

# Ethiopian Community Mutual Assistance Association

## ECMAA

### Monthly Newsletter

#### FEATURED EVENT

##### Ethiopian Day Picnic

**September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2pm to 6pm**  
**Sakura Park, 500 Riverside Drive,**  
**(b/n 122<sup>nd</sup> and 123<sup>rd</sup> St)**

Join us for ECMAA's annual picnic the bring in the new year. We'll have music, dancing, activities for kids and refreshments. It's our membership drive, please spread the word. Send us an email if you'd like to be on the planning committee.

##### Amharic Classes

**August 25, 2019 2pm**  
**8 West 126<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC**  
 If interested register at [Amharic Class Sign Up](#).

##### Youth Vs. Experience – Rematch

**August 24, 2019, Riverside Park**  
 We had a great game and had a controversial win by team Experience, will Youth come back to win? come find out and play as well. The field will be next to beach volley ball courts and ping pong tables. There will be more than just soccer.

#### OTHER EVENTS

##### Untapping the Network

**August 17, 12:30 Register by August 14 at**  
**866 Second Ave, NY, NY**  
 The Professional Ethiopian Network (PEN) presents a professional networking opportunity for established and young professionals. [register here](#)

#### ECMAA Board Updates

With focus on our members front and center, we continued to work on refining our vision and purpose in the Months of July and August. The final document will be shared at our Annual Membership Meeting in October. We'll use this document as the foundation to develop our short and long term goals.

We cannot thank Jonathan Apikian enough for helping us articulate our vision and help us talk through best ways to serve the Ethiopian community in the tri-state area.

With the clarity of knowing why we are doing what we're doing, we will be able to rebuild and strengthen ECMAA. The major takeaway of the planning sessions has been the need to build and grow our active membership base. We're truly looking forward to strengthening our interconnection and building a cohesive organization that is dedicated and responsive to its members. We already know how much can be accomplished when we lean on each other. Please, become a member using the [ECMAA Membership Form](#) and also complete [ECMAA Planning Survey](#) about what you'd like to see from ECMAA.

#### Farewell to Our Interns

Rebecca Shiffera and Beselot Berhanu spent the past year helping develop ECMAA. We congratulate them as they both move on to Medical School, they've been promised a lifetime membership! Examples of their work include our fact sheet, our membership form, a comprehensive partners list, the college planning workshop and career planning workshops were. Thank you and best wishes Rebecca and Beselot!



### **Yacht Habesha Affair**

**August 18, 6-10:30 pm**

Board at 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and FDR Drive, NYC

Presented by Mare Entertainment and Africology, music, dance and food will be served on a boat ride in NYC. Get your [tickets](#).

### **Ethiopiquest: Revolt of the Soul Film Screening**

**September 11, 7pm at National Jazz Museum in Harlem, 58 West 129<sup>th</sup> St, NYC**

You can find details [here](#)

### **Girma Beyene and Akale Wube Live Performance**

**September 12, 7:30 pm at the Poisson Rouge, 158 Bleecker St, NYC**

You can purchase tickets for the event at [tickets](#)

### **Medhanielem Church New Year Celebration**

**September 7, 6pm to 12:30am**  
Riverside Church, 91 Claremont Ave, NYC

Join in the annual celebration

### **Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund**

Contribute and learn more at [www.ethiopiastrustfund.org](http://www.ethiopiastrustfund.org)

We have three high school/college interns. We'll provide the experience and opportunity if you know a dedicated someone who has the time and skills to help us build our community. Send us an email? Better yet, ask them to send their resume to us with their interest.

### **Youth Vs. Experience Soccer Game, August 24**

Thank you to Bati and Awash Restaurants, we've established an ongoing sports event that can expand to volleyball and ping pong. If you're interested in playing, whether this time or in what we hope will be a quarterly series, please send us an email.... Depending on interest, we can build in walking, running and other athletic activities. Revisit, Tadias' [article](#) on the last gam and come play on August 24.

### **Community Guardians**

African Communities Together has a network of Community Guardians to help bring their resources to local communities. On July 27, Fana Said and Dinsiri Firku attended the orientation and training to formally become Community Guardians for the NYC area. The training focused on becoming a resource to the community on immigration related concerns. ACT presented a Know Your Rights workshop at ECMAA's spring fair, the training was more hands on, enabled us to connect with the rest of the African community. There was representation from other organizations from across Africa. We look forward to putting what we've learned to practice.



### **Website Update**

We're updating our website and have created a new resources page – thanks to our wonderful intern, Helena Rajalingam and suggested resources from Hilina Nunu. Please share with us information that you think the community would benefit from. Particularly, if you have information about education, social service, housing and employment related resources in New Jersey and Connecticut, we'd really appreciate the lead and will include it on our website. If you have resources to share, please send it to us at [ecmaany@gmail.com](mailto:ecmaany@gmail.com). We'll keep updating the [ECMAA's website](#) as we get more information, keep checking it out.