The terrorists attacks of last September devastated thousands of small businesses in lower Manhattan. To help these businesses get back on their feet, the New York City Partnership, in cooperation with the Empire State Development Corporation and the Economic Development Corporation, created ReSTART Central. In its first year, ReSTART provided $3.6 million in goods and services to 970 small businesses owners.

Now, ReSTART is getting its own new start. It has become part of The City University of New York’s Economic Development Corporation, which recently won a $500,000 grant from Ernst & Young to help ReSTART expand its commitment to lower Manhattan. “We want to utilize the great depth of this University’s intellectual capital to assist in the recovery and economic development of our city,” said Chancellor Matthew Goldstein. “We see this as part of our mission.”

Paige Sutherland, the executive director of ReSTART, said that although the organization has already helped many small businesses to reopen, more aid is needed to keep them open. “They are still struggling, their income is down 20, 30, 40% from last year; their foot traffic and customers are gone,” she said. Their survival, she adds, is crucial to the city; they employ over 10,000 people and generate some $21 billion annually in sales.

“In the beginning, they needed office supplies, like computers, and advice on getting grants,” she said. “Now, they need to get more business, and they need to create marketing plans, which some of them have never had to do because they relied on foot traffic.”

ReSTART, Sutherland said, is in a unique position to help. “What makes us different,” she noted, “is that we are one-stop shopping for them. We pair each business with a business advocate, volunteer or paid, who has an average of 10 years of experience in the private sector. They act as mentors. We’re reactive and pro-active. Business owners can call us about things, and we call them when we learn about something new. ReSTART is a good model for how to apply business skills to all small businesses, not just the ones that were affected by the terrorist attacks.”

It is through CUNY’s Economic Development Corp., Sutherland said, that ReSTART will enter its next phase: offering long-term, ongoing help. In addition to providing a fully equipped Manhattan office at CUNY’s West 31st St. address for ReSTART’s seven full-time staff and 10 to 20 volunteers, CUNY is discussing a variety of programs with ReSTART, including internships that would allow Honors College students to provide assistance in Ground Zero businesses.

“We expect that ReSTART will grow into a major business assistance program that will provide support to the many small- and medium-size businesses throughout the city,” said Louise Mirror, CUNY’s executive vice chancellor for academic affairs who also serves as the president of the CUNY Economic Development Corp.

“CUNY was the obvious place [to work with us] because the chancellor has reached out to the business community of New York for synergies where they can both help each other,” Sutherland said. “The funding is for one year, but all parties are hoping it will go beyond our original mandate. We want to take off the ‘re’ from ReSTART’s ‘rebuild’ and just make it ‘build.’”

**Five More QC Members Who Died on 9/11**

The most recent update from The City University of New York reveals that four more alumni died on September 11. They are: William J. Dimmling, William Garcia, Sharon C. Millan, and Michael H. Waye. Also known to have died in the attack was a current student, William Cody, a mandated duty police officer who transferred to the College in the Spring of 2001.
**Notes**

**Award-Winning Louis Exhibit**

“And the Award Goes to . . .” examines the variety of awards granted to Louis Armstrong. As a musician and entertainer, Armstrong was one of the most honored artists of his time. In addition, he also received numerous humanitarian awards in recognition of his generous nature. The exhibit, curated by Peggy Alexander (Armstrong Archives), includes the awards themselves, letters, photographs, scrapbooks, and sound recordings. “And the Award Goes to . . .” runs through December 2, with a reception today from 4:30–7:00 pm in Room 332 of the Rosenthal Library. Exhibit hours are Monday–Friday, 10 am–5 pm, but sometimes vary. Call 3670 for the most up-to-date information.

**Young Scholars’ Series Opens**

“Playing Herself: Gender and Sexuality as Performed by Hip Hop’s Lil Kim” will be the topic of a lecture by Michelle Smith-Bermiss (George Mason University) on Wednesday, September 25 at noon in Room 301 of the Student Union. The talk will be the first in the Young Scholars’ Series sponsored by Africana Studies. Students attending the lecture will receive one CLIQ point.

**Grassroots Organizing in India**

On Wednesday, October 2 at noon, Kavitha Mediratta and Clay Smith will address the topic of “Grassroots Organizing in India.” Mediratta is senior project director at NYU’s Institute for Education and Social Policy, and Smith is staff director at the Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition in New York City. Their lecture, which features a slide presentation, will be held in the Student Union’s VIP Room and will include a complimentary lunch. Students can earn one CLIQ point by attending. For more information, contact the Women’s Studies Program (3098).

**Deadline for Faculty Development Proposals**

The CUNY Faculty Development Program is designed to promote innovation in teaching and learning and to address the real needs of CUNY faculty in the classroom. Faculty are encouraged to submit proposals for seminars or colloquia that explore important intellectual or pedagogical issues. The deadline for proposals to be funded in the Spring semester is 5 pm on Friday, October 18.

The Faculty Development Program especially encourages proposals that:

- take advantage of new technologies to enhance classroom instruction
- promote pedagogical innovation
- are interdisciplinary in nature
- involve collaborations with faculty from other CUNY campuses

The program is administered by the Graduate Center’s Office of the Associate Provost for Instructional Technology and the Dean for Interdisciplinary Studies. For more information about the program, including copies of the application in PDF format, go to web.gc.cuny.edu/cfd/rfp.html

**Opera Authority Philip Gossett to Visit College**

Philip Gossett, a distinguished scholar, lively lecturer, and consultant to the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, and other major opera companies, will be in residence at the College on September 23-24 as a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar. Gossett is the Robert W. Reneker Distinguished Service Professor in the Department of Music at the University of Chicago, the general editor of The Works of Giuseppe Verdi, and the author of numerous articles and books, including the forthcoming Divas and Scholars: Performing Italian Opera.

Gossett will open his visit with a public lecture in LeFrak Hall at noon on Monday, September 23. His presentation, “‘Mare o Monti’: Two Summer Festivals,” will offer an eyewitness account of the controversies, disasters, and triumphs at the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, Italy and the Sante Fe Festival in New Mexico.

From 3-5 pm in LeFrak Hall, Gossett, who has worked with such famous artists as Cecilia Bartoli, Renée Fleming, and Samuel Ramey on matters of performing 19th-century Italian opera, will coach students in the College’s Opera Workshop.

On Tuesday “Verdi the Craftsman” will be the topic of a guest lecture in an undergraduate music course. From 3:00-4:30 pm in Room 226 of the Music Building, several faculty members will join Gossett in a discussion of “19th-Century Italy and Opera.”

Except for the “Verdi the Craftsman” lecture, all events are free and open to the public.

Gossett’s visit is made possible by the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholars program and by the Sigma of New York chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the Division of Arts and Humanities, and the Copland School of Music.

**Center for Jewish Studies’ New Season**

This October the Center for Jewish Studies opens a new season of entertaining and thought-provoking events, including the inauguration of its Biblical Archaeology Series, three presentations in its Jewish Lecture Series, a concert featuring the Klezmatics, and one of the last Yiddish films produced in pre-WWII Poland.

Frank Heynick will open the acclaimed Jewish Lecture Series with “Medicine: The Jewish Profession” on October 2 in LeFrak Hall at 7:30 pm. Heynick is an expert in linguistics and Freud and holds a Ph.D. in Medicine from the Netherlands’ State University of Groningen. His many publications include the books Languages and Its Disturbances in Dreams: The Pioneering Work of Freud and Kraepelin Updated and Jews in Medicine: An Epic Saga. All Jewish Lecture events are free and open to the public.

The Center will launch its Biblical Archaeology Slide-Lecture Series with
Peer Advisement Open House September 25

A Peer Advisement Open House will be held Wednesday, September 25 at 12 noon in B Building, room 12. This is a recruitment event for prospective peer advisors for the Spring semester. At the Open House the screening process will be described, and current and former Peer Advisors will be on hand to answer questions. Refreshments will be served. Applications will be accepted through Tuesday, October 1. To apply, students must have achieved Upper Freshman status and have at least a 2.5 cumulative index.

Peer Advisors are available Monday–Thursday, 9–4 and Friday, 9–2. No appointment is necessary. Academic as well as personal issues can be discussed. Professional counselors are available Monday–Friday, 9–5, by appointment.

New Director for Asian/American Center

Madhulika S. Khandelwal rejoins Queens College as director of the Asian/American Center. From 1998 to 2002, she served on the Asian American studies faculty at the University of Massachusetts in Boston. Her main research interests include immigrants, women, and the South Asian diaspora. Khandelwal’s ethnographic research on South Asian immigrant communities of the New York area will soon be published in her book Becoming American/Being Indian: An Immigrant Community in New York City (Cornell University Press, 2002). Born in India, Khandelwal was educated in both India and the United States, and holds a Ph.D. in History from Carnegie-Mellon University.

Comedy Club Scam No Laughing Matter

Joe Brostek (Special Events) reports that someone is going to classrooms claiming to be from the office of Special Events and selling tickets to a comedy club. This event has absolutely nothing to do with the Queens College Special Events Office. Faculty should not permit such activity in their classes.

To Our Readers Submit items for FYI at least two weeks in advance to News and Information Services, Kiely 1310, 997-5590. Submissions longer than one short paragraph should be submitted on disk or by e-mail to nis@qc.edu.
Upcoming Events at the Calandra Institute

The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute will be sponsoring a number of events in the next month. On Monday, September 23, Enzo Farinella and Frank Polizzi will examine the similarities between Sicilian and Celtic culture and history in a lecture entitled “Sicilian and Irish Historical and Cultural Connections.” Farinella, a professor of Italian at University College in Dublin, has served as the Cultural Attache for the Italian Cultural Institute in Ireland and is currently the Director of Casa Italia Cultural Centre in Dublin. Polizzi, head of reference at Wagner College, is a poet and fiction writer who recently completed a novel entitled Mediterranean and Celtic Isles.

A new series, Writers Read, features Italian American and Italian writers, and authors on Italian and Italian American subjects reading from their works. The series begins on Thursday, September 26 with Nicholas Montemarano reading from his novel A Fine Place, which has been called “a book all Italian Americans can benefit from reading.”

Both events are free and begin at 6:30 pm, but seating is limited. The Calandra Italian American Institute is at 25 West 43rd St., 18th floor between 5th & 6th Avenues in Manhattan. For further information call (212) 642-2035 or visit their website at www.qc.edu/calandra

Eye-Italian Flava: The Italian American Presence in Hip Hop is the topic of a symposium presented by the Calandra Institute and the Casa Italiana Zerilli-Maramo in Manhattan on Saturday, October 5, from 12:30-5:30 pm. This symposium will explore aspects of creativity and representation by Italian American artists as they pertain to ethnicity, race, and gender within Hip Hop culture. There will be two roundtable discussions with artists exploring the ways Hip Hop culture and identity are reproduced, negotiated, submerged, or flaunted, the interrelationship between the media and Hip Hop. The free event is being held at Casa Italiana Zerilli-Maramo in Manhattan at 24 West 12th Street between 5th and 6th Avenues.

Conference on Language Development Sept. 28

Highlighting Literacy: Talking Our Way into Comprehension, a day-long conference featuring David Booth, will take place on Saturday, September 28 from 8 am to 1 pm in the Dining Hall Patio Room.

David Booth is a professor of education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, where he teaches graduate courses in language arts and literacy education. For over 30 years Booth has been involved in education as a classroom teacher, language arts consultant, professor, speaker, and author. He has written dozens of articles in scholarly journals and is the author of several books, including Guiding the Reading Process, which focuses on reading strategies for beginning and developing readers.

Booth has participated in many international conferences and has presented workshops in all areas of language learning. He developed literacy guidelines for the Ontario Ministry of Education and compiled background reports for the Council of Ministers of Education on curricula across Canada. He has won numerous awards for his classroom teaching, his scholarship, and his books for young people.

Booth will make three presentations at the Highlighting Literacy: “Talking Our Way into Comprehension,” “Comprehension Techniques for Working with Children,” and “Strategies for Implementing a Deeper Comprehension of Text.”

The conference is sponsored by the College’s Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education. Attendance, by advance registration only, is $20 ($10 for EECE students; students who are enrolled in eligible EECE classes register through their instructors). For more information contact Evelyn O’Connor at 5387 or Florence Samson at 5349.

Student Wins Chasman Scholarship

Tamara Blain, a Queens College student who once suffered from a deep depression that led to her becoming homeless, has won the 2002 Renate W. Chasman Scholarship for Women.

Brookhaven Women in Science, a nonprofit organization at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Brookhaven National Laboratory, awards the scholarship to encourage women to pursue careers in science, engineering, or mathematics. Named after the late Renate Chasman, a physicist who worked at Brookhaven, the $2,000 scholarship is awarded to a woman whose college education was interrupted, but who has returned to pursue a degree on at least a half-time basis.

After earning a B.S. in biochemistry from Stony Brook University in 1995, Blain suffered a series of traumatic experiences that left her severely depressed. Blain explained, “My self-esteem was extremely low as I took odd jobs and stayed with friends, often finding myself homeless. One winter I began staying overnight at Kinko’s, as it was open 24 hours and was a respite from the cold. There I made friends who allowed me to use the computers free of charge at night. As a result, I taught myself several graphic design programs and began to work freelance as a graphic designer. Thus began my love affair with computers.”

Between 1996 and 2001 Blain pursued several career paths. She was a freelance Web developer at Investars.com and a freelance graphic designer. She also worked as a computer services consultant at Kinko’s.

In 1997 Blain enrolled at Lehman College as a computer science major, and in 1998 transferred to City College. Today, she is continuing her studies at Queens, where she is also a research assistant, and expects to graduate with a B.S. in computer science in December. She plans to go on to earn a Ph.D. and teach computer science at the university level. She also wants to apply her computer knowledge and amateur inventor ability to the field of robotics in medical science.