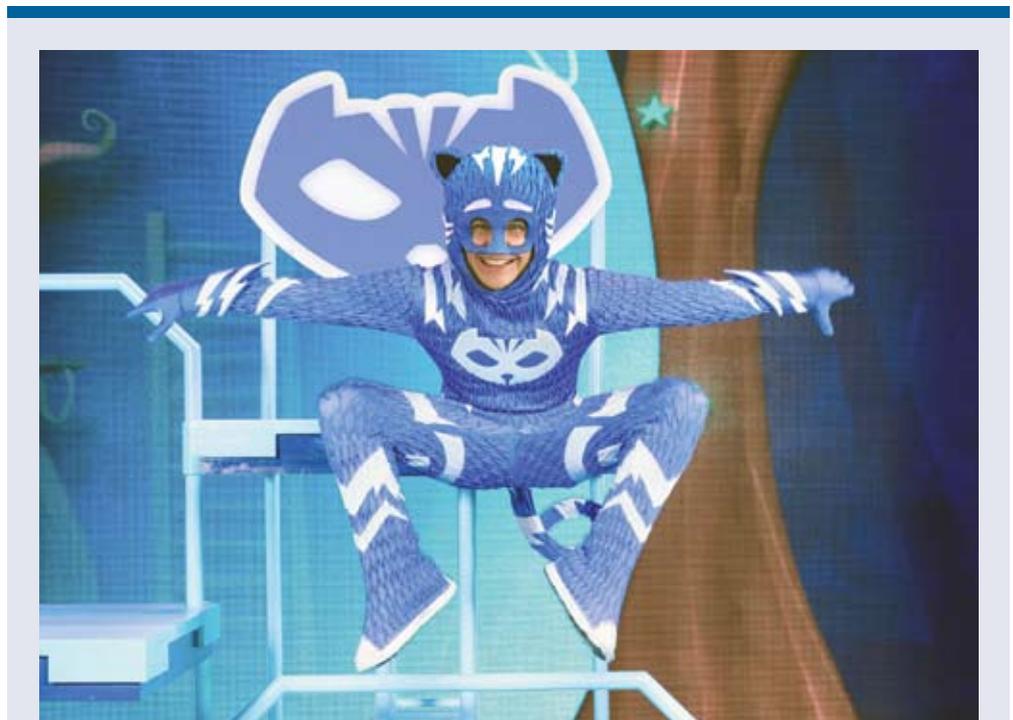
31 SUNDAY

Studio Art Sessions at the Jewish Museum. See March 3

“Atlantic For Kids: Last Stop On Market Street”.

See March 23

Animaniacs in Concert. Spend an evening at City Winery



Mask-querade

Your kids will love this screen-to-stage adventure show. “PJ Masks Live” is returning to the big stage (the Kings Theater in Brooklyn, to be exact) with an all new, live musical show called “PJ Masks Live! Save the Day,” starring the heroic trio, Catboy, Owlette, and Gekko along with their new friend PJ Robot, as they try to save the day from the Baddies—Romeo, Night Ninja and Luna Girl! “Fluttering Feathers! Leaping

Lizards! What a CAT-tastrophe!” The show will delight fans of all ages with live performances featuring a world-class production, familiar and original music, acrobatics and immersive interactivity. It’s going to be super fun as Catboy, Owlette, Gekko go into the night to save the day. Show times are at 1pm and 2:30pm. *Kings Theater [1027 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn. pjmaskslive.com.]*

singing along to your favorite Animaniac tunes with the kids, original cast member, Rob Paulsen, and Emmy award-winning composer, Randy Rogel. “Animaniacs in Concert!” features live music and beloved Animaniacs cartoons. Rogel’s music and Paulsen’s voice work will leave guests, young and old, feeling like a kid again! 7:30pm; \$35-50. *City Winery, 155 Varick Street, animaniacsalive.com.*

The Paper Bag Players: Stand Up and Cheer, We’re 60 This Year. The latest fun-filled production from the famed Paper Bags blends cardboard and paper sets, whimsical stories,

lovable characters, and live music that will have families dancing in the aisles. Ages 3-8. \$18 general public, \$14 Jewish Museum family members. *The Jewish Museum, 1109 5th Avenue, thejewishmuseum.org.*

LONG-RUNNING

Macy’s Flower Show Presents Journey To Paradisios At Macy’s Herald Square. It’s time for the Macy’s Floral Show! Be ready to be taken on a journey of space, adventure, and discovery through the beauty of flowers and gardens that celebrate the cosmos. Don’t miss out on this floral sci-fi event for the family.

Daily, March 25 through April 7. Free. *Macy’s, 151 W. 34th St., Manhattan. macys.com.*

TILT Kids Festival. The Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Institute Alliance Française (FIAF) are pleased to announce programming for the fourth annual TILT, a festival for kids, families, and adults showcasing lyrical and thought-provoking multidisciplinary international projects and new commissions from musicians, theater makers, visual artists, and philosophers will take place in New York from March 2-31. It will feature work by 2018 MacArthur Fellow

Okwui Okpokwasili, Olivier Py, and Marc Boutavant, among others. Locations, prices, and times vary by individual event. Tickets start at \$15. *Multiple locations, Manhattan. frenchculture.org.*

“This Is Sadie.” Take your family to go see this dancing, theatrical show that is choreographed and directed by Stephanie Klemons, Tony award-winning associate choreographer. Come along for the adventure with Sadie, a 6-year-old girl who loves her stuffed animal and has a big imagination. Daily, March 30 through April 21, Times vary. \$29.25 General Seating/ \$49.25 Premium Seating. *Theater Row, 410 West 42nd Street. nycchildrenstheater.org.*

“Mom-and-Pops of the L.E.S.” Installation. On Essex Street and East Broadway in Seward Park, kids can check out this art installation that features photos of mom-and-pop shops, many of which have closed due to rising rents and gentrification. Daily. Free. *Lower East Side untappedcities.com.*

Justin Favela: RECUÉRDAME. Organized by guest curator Petrushka Bazin Larsen, Favela’s murals take visitors on a phantasmagoric adventure, rendering the Mexican landscape in piñata-cute tissue paper. From the imagery found in Jose Maria Velasco’s expansive 19th-Century canvases, to the 2017 Pixar animated film “Coco,” Favela covers more than 1,000 square feet of the museum in a full array of chromatic hues. The result is a larger-than-life immersive environment that recalls some of Favela’s memories of driving through Mexico’s countryside as a child. Daily. *Sugar Hill Children’s Museum of Art & Storytelling, 898 St Nicholas Avenue. sugarhillmuseum.org.*

Yuken Teruya: Cutting Trees. New York-based artist Yuken Teruya transforms discarded



Full Bloom

It’s time again for the annual Macy’s Floral Show! Be ready to be taken on a journey of space, adventure, and discovery through the beauty of flowers and gardens that celebrate the cosmos at Macy’s Flower Show Presents: Journey To Paradisios at Macy’s Herald Square. Don’t miss out on this floral sci-fi event

(think alien creatures crafted entirely out of vibrant blooms) for the family. All ages are welcome at this free event, and the show runs at the Macy’s flagship store from March 24 through April 7. This is sure to be a must-see that’s not to be missed. *Macy’s Herald Square [151 West 34th Street, Manhattan. macys.com.]*

newspapers, fast food packages, and commercial shopping bags into intricate vignettes and lush foliage. In Cutting Trees, the artist will present intricate dioramas based on the image of an existing tree by meticulously cutting out and folding individual paper bags. Teruya’s work validates his respect for material, craft, and the environment. This exhibition will be accompanied by a series of storytelling events, activities and programs that explore the beauty in every day materials que reverence for the environment. Daily, through March 31. *Sugar Hill Children’s Museum of Art & Storytelling, 898 St Nicholas Avenue. sugarhillmuseum.org.*

“The Trolls Experience”. Calling all “Trolls” fans who “just can’t stop the feeling!” Come dance, sing and hug at the

all-new interactive DreamWorks Trolls The Experience is up and running in New York City; running now daily. \$25. *218 West 57th Street. trollstheexperience.com*

Defying Gravity: Women in Space. In that spirit and in conjunction with Museum Day, the Intrepid debuted an exciting new mixed-reality experience Defying Gravity: Women in Spacepowered by Microsoft. Located beneath the space shuttle Enterprise, the mixed reality experience, designed for Microsoft HoloLens and narrated by a holographic capture of engineer, physician, and former NASA astronaut, Dr. Mae Jemison, takes guests through women’s pivotal yet often unsung contributions to space exploration. The experience is open nowthrough September

21. Daily. *The Intrepid Sea, Air And Space Museum, Pier 86, West 46th Street and 12th Avenue. intrepidmuseum.org.*

Andy Warhol: From A to B and Back Again. This exhibition at the Whitney—the first Warhol retrospective organized in the U.S. since 1989—reconsiders the work of one of the most influential American artists. Building on a wealth of new materials, research and scholarship that has emerged since the artist’s untimely death in 1987, this exhibition reveals new complexities about the Warhol we think we know, and introduces a Warhol for the 21st century. Daily, through March 31. Free for 18 and under, \$25 for adults, \$18 for students. *Whitney Museum of American Art, 99 Gansevoort Street. whitney.org.*

The Wheel of Intention at the Rubin Museum. Set your intention for the new year! Visitors can empower their own intentions by turning “The Wheel of Intentions,” an interaction installation in the lobby created by data artist Ben Rubin, Potion Design, and the Rubin Museum. Individual intentions will join those of other visitors as they travel up the spiral staircase and take visual form within The Power of Intention exhibition, opening March 1. Daily. *The Rubin Museum, 150 West 17th Street, Manhattan. rubinmuseum.org.*

A Way with Words: the Power and Art of the Book. Children’s Museum of the Arts (CMA) is pleased to announce A Way With Words: The Power and Art of the Book, an exhibition that presents artworks which draw attention to the long and remarkable history of the book, on view until April 29. Including works by Cara Barer, Doug Beube, Long-Bin Chen, Casey Curran, Brian Dettmer, Ann Hamilton, Andrew Hayes, Lisa Kokin, Guy Laramée, Mike Stilkey, and Robert The, A Way With Words will show the transformation of everyday books into expressions of identity, environmentalism, memory, and reconstructed narratives. Free with museum



Hop for a Cause!

High society meets big fun for a great cause at the 28th Annual Bunny Hop, hosted by the Society for MSK’s Associates Committee. Children are welcomed into a wonderland jam-packed with fun activities and entertainment for the entire family—all while raising critical funds for MSK’s Department of Pediatrics. The long-running Bunny Hop, which heralds the arrival of spring, is a family event and is filled with magicians, costumed characters, special performances, delicious treats, and much more! The event will be sponsored by Bonpoint, and the Chairs of this year’s event are Lindsey Coleman, Carolina de Neufville, and Anna Burke Patterson, along with Honorary Chairs Savannah Guthrie and Jenna Bush Hager. This year’s Bunny Hop will take place on Tuesday, March 12, from 5-6:30pm at 583 Park Avenue. Tickets start at \$80 per child and \$200 per adult. [583 Park Avenue, Manhattan. society.mskcc.org.]

admission. *Children’s Museum of the Arts, 216 West 83rd Street. (212) 721-1223. cmany.org.*

T. Rex: The Ultimate Predator. This March, the American Museum of Natural History is bringing in a new exhibition that explores the tyrannosaur superfamily. Learn about the latest research by scientists, discoveries, fossils, and casts. Their engaging learning opportunities and virtual reality experience will surely not disappoint the kids. Open to the public March 10 (March 8 for members). Daily. Prices vary. *American Museum of Natural History, 79th Street Transverse and Central Park West. (212) 769-5100. amnh.org.*

“Johannes Dokchtor Faust, A Petrifying Puppet.” Come and see the Czechoslovak-American Marionette Theater present a new version of “Johannes Dokchtor Faust, a Petrifying Puppet Comedye,” translated and directed by Vit Horejs. See Johannes Faust sell his soul for knowledge through the art of puppetry and traditional Czech satire. Days and times vary. Daily, through April 7. \$18 general admission/ \$15 students & seniors. *Theater for the New City, 155 1st Avenue. (212) 254-1109. jsnyc.com.*

The Marketplace

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Exchange Rate

One NYC mom opens her home to a foreign exchange student—and delights in the lessons her family learns

By Hillary Chura

Being from the South, “y’all should come” is usually my immediate response to potential visitors. Even in an undersized Manhattan apartment, I’m almost always happy to have people stay over. That’s why, when my elder son’s school needed families to put up Spanish exchange students, I didn’t think twice about adding a fifth person to a 2-bedroom apartment (already shared by my family of four) for 10 days.

But every now and then, I find myself in a situation where I have to wonder what in the world I was thinking. And that’s exactly how I felt when I started prepping for our exchange student Alex’s visit—reevaluating everything from logistics and school schedules to language issues, site-seeing demands and my boys’ biggest worry—would they get along with the new boy.

Turns out, Nerf guns are a universal icebreaker. Within an hour of meeting, my boys—14-year-old Drew and 12-year-old James— and the Spanish 8th grader had broken into an epic Nerf gun battle and easy rhythm. From the adult perspective, not only was having a 13-year-old exchange student both manageable and enjoyable, it reminded me of my first visit to New York when I was about Alex’s age.

Alex, who came to us from an ancient port city in Spain, was lovely—a helpful, chatty, sweatshirt-clad kid with a mop of brown hair who loves paleontology and animals, and said he learned English playing video games.

In preparation for Alex’s visit, the boys and I planned all-American dinners—hot dogs and hamburgers, beef stew, shepherd’s pie—mixed with sushi and pizza delivery because that’s just what New Yorkers do. We supplemented the school’s outings with other activities that I ran by his mom. Yes to Coney Island, Central Park, a pinball arcade, Times

Square, and an acrobatic show in Brooklyn. No to museums, a Broadway show, college basketball game, Staten Island Ferry, and a double-decker bus tour.

While having a guest can complicate things, it made me more organized. Rather than sticking my head in the freezer at 4:30pm wondering what would thaw in 30 minutes, dinners were planned and on the table at 6pm sharp—a goal I never accomplish when it’s just us. We scheduled weekend activities and got out, rather than letting inertia and homework keep us home. Screen time was actually restricted.

Unfortunately for Alex—but great for me—Drew’s homework limited their playtime together so I put Alex to work helping with dinner and the dishes, putting away groceries, straightening up. He learned how to make shepherd’s pie, where the recycling room was located and that we did laundry in the basement. Either thanks to great English, nice boy manners, or both, I repeated myself less with Alex than with my native speakers.

Working together gave Alex an opportunity to ask questions: “Why do American women take their husband’s last names?” “Why are the strawberries so big?” “What’s with the big dinners, and why do we do we eat dinner so early?”

Among his standout new experiences:

A snow day! Being from southern Spain, this was his first time playing in snow; building a snowman with Drew was a highlight of his trip, his mother said. She said she and her husband had been reluctant to let Alex go so far away but that he convinced them—and it was one of the best things he’d done. He said the tall buildings and yellow taxis were just like in the movies, and the city was alive and unique with everything bigger than at home: food, cars, shops, streets, the park and the city itself. Like me (and every other American new to NYC) when I first saw the Subway, he found transportation overwhelming.

Food featured large in Alex’s New York—the different varieties of freshly made sushi, the bakeries with cupcakes, donuts and ice creams sweeter, bigger, tastier and more elaborate than the offerings back home. Also the lack of healthy alternatives and the difficulty in finding salads on the street.

As for my boys, despite early reservations, they realized people can always find common ground. And as for me, I felt we’d accomplished our mission: It didn’t take long to turn the kid from Spain into a local, perfectly at home hailing taxis and snapping up California rolls.

Hillary Chura is a New York City-based writer and mom-of-two.



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