Partnership with Waterfront Alliance means real change in the lives of people

WHEN YOU JOIN US
YOU BRING HOPE, PROTECTION, AND VITALITY TO MILLIONS THROUGH:

- STEM-based education that bring our waterfronts to life for thousands of students and into hundreds of local classrooms
- Opening local waterfronts for recreation, education, and community use
- Ensuring communities are ready to meet and adapt to the climate impacts of today and those of tomorrow

100% of teachers said they would participate again in an Estuary Explorers Program
It was such an amazing experience to actually be at the water and through the surroundings, realizing that we are truly on an island,” said one PS 124 Yung Wing Estuary Explorers student.

“I myself have learned a lot about the waterfront through our partnership with the Waterfront Alliance....The more you know, the more you appreciate your waterfront, the more you respect it, the more you’ll fight for your community.”

— SHARLENE BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GREATER NEW YORK/CASTLE HILL YMCA

The program reaches areas of New York City, where access to the waterfront is limited or unknown, using hands-on field labs, teacher training, and multi-session programming to enrich understanding of coastal resilience, climate change, and more.

STEM EDUCATION
Your support provides flexible financial support to those working in tandem with our goals and values through Estuary Explorers.

Estuary Explorers is the region’s premier climate education programming grounded in STEM and experiential learning at local waterfronts. With partners, Estuary Explorers has engaged:

- **6000+** students across 40 schools and all five-boroughs
- **1000+** students in school year programming
- **1000+** students in multi-week programs

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**FUN ON THE WATER**

Our region is a leader when it comes to coastal and water-based recreation and activity. Yet, while 37 percent of our waterfronts are publicly accessible, only a handful are in neighborhoods with the greatest need.

That’s why Waterfront Alliance undertakes research, like our Waterfront Access for All Report and Activating New York City-Owned Waterfront Sites for Recreation and Access, to call on decision-makers to transform unused publicly owned waterfront sites into vibrant, accessible waterfronts in the communities they would benefit the most.

**CLIMATE INFORMED COMMUNITIES**

Communities that are informed and prepared are communities that will thrive and remain resilient in the crucial decades to come. We work directly with communities facing the greatest climate threats — those that face minimal public or private investments making it difficult to prepare for and recover from heat waves, poor air quality, flooding, and more — to ensure they have the tools needed for disaster preparation and that their voices are amplified in climate resilience infrastructure conversations.

"Waterfront Alliance spoke up for communities when other organizations weren’t,” says Pamela Pettyjohn, Coney Island Beautification Project president & founder and Waterfront Alliance partner.

Alongside Flushing, Far Rockaway, Red Hook, the North Shore of Staten Island, and the South Bronx, Coney Island is a community that experiences fear and apprehension at the start of each hurricane season. “We’re afraid of losing everything — not just our possessions but our lives. We can’t afford to rebuild if we flood again. But we also know we have to live with the water, we can’t just wall it up. We hope that Coney Island could become a model for coastal communities and climate resilience.”

Our aim is to use our influence to advance real projects that meet real community needs. Together with local partners, we are well on our way toward that goal.
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

As a non-profit organization, we are intimately familiar with the challenge of securing flexible financial resources. That’s why we are pleased to be able to support our community partners participating in our Rise to Resilience coalition with those resources. Waterfront Alliance provides small, flexible grants to these partners, with no application or reporting requirements, so they can continue to make our waterfront a better place.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES, YOUTH, AND WATERFRONTS

YOUR SUPPORT IS THE KEY TO THIS MISSION.

We hope you will join us this year as a Heroes of the Harbor sponsor. Together, we will make a difference for communities and young people across our region today and for years to come.
16 Achievements in 16 Years of Service to Our Waterfront

2023 José Marti Park in Miami becomes the first WEDG® (Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines) project in Florida

2023 New York and New Jersey legislatures pass comprehensive flood disclosure for all residents

2022 Relentless outreach by the Rise to Resilience Coalition pays off when New York State legisitates flood-risk disclosure for residential leases

2021 Rise to Resilience Coalition advocacy brings a $1.45M federal commitment to NY/NJ Harbor and Tributaries Study
North Waterfront Park in Wilmington, NC, becomes the 10th WEDG® Verified project

2020 We call for maritime workers to receive essential worker status to ensure vaccine priority during the Covid-19 pandemic

2019 We host 150 experts and stakeholders at a forum for offshore wind in the New York Harbor
WEDG® receives the American Planning Association’s Gold National Planning Achievement Award for a Best Practice

2018 We finalize our second Maritime Activation Plan, this one for Governors Island

2016 Effective advocacy leads to the launch of a five-borough NYC Ferry Service

2015 We introduce WEDG® and verify four projects

2013 We publish the first Voters Guide for the Waterfront

2011 Our major priorities are included in Vision 2020: New York City Comprehensive Waterfront Plan
East River ferry service launches, thanks to work in part by the Waterfront Alliance

2008 More than 500 leaders attend the first ever Waterfront Conference

2007 We incorporate as an independent organization after incubation within the Municipal Art Society of New York