

# 41°-74° CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC.

The Premier Association for Professional Women in Travel

## Note from the President:

41°-74° CLUB YEAR 2025-2026

**Happy New Year!** Believe it or not, we are already halfway through our current club year which started *July 1, 2025* and will end *June 30, 2026*. December was a very busy and exciting month for the *41°-74° Club of NY*: thirteen of our members enjoyed a wonderful evening in *Dyker Heights* on *December 4* with the evening starting at **Ramona Manzi's** home for some holiday cheer, followed by an enchanting walking tour of the **Dyker Heights Christmas Lights**. The homeowners throughout this neighbourhood decorate for the holidays in truly spectacular fashion. The evening culminated in a delicious dinner at *Annabelle's Pastaria, 717 86th St, Brooklyn, NY 11228*. Photos from this event available [here](#).

The crowning event of the club's year took place the following week, Friday, December 12, at our annual **Holiday Luncheon**, which again took place at the **Lotte New York Palace** hotel. This year's luncheon welcomed 180 members, auxiliaries and other guests to benefit **4Bronx Project**, a community-based program, which supplies much needed resources to women and families in need in the borough of the Bronx. This grass-roots project is the brainchild of its founder, **Laura Levine-Pinedo**. A very moving video presentation created by her was shown followed by Laura taking the stage for a short speech in which she described the beginnings of her enterprise during the pandemic.

Another highlight came a little later, when a surprise guest was announced - none other than **Stephon Marbury**, the NBA star who played for both: the Nets and the Knicks. Stephon donated two signed basketballs, which were raffled separately.

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and the raffle sales, the club presented **Laura** and the **4Bronx Project** with a check for **\$10,000**.

There were over 20 prizes donated by a variety of suppliers included in the raffle, but the pinnacle prize came at the very end, when our **Diamond Sponsors: Delta Airlines** and **Delta Vacations** came to the stage to choose the winner. A beautiful video celebrating Delta Airline's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary was shown. Then, **Matthew Kutches**, Director of Global Sales at Delta Airlines surprised the audience by announcing additional prizes of **10 one-thousand-dollar** gift cards. As if that wasn't enough, he then increased the final grand prize of **two round-trip first-class airline tickets to anywhere in the World!**

I am not sure how we are going to top this, but am looking forward to next year's Holiday Luncheon already. In the meantime, we already have completed plans for the remaining events for this club's year. Our schedule for early 2026 will include a special Spa Event at the ILA Spa at the Lotte New York Palace January 8, followed by the club's meeting February 12 at the **Waldorf Astoria**, sponsored by **Leigh Sassone**, (our Auxiliary Member) and **Kensington Tours**. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors of the 41°-74° Club of NY, I want to express my deepest gratitude for all that you do to keep our club the premiere association for women in travel!

*Warm regards,*

**Corrine Mutarelli**

*President 41°-74° Club of New York, Inc.*

*Club Year 2025-26*

*"The Premier Association for Professional Women in Travel"*

## *The 41° - 74° Club of New York Annual Holiday Luncheon*

*Friday, December 12, 2025  
Lotte New York Palace  
455 Madison Avenue  
New York City  
Benefitting - 4Bronx project*



*Thanks to this year's Sponsors!*

### *Diamond Sponsors:*



### *Platinum Sponsors:*



**METEOR**

*Gold Sponsor:*



*Patrons:*





*and... Thank You to All for making this a success!*



The full album of the 41°-74° Club of New York Holiday Luncheon available [here](#).



## The 41°-74° Club of New York Donates \$10,000 to Support the 4Bronx Project at Annual Luncheon

The 4Bronx Project is proud to bring a \$10,000 donation back to the Bronx, thanks to the incredible generosity of the 41-74° Club of New York.

The 41-74° Club of New York takes its name from the longitude and latitude of New York City. Established in 1937, the club is an association of dynamic professional women engaged in all aspects of the travel industry.

During their recent holiday party, our Executive Director took the stage to spread the word about our advocacy efforts and the impact we are making across the borough. We are grateful for the platform to share our mission with such an influential group of female travel agents and industry leaders. These funds will be instrumental in continuing our work for the residents of the Bronx.



*The Philanthropy Committee proudly extends its heartfelt thanks to the members of the 41°-74° Club of New York as well as all sponsors for their extraordinary generosity in helping to raise **\$10,000** in donations for the 4Bronx Project during this year's Annual Luncheon.*

*This significant contribution will directly support the mission of the 4Bronx Project, a community-based program dedicated to uplifting underserved individuals and families throughout the Bronx, while fostering inclusion, empowerment and positive change across the borough.*

*The generosity demonstrated by All exemplifies the power of collective philanthropy and reflects a shared commitment to strengthening communities and reshaping the narrative of the Bronx through meaningful action and service.*

*The philanthropic success of the Annual Luncheon would not be possible without the dedication and generosity of **Every One of You!** This investment will help advance programs and initiatives that provide critical resources and opportunities for those who need them most...*

*Thank you,*

**Astra Williams**

*The 41°-74° Club of New York Philanthropic Chair*

*For more information about the 4Bronx Project click [here](#), or visit [www.505bx.org](http://www.505bx.org).*

## Save the Date!

THE 41°-74° CLUB OF NEW YORK SPECIAL EVENT AT  
ILA ONLY SPA



SPONSORED BY ARUBA TOURISM AUTHORITY



January 8, 2026  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
@Lotte New York Palace, Floor 8  
455 Madison Avenue, NY 10022

RSVP [HERE](https://www.4174club.org/upcoming-events), OR VISIT:  
[HTTPS://WWW.4174CLUB.ORG/UPCOMING-EVENTS](https://www.4174club.org/upcoming-events)

*Come join us for a tour of the ILA Spa, champagne, light appetizers and a few spa services. See the most amazing view of St. Patrick's Cathedral!*

*Thanks to **Natasha Lee Soy** of the **Aruba Tourism Authority** for sponsoring and to the **ILA Spa** for offering this special venue complimentary to the club.*

### *The 41°-74° Club's 2025-26 Meetings/Events:*

**Thursday, January 8, 2026** - Special Spa Event hosted at ila Only Spa, Lotte New York Palace (8<sup>th</sup> Floor) - Sponsored by **Aruba Tourism Authority** - Representative **Natasha Lee Soy**.

**Thursday, February 12, 2026** - Open Meeting - Waldorf Astoria New York - **Sponsored by Kensington Tours** - Representative **Leigh Sassone**.

**Thursday, March 12, 2026** - Open Meeting - Omni Berkshire Place - **Sponsored by Omni Hotels** - Representative **Claire Gallagher**.

**April 2026** - Special Event TBA.

**Thursday, May 14, 2026** - Open Meeting - Fushimi Times Square - **Sponsored by Delta Vacations** - Representative **Lisa Orlando**.

**Thursday, June 11, 2026** - **Annual General Meeting and Elections** - Arte Cafe NYC - **Sponsored by American Cruise Lines** - Representative **April Piazza**.

### *41°-74° Club of New York Book Club*

January 2026 book discussion will be on "**The Amalfi Curse**" by Sarah Penner

Time/Date: **Tuesday, Jan 20, 2026, @06:00 PM EST**  
Zoom Link: [here](#)

Meeting ID: **845 7266 1319**  
Passcode: **015692**

Regards,

**Roberta Long-Kelleher**  
The 41°-74° Club of New York Vice President





Dear Members and Auxiliaries,

*Here's wishing all of you a  
happy, healthy and prosperous  
2026!*

*Warmest wishes for a fantastic year ahead.  
The 41'-74' Club of New York*

## FROM MEMBERS' DIARIES:

*Past President Spotlight: April Dawn VanWagner  
Embarks on a New Chapter*

After nine and a half remarkable years with Club Med, **Past President of 41-74 - April Dawn "AD" VanWagner** is stepping into an exciting new chapter of her career. She has joined **Plaza Premium Group** as **The Senior Manager, Sales**, marking both a personal milestone and a moment of tremendous growth within the global airport-hospitality sector.

As 2026 begins, Plaza Premium Group (PPG) is celebrating major achievements and preparing for an extraordinary year ahead. A worldwide leader in airport hospitality, the company now operates across more than 600 airports in 150 countries, serving over 24 million passengers annually.

This year brings significant expansion at New York's JFK International Airport, where two exceptional lounges are set to open in the brand-new Terminal One:

**Plaza Premium First** - an ultra-premium lounge featuring elevated hospitality, luxury amenities and curated dining experiences.

**A rare Arrivals Lounge** - offering refined dining, a full bar and revitalization amenities designed to support today's modern traveler the moment they land.

Plaza Premium Group has also announced a partnership with the **Air India Lounge** at Terminal One, further strengthening its presence and service offerings within this important international hub.

The momentum continues in Texas, with two new lounges debuting at **Dallas Fort Worth (DFW)** this February. In addition, PPG's **ALLWAYS Meet & Assist** service continues to elevate airport travel with personalized, end-to-end assistance, ensuring a seamless, stress-free journey from curb to gate.

As she steps into her new role, AD is excited to build meaningful partnerships and help travel professionals unlock new hospitality solutions for their clients. She welcomes connections with agencies, companies and Financial Institutions interested in exploring Plaza Premium Group's partnerships programs.

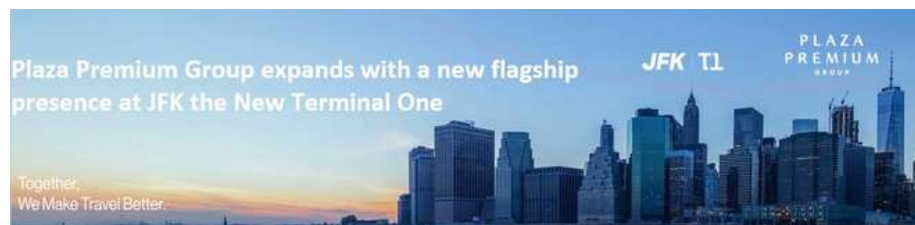
Members who would like to reach out or share her details with their partnership teams may contact her directly:

**April Dawn "AD" VanWagner**

Senior Manager, Sales

Plaza Premium Group (PPG) | Plaza Premium Lounge (JFK)

✉ [AprilDawn.VW@Plaza-Network.com](mailto:AprilDawn.VW@Plaza-Network.com)



PLAZA  
PREMIUM  
GROUP



## FROM MEMBERS' DIARIES:

*AWTA HOLIDAY BALL 2025 by Corrine Mutarelli,  
The President 41<sup>o</sup> - 74<sup>o</sup> Club of NY  
Club Year 2025-26*

The Alliance of Westchester Travel Agencies (AWTA) held their annual **Holiday Ball** on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at the beautiful VIP Country Club in New Rochelle, NY.

A total of 110 people attended including Members and Associate Members of AWTA as well as family and friends. The evening started with a cocktail hour at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner and dancing to the music of the **EP Event Group**.

Guests brought unwrapped toys to donate to the **Westchester/Putnam County division of Toys for Tots**. A member of the United States Marine Corps came with the representative of Toys for Tots to accept the many wonderful toys donated by the guests.

The highlight of the evening was the installation of the new **Board of Directors for 2026-27**. **Ralph Vasami**, a long-time member of AWTA, did the honors of thanking the outgoing board and introducing each member of the new board including **Corrine Mutarelli**, President; **Alesia Kozicky**, Vice-President; **Ruby Chadha**, Secretary; **Terry Spiegel**, Treasurer; **Michele Fazio-Weis**, Immediate Past President; **Sadie Longobardi**, Past President and **Gary Cillo**, **Marianne Delulio** and **Marissa Massa**, Directors-at-large.

For more information about AWTA, check out their website at [www.awta1.com](http://www.awta1.com).



## *This Is an Open Space – Specifically Left Blank for Your Story!*

*Do you have a story to tell, an experience to share, or exciting news about your company? This space is for YOU!*

*The **METEOR** of the 41<sup>o</sup>-74<sup>o</sup> Club is your platform to connect, inspire and promote within our vibrant community of travel professionals. Whether it's a memorable trip, an educational insight, a personal milestone, or an update from your business, your contribution adds color, energy and inspiration to our pages.*

✨ *Let's make this newsletter truly ours – together!*

\*\*\*To submit your story, spotlight, or company feature, please email to: [4174ny@gmail.com](mailto:4174ny@gmail.com) for inclusion in an upcoming issue.\*\*\*



## DID YOU KNOW?

*The New York Travel & Adventure Show Returns as a Key Industry Touch-point for 2026!*

**As the 2026 travel planning season begins, the New York Travel & Adventure Show will return to the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center on January 24-25, 2026, reaffirming its position as one of the most important consumer-facing travel events in the Northeast and a valuable platform for travel professionals.**

Now in its fifth year in New York City, the show has evolved into a major marketplace connecting destinations, tour operators, cruise lines, travel advisors and media with an engaged, travel-ready audience. The 2026 edition will feature more than 600 exhibitors representing destinations and suppliers from across the globe, making it an efficient, high-impact environment for industry engagement, lead generation and trend forecasting.

Beyond the show floor, the event offers significant educational and thought-leadership value. Attendees can hear directly from some of the most influential voices in travel media, including Samantha Brown, Pauline Frommer, Peter Greenberg and Andrew McCarthy, who will share insights on traveler behavior, destination storytelling, safety considerations and the evolving expectations of today's travelers.

The show also features dedicated programming designed to enhance professional knowledge, including sessions at the **Savvy Traveler Theater** and **Destination Theater**, where topics range from emerging travel technologies and sustainability to experiential travel trends and effective client engagement strategies. Live cultural programming at the **Global Beats Stage** further underscores the importance of authentic, experience-driven travel, an increasingly critical focus for advisors and suppliers alike.

In an era of digital booking platforms and online research, the New York Travel & Adventure Show highlights the continued importance of face-to-face relationships in the travel industry. The event provides travel professionals with the opportunity to strengthen supplier partnerships, negotiate exclusive offers, gain firsthand destination knowledge and stay ahead of consumer travel trends heading into 2026.

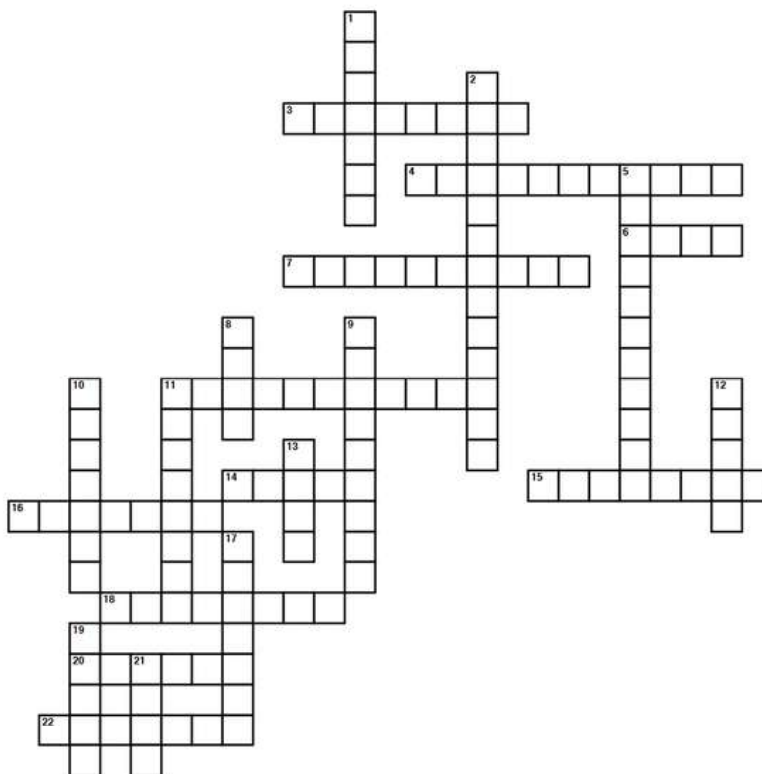
For industry peers, the New York Travel & Adventure Show is more than a consumer event, it is a strategic opportunity to connect, learn and position businesses for success in the year ahead.

From the Archives: Past contributions raised for charity from our Holiday Luncheon celebrations

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CHARITY</u>	<u>AMOUNT RAISED</u>
2024	Giving Friends	\$10,000
2023	Ballroom Basix	\$6,500
2022	R.A.I.N	\$10,000
2021	Harlem Grown	\$6,000
2020	The Starfish Program	\$6,175
2019	Hunger Free NYC	\$15,000
2018	Girls Inc.	\$10,000
2017	Sanctuary for Families	\$10,000



### Travel and Tourism



#### ACROSS:

3. Traveling away from a particular place, especially on the first leg of a return journey.
4. Tourism that involves individual or group tours by specific interest.
6. Trips to locations of former conflict such as battlefields or concentration camps.
7. Resort that includes a hotel, casino, convention center, theme parks, retail and fine dining.
11. Geographical area with of all the services and infrastructure necessary to support tourism.
14. Attractions such as theme parks, zoos, art galleries, and museums.
15. A period of celebration.
16. Temporary short-term movement of people to destinations away from their normal residence.
18. The simultaneous sale of at least two elements of a vacation such as flights and a hotel.
20. A place that is a popular destination for vacations or recreation.
22. Attractions such as lakes, beaches, forests.

#### DOWN:

1. The way of life of a group of people including behaviors, beliefs, values and symbols.
2. To cross one or more national border's.
5. Traveler organizes and books transport and accommodations from separate sources.
8. What Form of tourism that involves large numbers of tourist coming to one destination.
9. Long-established customs that people from different cultures continue to practice.
10. Traveling toward a particular place, especially when returning to the original point of departure.
11. Within a person's home country.
12. Less densely populated areas-more remote also known as countryside destinations.
13. Destinations popular due their appearances in films and television.
17. Towns and villages that are located on the coast.
19. High population density-mainly large towns and cities.
21. Excursions to informal settlements and impoverished areas.