

## The Port Authority Shows its PRIDE

For the first time in Port Authority history, the PA PRIDE EBRG proudly marched in the New York City Pride March under the Port Authority banner. This momentous event saw the enthusiastic participation of senior leadership, including Chief Operating Officer **Jim Heitmann**, who marched alongside PA PRIDE members, demonstrating the agency's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Included with those who marched was a Pride-themed electric vehicle.

In addition to this historic march participation, PA PRIDE, in partnership with the Port Authority Police Department Equality Alliance, organized the first-ever Pride Flag raising at PATC on Friday, June 28. The event saw speakers from PA PRIDE, the PAPD Equality Alliance, Chief Security Officer **Greg Ehrie**, Deputy Director of Operations Services **Jennifer Long**, and LGBTQ Law Enforcement



From left: Jim Heitmann, Duffy Heitmann, Julie Chen, Michael Wojnar, Steven Resch, Jennifer Baez, Britt Crilley



Vehicle driven by Mark Gernavage (Central Automotive Division)

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## Welcoming the 2024 E&A Associates

Join the Engineering Department in welcoming the 2024 Engineering and Architecture Associates, who came on board in June.



From left to right: Jacob Nunez, Adrian Skala, Mark Burton, Daniel Angel, Janke Gandara, Carmen Chan, Catherine Henn, Syeda Islam, Nawrin (Noor) Saju, Emiley Spath, Theresa Teng, Shannon Welcome, Lauryn Wilson. Back row: Alice Dorfman and Steven Riley. Not pictured: Gila Rosenzweig.

The Engineering & Architecture Associates Program hires associates as permanent employees where they will complete a series of rotations in either the design or the construction disciplines. Associates experience various functions of engineering and how each department relates to one another. At the end of the first year of the two-year program, associates are placed into a role within a design or construction management division. While in the program, associates are provided with various training sessions to prepare them for a career in engineering. Many E&A associates have gone on to become managers, directors, and chiefs at the Port Authority.

## Midtown Bus Terminal Hosts Juneteenth-Inspired Live Art Event

The second floor of the Midtown Bus Terminal's South Wing was transformed into an artistic haven during a vibrant live art event organized by the Port Authority, in collaboration with the Museum of Urban Arts (MOUA). This special occasion, held on Wednesday, June 19, marked the commemoration of Juneteenth, a significant day in American history.

With paintbrushes in hand and vibrant colors on their palettes, several talented professional and student artists gathered at the terminal to create Juneteenth-inspired artwork. The terminal became a canvas, showcasing a diverse range of artistic expressions that captivated the attention of onlookers.

The live art event served as the opening celebration for "An Urban Junction," an art walk curated by MOUA at the Midtown Bus Terminal. This unique initiative both provides artists with a platform to showcase their work and further their careers and offered commuters and visitors a chance to immerse themselves in the diverse world of urban art.



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## Midtown Bus Terminal Hosts Juneteenth-Inspired Live Art Event

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Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, represents the liberation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. The artists at the live event drew inspiration from this historic occasion, incorporating elements of freedom, resilience, and cultural heritage into their artwork.

The pieces created during the event serve as visual representations of the significance and impact of Juneteenth. The artwork created during the live event will continue to be displayed, serving as a reminder of the importance of Juneteenth and the enduring impact of art in our society.

## Check Out the Latest Annual Report

The Port Authority has published the latest edition of its [Annual Report](#). The theme of this year's report, *A Year of Extraordinary Milestones – Continuing to Deliver*, appropriately highlights the many significant accomplishments of the agency over 2023. It includes the agency's financial statements, statistical and other regional data, and a narrative of the agency's activities during the year.

[Watch the highlights video and see the full report.](#)



## RETIREMENT

Audit's **Jill Ryan** is retiring after over 36 years of service with the agency. Congratulate Jill on her retirement on Tuesday, July 16, from noon to 2 p.m. on the 4th Floor of Journal Square Transportation Center. RSVP to [Kathleen O'Connor](#), [Jeremy Hamill](#), or [Louis Kern](#). [See the flyer](#) for more information.



Jill Ryan

## Port Authority H.R. and Labor Chief Leaves Legacy of Respect, Renewal

Originally published in *Now Arriving*, written by Steve Burns.

**Mary Lee Hannell** has a straightforward way of describing her job as the Port Authority's Chief of Human Resources and Labor Relations: Finding the right people, right place, right time.

Some days at the Port Authority, the answers to those statements were simple. Other days, like on Sept. 12, 2001, the answers were nearly impossible.

As Hannell prepares for retirement after 37 years at the Port Authority, the last 11 spent as Chief of Human Capital, she leaves an enduring legacy shaped by her pivotal actions in the days that followed 9/11, along with her determination to forge new traditions within an agency that had experienced profound loss.

On that Tuesday morning, Sept. 11, 2001, Hannell was in her office on the 67th floor of the North Tower when she felt a jolt and saw smoke. She opened the stairwell door and started an hour-long journey to the street level, pushing herself and others to stay positive and keep moving through thickening smoke and anxiety.

She has relived that mindset for days, weeks, and years since.

Keep reading in [Now Arriving](#).



## PAPD Bi-State Coalition Honors Community Leader

The PAPD Bi-State Coalition recently came together with students of the Beloved Community Charter School in Jersey City to honor the school's departing dean, who has been a close partner in the coalition's community outreach efforts. On June 28, the Bi-State Coalition expressed its heartfelt gratitude to Dean Michael Long by

treating students to ice cream on his last day. What began with a simple phone call about anti-bullying had blossomed into a profound friendship and a long-term commitment with the students of the school. The coalition is deeply thankful for Dean Long's dedication, support, and passion for the well-being of the school and its community.



Dean Michael Long, Lt. Atiba Joseph-Cumberbatch, and Lt. Andre Phillips with students.

## WORKING ADVANTAGE DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Port Authority employees and retirees can take advantage of hundreds of discounts at stores, theaters, theme parks, and more through Working Advantage, the PA's Employee Discount Program partner. Visit [www.workingadvantage.com](http://www.workingadvantage.com) and use the PA Member ID number — 405042634.





# Summer Interns Get Inside Look at Midtown Bus Terminal



Comms interns Allison Hecht, Elena May and Eva Herrick with TB&T's Jermaine Robinson and Media Relations' Steve Burns.

On Monday, July 18, Communications interns were treated to a one-of-a-kind tour of the Midtown Bus Terminal, organized by Media Relations' **Rudy King** and led by Bus Operations Manager **Jermaine Robinson**. Interns learned about the work the Port Authority is doing to transform the Midtown Bus Terminal into a world-class transportation hub, got a behind-the-scenes peek at the terminal's operations, viewed the beautiful community art installations throughout the terminal, and met employees across various roles whose work keeps the region moving. Special thanks to Rudy, Jermaine, and the employees of the Midtown Bus Terminal for their hospitality!

## CALENDAR

### APNG: Monthly Roundtable

*July 17, noon to 1 p.m., virtual.* The Administrative Professionals Networking Group (APNG) will host its monthly virtual roundtable discussion on Unlocking Fair Compensation. Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting out, this roundtable will give you invaluable insights and strategies for navigating salary negotiations with confidence. Members will receive an invitation. Non-members can RSVP to [PA\\_APNG@panynj.gov](mailto:PA_APNG@panynj.gov).

### PAAN: The Heart of Inclusion

*July 19, noon to 1 p.m., virtual.* In recognition of Disability Pride Month, the Port Authority Abilities Network (PAAN) and the Network of Emerging Talent welcome guest and TEDx speaker, [Alycia Anderson](#) for a virtual conversation about building inclusive and accessible communities. [Register for The Heart of Inclusion.](#)

### PAHS: NYSLRS Information Session

*July 30, noon to 1 p.m., virtual.* The Port Authority Hispanic Society (PAHS) hosts *PAHS Talks* on the New York State Local Retirement System (NYSLRS), presented by a NYSLRS representative. PAHS members will receive an invitation. Non-members can RSVP to [PAHS@panynj.gov](mailto:PAHS@panynj.gov).

### PAAN: PA Panel Discussion on the ADA

*July 31, noon to 1 p.m., virtual.* **Russel Kriegel**, Chief Architect, and **Paul Farber**, Title VI and ADA Compliance Coordinator, discuss how the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has influenced their work and how everyone can be advocates. [Register for the Port Authority Panel.](#)

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From left: PO Matthew Nolan-Raio, Sgt. Aaron Banz

Liaisons from Garden State Equality. Along with compelling speeches from these speakers, Sergeant **Aaron Banz** received an award for his commitment to the newly formed PAPD Equality Alliance. The significant event symbolizes the Port Authority's ongoing dedication to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all employees.

In addition, the Oculus was adorned with Pride Flags and lit up in rainbow for all of Pride Weekend. These historic milestones mark a new era of visibility and support for the LGBTQ+ community within the Port Authority, reinforcing our commitment to equality and the celebration of diversity.

From left: Steven Resch, Richard Gill, Chris Wolff, Britt Crilley



## GOT NEWS FOR NEXT TIME?

Do you have news from your team, department or employee group to share in the next *PA News*? Send it to [panews@panynj.gov](mailto:panews@panynj.gov) by July 19 to be included in the July 26 issue.