



# East Harlem PRESERVATION

## **EAST HARLEM PRESERVATION PROGRAM SUMMARY**

### **BACKGROUND**

East Harlem Preservation, Inc. (EHP) is a volunteer-driven, non-commercial, 501(c)3 advocacy organization founded in 2005 to promote and preserve the neighborhood's history and diversity.

### **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

EHP maintains a regularly updated website that contains free and unfiltered local news and information about neighborhood programs and upcoming events. We also maintain a popular presence on social networking platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. In addition, EHP distributes a monthly newsletter that provides timely information about critical issues.

### **COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**

EHP often collaborates with and lends resources to local, national and international activists and artists working to challenge policies and practices that negatively impact their neighborhoods and who advocate for the development of sound, community-based alternatives.

To that end, we oppose the proposed rezoning of East Harlem which would effectively gentrify the neighborhood by allowing 35-story, market-rate buildings along Third Avenue and make NYCHA lawns and playgrounds available to commercial developers. Instead, we support historic land-marking and community land trust initiatives that ensure housing that is truly and permanently affordable to those who live here.

EHP has led the call for the removal of the statue of Dr. Marion J. Sims, a white southern doctor who experimented on Black female slaves without permission and anesthesia.

We have also legally challenged the privatization of public parklands, and opposed the city's targeted harassment of people congregating in open plazas and sidewalks.

### **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

EHP has partnered with local artists to restore community murals and with residents working to maintain public access to neighborhood landmarks such as the Julia de Burgos Latino Cultural Center and the iconic public square and market affectionately known as La Marqueta.

EHP occasionally provides neighborhood tours and produces candidate forums, film screenings, and other public events.