



July 2026

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NEWSLETTER

Dear Friend of BWI,

As we officially enter summer, we're reminded of both the progress New York has made and the work that still lies ahead. New York is entering a new chapter. From renewed investment in our neighborhoods and infrastructure to a resurgence of civic optimism, including the excitement by our city's recent triumphs on the court (**go Knicks!**), **there is a growing sense that a new era is taking shape for New Yorkers.**

For New York's progress to be meaningful, it must create opportunity for everyone. **At BWI, we remain committed to ensuring that New Yorkers who have historically faced barriers to opportunity are included in and able to benefit from the city's economic growth.** We are proud to continue connecting New Yorkers to high-quality training and career pathways in industries with strong demand driving the city forward, like **transportation, media production, advanced manufacturing, and tech.** Our graduates are not simply finding jobs, they are building careers that provide stability, **upward mobility and long-term economic security.**

In this issue, we're celebrating the people and partnerships that make this work possible: from **spotlighting one of our outstanding graduates** to reflecting on our **Spring Celebration** and the **20th anniversary of the Made in NY PA Training Program.** You'll also find **resources to help you stay safe and cool this summer!** Our training programs are actively recruiting, and we **encourage you to share these opportunities with your networks: friends, family, neighbors and colleagues.**

We hope these updates inspire you. Together, we can ensure that the promise of this new chapter reaches every borough and every community.

With gratitude,

Aaron Shiffman
Executive Director

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT

Celebrating Keara

In honor of the "Made in NY" PA Training Program's 20th anniversary, hear from **one of the program's recent graduates in her own words:**

"I have always wanted to break into the Film & TV industry, but I didn't know where to start. Then, I was walking to the Brooklyn Library one day and noticed a production filming. I told myself this was my chance. I stopped a PA and asked how to get a job on set. She told me she got her start through the "Made in New York" Production Assistant program.



*I applied to MiNY and got accepted in the fall. **Going into the training, I made a decision to treat every class like I was already on set. The training stretched me in the best way and pushed me outside of my comfort zone.** During the program, I became more confident in operating in my authority and stepping into leadership roles—thank you to my classmates for giving me the space and encouragement to do that.*

***My instructors didn't just teach us how to do the job—they gave us real wisdom on how to navigate and conduct ourselves in this industry.** Everything they shared, I've already seen play out, and I'm grateful I had their guidance to lean on.*

*A week after graduating, I got a job as a Costume PA on Law & Order. I worked on that show for six months and then got my second job as a Costume PA on an Apple TV show, where I am still working. I am so proud of the career I am building. **Keep believing, keep asking, keep seeking, keep knocking and the door will open.**"*

EXTRA EXTRA!

Our "Made in NY" PA Program Reaches 20 Years

In May, BWI's "Made in NY" Production Assistant Training Program gathered alumni, program partners, and industry connections **to celebrate 20 years of building career opportunities for New Yorkers in the film and television industry.**

The two-day event launched on May 15th with an Industry Summit. Hosted at Manhattan Neighborhood Network's offices, the program gathered graduates and professionals from **A24, Atlantic Pictures, Team Sheed, the Tamron Hall Show, DGA Training Program, the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment,** and more to participate in networking and breakout sessions aligned with career pathways in the industry, from script supervision to camera work.



On May 16th, the program hosted its **annual Alumni Film Festival.** The festival premiered incredible short films created by "Made in NY" PA graduates and provided ongoing opportunities for alumni to expand their professional networks. During the event, **Venus Anderson, BWI's Director of Media Programs, was honored for her fifteen years** supporting the program and New Yorkers in search of opportunities in this industry.



EVENT SPOTLIGHT

Celebrating 26 Years of Opportunity at Our Spring Celebration



On June 4, BWI welcomed supporters, partners, alumni, and community members for our annual **Spring Celebration**. The evening was filled with joy, connection, and inspiration as we came together to celebrate the impact of our programs and the community that makes this work possible.

Throughout the event, we recognized the **partners and alumni whose leadership and commitment have helped shape BWI's journey** and expand opportunities for thousands of New Yorkers. Guests reflected on the successes of the past year, honored this year's award recipients, and celebrated the transformative power of workforce development.



Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, **we also raised important resources** helping ensure that BWI's work continues to grow and reach even more New Yorkers in the years ahead.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our Legacy Donors, whose sustained partnership helps make BWI's work possible:

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RESOURCE SHARE

Staying Cool in NYC This Summer

It's officially summer in NYC, and we're **sharing some resources** about how to stay safe and have fun as the City heats up:

1. See if you qualify for [energy bill discounts](#) from Con Edison.
2. Check out NYC's [Cool Options database](#), which lists cooling centers and free, public spaces with air conditioning.
3. Sign up for [Notify NYC alerts](#) to find out about potentially dangerous heat conditions.
4. This website offers [free things to do this summer](#) to enjoy our city.



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