



LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE
SINCE 1894

HONORING & CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

Today, we at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House commemorate Indigenous Peoples' Day as an important opportunity to recognize the violent history of genocide and continued displacement of Native communities. We honor the first inhabitants and acknowledge that the land on which Lenox Hill Neighborhood House stands is Lenapehoking, the original ancestral land of the Lenape People. A starting point in understanding is to "unlearn" misrepresented histories and harmful narratives that contribute to the present-day structural racism faced by Indigenous communities, and to "relearn" the history of the land we inhabit.



LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE
SINCE 1894

- > The Lenape Diaspora today is dispersed around the U.S. and Canada, specifically Oklahoma, Wisconsin and Ontario, due to forced displacement and colonialism.

- > The two memorials in New York City that acknowledge the Lenape are historically inaccurate,[1] claiming that the Dutch purchased the island of Manhattan from the Lenape in 1626. The Lenape did not view the exchange as a “sale,” but likely a lease or agreement to share the land.[2] The Lenape Center has noted the narrative of a sale implies the forced removal and genocide of the Lenape was justified.[3]

- > Indigenous Peoples’ Day has been federally recognized since 2021.[4] This followed years of various localities commemorating it as a counter-celebration to Columbus Day, which for decades erased the history of Indigenous peoples and instead celebrated the inaccurate depiction that Christopher Columbus “discovered” the Americas.[5]

- > To learn more, you can visit a virtual exhibition[6] curated by the Lenape Center; read the forced displacement of the Delaware Tribe of Indians (the tribal name for the Lenape) [7]; watch the Center for Brooklyn History’s panel with the Lenape Center.[8]

[1] [Smithsonian Magazine](#)

[2] [Smithsonian Magazine](#) and [The Delaware Tribe of Indians](#)

[3] [Center for Brooklyn History and Lenape Center](#)

[4] [Associated Press](#)

[5] [HISTORY](#)

[6] [Lenape Center Virtual Exhibition](#)

[7] [The Delaware Tribe of Indians](#)

[8] [Center for Brooklyn History and Lenape Center](#)