

April 2023

FIND THE LATEST NEWS UPDATED EVERY DAY AT BROOKLYNPAPER.COM

BAY News

including **KINGS COURIER & FLATBUSH LIFE**

SERVING BENSONHURST, BRIGHTON BEACH, CONEY ISLAND, GERRITSEN BEACH, KINGS HIGHWAY, MANHATTAN BEACH, MIDWOOD, & SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Back in Action: College for Kids

BY DR. CLAUDIA SCHRADER

Raise your hand if you or someone you know has participated in the Kingsborough Community College (KCC), College for Kids (CFK) program. For more than 30 years, CFK has provided programming for children and youth ages 5 – 17, keeping them active, engaged, and healthy all summer.

When it began in the early 1990s, CFK was primarily for elementary school-aged children. Summer programming focused on utilizing the college campus and its many wonderful assets, like the beach, campus gym, and the different classrooms and labs for experiments and arts and crafts. Over time, based on the continuous requests from our CFK families, the division began to cater to middle school-aged children and, more recently, teenagers.

This year, we are excited to relaunch CFK with new programming, allowing participants to discover new interests, make new friends, create memo-

ries that will last a lifetime, and make this summer, once again, one for the books!

When the pandemic resulted in the inevitable shutdown of CUNY campuses, CFK pivoted to offer families the option of virtual programming. But this summer, we are back on our beautiful and safe campus, excited to continue to offer families many in-person options to choose from. From our state-of-the-art computer labs to our themed tracks packed with varying programming, children will have a blast while learning. Parents can choose from our list of tech-only courses or one of our four themed tracks: Webslingers, Patrioteers, Smashers, or Bat Kids. Each track has a diverse mix of activities that range from physical offerings, such as tennis/badminton, to academic offerings, like Forensic Detective, which allows children to play detective as they learn to solve crimes through forensic science!

“Our goal has always been to create a safe, structured rec-



Youth participate in a yoga class in the gym as part of Kingsborough Community College's College for Kids program.

reational and educational environment with the activities that help our CFK children learn, grow, and thrive during the out-of-school time,” says Dr. Simone Rodriguez, Vice President of the division. “Adding in new programming that reflects what excites youth most, like Virtual Reality, Minecraft Modification or “Make Your First Video Game,”

paired with soccer and gardening, has really helped keep a healthy balance of enrichment and fun for all who attend CFK.”

Karolina Bizik, Director of Continuing Education, who coordinates the activities and plans the program, shared that it is imperative that kids stay socially, physically, and academically engaged throughout the summer.

CFK is a wonderful way to ensure that children are provided with a welcoming environment where they have a sense of belonging and can have fun. They are building relationships, developing character, enhancing skills and discovering their potential. “We really encourage parents to give their children the gift of fun and learning, to keep them active and engaged all summer long,” says Christine Zagari-LoPorto, Associate Dean of the division.

This summer CFK starts on July 10th with either a four-week or six-week option along with the option of registering for mornings only (9:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.) or the full-day (from 9:15 a.m.-4:30 p.m.).

Dr. Claudia V. Schrader is president of Kingsborough Community College, which was named a top 10 finalists this month for the 2023 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. For more information on CFK, visit KCC's website at <http://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/ce/cfkt.html> or call 718-368-5050.

To return to the homepage, [click here](#).