

# Guild Hall

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## **GUILD HALL TO REOPEN ON JULY 2, 2023 UNVEILING NEWLY RENOVATED GALLERIES AND GROUNDS**

**High-Performance Technology, Accessibility, and Sustainability for the  
Legendary Multidisciplinary Arts Center**



*Guild Hall Teen Arts Council on a building tour. Photo courtesy of Guild Hall, 2023.*

**East Hampton, NY (June 20, 2023)**— Guild Hall announced today that it will reopen to the public on **Sunday, July 2, 2023**, following the completion of the first phase of the institution's comprehensive renovation. Jamaican-American artist Renée Cox will inaugurate the galleries with ***Renée Cox: A Proof of Being*** – a 30-year career overview, organized by independent curator Monique Long, which will be on view in the Marks Family Gallery North, July 2 through September 4, 2023.

**Members only are invited to an exclusive preview day with activities and tours on Saturday, July 1, from 12-5 PM.**

Guild Hall's Capital Improvements Project, overseen by Peter Pennoyer Architects (PPA), began in the spring of 2022 to match the physical and technological footprint of the legendary art center's 1930s-era site to the caliber of today's artistry. The improvements maintain Guild Hall's original

character and scale while implementing new building systems— improved HVAC, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, lighting, doors, windows, fire suppression, security, and communication systems— to greatly enhance overall performance and sustainability.

The July 2 reopening will reveal exhibition galleries with greater linear and vertical hanging space, gardens that serve as public gathering and art presentation spaces, a well-equipped 21st-century education center, an art handling and preparatory area, technologically advanced administrative offices, and a drop-in amenity: Louise & Howie's Coffee Bar featuring Tutto Caffè. Phase 2 will complete the renovation of the John Drew Theater, with PPA and technology consultants Auerbach Pollock Friedlander, with an expected completion of early 2024. Notably, all of Guild Hall, indoors and outdoors, has been made accessible and brought up to the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

Guild Hall's renovation was launched and supported by the largest single philanthropic donation in the institution's 92-year history from arts patrons Marty Cohen, Chairman of Guild Hall's Board, and his wife Michele Cohen. This donation advances Guild Hall's 2020–2025 strategic plan to reflect the interdisciplinary practices of today's artists and create an adaptable and high-performance environment. Guild Hall's building at 158 Main Street will be named the Marty and Michele Cohen Arts Building in recognition of their vision and leadership, with the name unveiled during the opening festivities. Marty Cohen has served as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Guild Hall since 2013 and, through his service, has ushered in a new era of sustainability and forward-thinking vision for Guild Hall.

**Andrea Grover**, Guild Hall Executive Director, says, "We look forward to celebrating this first stage of the strategic plan, a near-total infrastructure replacement of our 1930s-era facility, resulting in a building that functions like new construction yet maintains its historic character. This gift from Marty and Michele Cohen and all our generous donors lay the groundwork of excellence for our artists and community for years to come."

Additional major gifts were received from Nancy and Howard Marks, Baron Family Foundation, Louise and Howard Phanstiel, Tom Roush and LaVon Kellner, Susie and Michael Gelman, and Linda Lindenbaum. With an overall goal of \$29 million, the Guild Hall campaign is at 70 percent of the goal, and fundraising continues through Phase 2.

**Guild Hall's galleries and Louise & Howie's Coffee Bar will be open to the public starting July 2, Thursday to Monday, 12-5 PM. Gallery admission is FREE, sponsored, in part, by Landscape Details.**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **MEMBER OPENING**

Saturday, July 1, 12-5 PM

Members are invited to enjoy a special preview day to view the exhibition and renovated spaces. Become a member at [guildhall.org/membership](https://guildhall.org/membership) for early access.

### **PUBLIC OPENING**

Sunday, July 2, 12-5 PM

### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

Thursday to Monday, 12-5 PM

## **ABOUT GUILD HALL**

Guild Hall is the cultural heart of the East End: a museum, performing arts, and education center, founded in 1931. We invite everyone to experience the endless possibilities of the arts: to open minds to what art can be; inspire creativity and conversation; and have fun.

Guild Hall has served four generations and introduced audiences to the most storied artists and performers of our time. Now as we approach our centennial, we have embarked on a state-of-the-art renovation to match the caliber of our artistry for twenty-first-century audiences. The facility-wide Capital Improvements Project & Campaign includes top-of-the-line physical and technological enhancements to better deliver on our mission as an artist-driven, interdisciplinary institution.

For more information about Guild Hall, please visit [GuildHall.org](http://GuildHall.org).

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