

ECMAA Newsletter

MAY 2020



Abeba and Yishak - responsibly greeting each other - in early March

FEATURED EVENTS

ECMAA OFFICE HOURS

Sundays, 4-5pm

ECMAA has Zoom office hours on Sundays from 4-5 to answer COVID 19 related questions, help complete benefit forms and discuss any topics of interest.

[Zoom call ID 409-087-377](#)

or call at (201) 870-0335

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR - Tuesdays, 4pm

ECMAA' Story hour is continuing in English and Amharic for kids 3-12 yrs old.

Sign up your kids [here](#) and tell others to do the same so we can better tailor the stories.

[Zoom Call ID # 814 7743 4706](#)

ECMAA Social Hour - Saturday May 16, 6pm

Let's get together for a virtual get together to laugh, connect and enjoy each other's company. It would be lovely to just chat and catch up, no lessons to learn just conversation and good company.

[Zoom Call ID # 816-108810297](#)

From the Board

It's an uncertain time. In addition to health concerns, a sense of isolation and general worry, many have lost their jobs and feel insecure in their jobs. It's OK to take the time to just get settled. For those who're looking ahead and able to bolster their qualifications toward employment (as a change, to restart and prepare for the new economy), this newsletter is focused on providing you some tools and resources so that you can bolster your qualifications and increase opportunities available to you.

We highlight training opportunities further on and we have scheduled a virtual Resume and Career Building Workshop on **May 21**. The workshop's focus is resume writing and building interviewing and networking skills. Below is picture from last year where attendees received individual attention to build their resumes and career plans.



Companies are figuring out how to operate under the current environment and what's ahead. According to LinkedIn, Amazon is looking for 175,000 new workers. CVS and Walmart are hiring 50,000 workers each and there's more. FedEx, Lowe's, Ace Hardware, 7-Eleven are also hiring.

It's important to stay safe and take care of your family, just surviving through each day is success right now. Resources in this newsletter are for those interested and able to take advantage of them, now or later.



Celebrating at the end of ECMAA's Yelugnta and Gemena Event - missing from the picture are Bethlehem and Feven

FEATURED EVENTS

Career Planning Workshop Thursday, May 21, 7pm

Yayne Gebremariam is joining us again this year to help shape resumes and be a resource on career planning and the job search process. Join us with your questions and an open mind. Sign up ahead [here](#).

[ZOOM CALL ID# 873-7999-9114](#)

College Planning Workshop Saturday May 23, 3pm (TBD)

Attendees from last year's College Planning Workshop are going on to college next year, their parents are ready to share their experience. Join us to talk about both the admission process and financial aid. Appropriate for all high schoolers and their parents.

[ZOOM CALL ID# 826-8029-8758](#)

Book Club Discussion , Saturday May 30, 5pm

Join us as we launch our first virtual book club. The first book is The Shadow King, by Meaza Mengiste. This is a perfect time to escape in a great story and to connect with each other.

[ZOOM CALL ID# 847-3506-9864](#)

Free Online Training

There are multiple free online courses that you can take advantage of during the quarantine to polish your skill or explore another field that you may not have thought about before this pandemic. Below is a list of available resources:

- [Massive Open Online Courses](#)
- [Online courses from Ivy League and other institutions](#)
- [Microsoft Office Trainings](#)

Additionally, if you're a New York State resident and you have a library card, you can access many ongoing courses online for free. You can get an e-card until libraries open, below are the links to:

- [Get a card](#)
- [Start Training](#)

Sometimes a lot of information can be overwhelming. Send us an email (ecmaany@gmail.com) if you'd like assistance accessing/navigating these resources.

Supporting Ethiopia's Effort In Fighting COVID-19

The number of COVID cases in Ethiopia is rising and likely to hit an apex this summer. Various organizations across the diaspora are collecting money to provide much needed support. We have identified the fundraising efforts below to fight against COVID-19 in Ethiopia:

[Ethiopian Diaspora Trust Fund](#) -

[Support Ethiopians Against COVID-19](#)

[Ethiopian Diaspora COVID-19 Pandemic Medical Supplies Relief Fund](#)

Additionally, if you have access to medical supplies, please contact the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations to arrange delivery to Ethiopia.



We were happy to have received this lovely picture from about ten years ago... we keep growing together.

Other Resources

Employment Opportunities

For those looking for employment, there are some opportunities.

Please review below:

- **IFPHNYC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of the health and well-being of all New Yorkers. See openings [here](#).**
- **Become a contact tracer with the Dept. of Health. There are many positions working from home and beyond, entry level and supervisory. Learn more [here](#).**

Eskista Break by KinetBet

Saturdays at noon, join Bethlehem Bekele on zoom for a break. [Zoom ID 851-424-781](#)

Visit our website www.ecmaany.org for ongoing updates, to [become a member](#) or [donate](#). You will also find resources from past events such as the one on [personal finance](#). Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [instagram](#) for the most up to date information on what's going on.

Finally, if you or those you know need immediate food and other assistance click on the links based on where you live [New York](#), [New Jersey](#). For more general COVID related assistance, go to [ACCESS NYC](#).

Fetene Hailu Covid 19 Relief Fund

We were awed by Assefash Mekonen who started a fundraiser in support of ECMAA on behalf of Ato Fetene Hailu. He embodied the best of ECMAA, selfless dedication in service of the community. We honored him in person recently and at his recent passing. The Board has dedicated the \$3,000 raised to date to help members of the community who do not otherwise qualify for government assistance. Though not substantial, after ensuring that members have applied for all that they're eligible for, ECMAA will provide \$200 to each family who is eligible. All funds raised will go directly to individuals or families that do not qualify for any other assistance.

We are proud to honor Ato Fetene this way. If you qualify or know others that do, please ask them to [apply here](#). If you would like to contribute to the initiative you can do it on [facebook](#) or on [our website](#). If we receive more applications than available funds, we will have a lottery on May 31. If there is more money than applications received, we will increase the award amount. Give what you can to help those most vulnerable.

Get Counted in the Census!

The 2020 census decides how communities get money. We must get counted. For the first time, we can indicate that we are of Ethiopian descent. Let's get counted ... complete the census today at 2020census.gov and tell your family and friends - it'll take at most 10 minutes.

Our area is below the national average for completion to date.

☐ Black or African American
Enter, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.