

HARLEM HAPPENINGS



WHAT'S COOKING IN HISTORIC HARLEM

Harlem continues to emerge as a culinary destination with an infinite diversity of cultures being represented. On the heels of the fourth annual Harlem EatUp! Food festival in May, the brainchild of Chef *Marcus Samuelsson*, the soiree upped the ante of this bustling area, drawing chefs and foodies from across the Country. As I always say 'Food is Fashion' and with all the food openings boosting foot traffic and tourist visits, from both around the world, and around the City, Harlem is the place to be.

On FREDERICK DOUGLASS BLVD., also dubbed as *Harlem's Restaurant Row*, the exciting mix of *eatertainment* continues to expand. *Paint'n Pour*, an art studio that will offer art classes, small bites and cocktails at an open bar coming soon to 2080 Frederick Douglass Boulevard.

Bean & Barley a new coffee and wine bar at 2118 Frederick Douglass Boulevard. Dynamic southern-inspired *BLVD Bistro* is relocating to 2149 Frederick Douglass Boulevard. With the hustle and bustle of the neighborhood, Harlem has evolved like all the other areas of Manhattan to house chic cafés on what seems like every block - *Ganache Coffee* perking up at 2215 Frederick Douglass Boulevard. New arrival *Harlem Taco & Bowl* adding to the variety of taco spots in Harlem, offering an eclectic menu at 2288 Frederick Douglass Boulevard.

On LENOX AVENUE, the dining options continue with *El Encanto de Lola 2* offering Mexican food favorites coming soon to number 175. *Pompette Wine Shop* has grown its business with a wine bar for aficionados at 420 Lenox Avenue. Legendary Harlem haberdasher *Dapper Dan* who pioneered "hip-hop fashion" has an atelier studio nestled in a brownstone at 241 Lenox Avenue.

On 125TH STREET, walk around this central corridor running through the heart of **Central Harlem** and you'll find fast-casual trend outposts including notable cult-favorite **Shake Shack** which debuted in Morningside Heights last year and has now confirmed another location to come to 1 West 125th Street. Fast-casual Mexican food chain, **Chipotle** is set to open its first Harlem restaurant at 72 West 125th Street. At 22 East 125th Street **Serengeti Kitchen** specializing in contemporary pan-African fare offers a menu that shifts every few months so that diners can explore new tastes from different regions in Africa. **Victoria's Secret** is preparing for an early summer opening at 112 West 125th Street. Also coming soon, **P.C. Richard and Sons**, at 309 W. 125th Street. **Aldo**, the destination for footwear and accessories, has opened its first uptown location at 250 W. 125th Street. Focusing on reflecting the location, the design elements of the **Renaissance Marriott** will take inspiration from the **Victoria Theatre**; the hotel is scheduled to open in 2020 at 233 West 125th Street.

In CENTRAL HARLEM, **Harlem Ale House** at 101 West 127th Street recently debuted with an inventory of 200 beers from around the world. The uptown coffee scene continues as **Proof Coffee Roasters** recently bought ACP Coffee located at 2286 Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. Bar, lounge and traditional American spot **Hexagon Lounge** offering burgers and more at 318 W 142nd Street.

In STRIVER'S ROW DISTRICT, British-based gallery's **Faction Art Projects**, a unique art project that offers visual artists a professional platform for displaying their work is a fitting nod to the neighborhood. Located at 2602 Frederick Douglass Boulevard, the current exhibition "**Harlem Perspectives**" celebrates the local talent of Harlem and uptown New York, reinforcing the perception of the area as a hotbed for social innovation and cultural entrepreneurship.

In MANHATTANVILLE, the Jerome L. Green Science Center has welcomed newcomers to the area; **Steep Rock Bouldering**, a chain of state of the art climbing facilities debuted a new location this past winter and **Dear Mama Coffee**, a New York-inspired coffee shop and restaurant, also opened an additional outpost.



Hexagon Lounge

In HAMILTON HEIGHTS, the buzz is swirling over the newest location of **Jin Ramen** at 3599 Broadway, which will open towards the end of the summer. Freshly debuted **Buddha Taco Bar** is all about the beer and the food at 3628 Broadway. The uptown scene is anticipating the opening of **Barepas**, a Latin bistro and wine bar coming soon to 1792 Amsterdam Avenue and **Harlem Country Baking**, which will be arriving on 145th Street. Popular downtown gay sports bar, **Boxers NYC** has secured a location at 3820 Broadway to open in the fall.

On 116TH STREET, **Shuteye** is open at 137 West 116th Street, specializing in thoughtfully prepared and sourced espresso and tea. The minimalist but charming shop also offers a variety of pastries including artisanal doughnuts.

Harlem's well-preserved rich history and flair continues to unfold and define the local culture. The food scene of this northern Manhattan enclave manifests that culture, largely propelled by locals and natives. With all sorts of new additions, the beauty of this cultural mecca is that it manages to retain its soul.

Harlem is Happening!

Faith Hope Consolo

