

The Association for a Better New York

Moving New York Forward Since 1971





History

In the 1970s New York City faced what would later be recognized as one of the worst fiscal crises in its more than 400-year history. Lew Rudin, a charismatic real estate developer passionate about the city and its people, felt compelled to take action.

On a cold winter day in early 1971, Rudin sat down with many other spirited New Yorkers, for what is now famously known as “the original power breakfast.” At his side was the dynamic and civic-minded hotelier Robert Tisch. The two were anguished over the dire straits the city had succumbed to, so they hatched a plan. They galvanized a group of more than 125 executives from a broad range of sectors to find the answers that would help get their city back on its feet, as well as discover ways in which they could combine efforts and resources to create a brighter future for the City of New York.

Within weeks, the Association for a Better New York (ABNY) was born, taking on the unprecedented role of tackling solutions to the city’s social issues—work that had previously been deemed the domain of City agencies.

One of ABNY’s first initiatives was “Operation Clean Sweep,” which encouraged thousands of building owners on the West Side of Manhattan to have their own janitorial staffs sweep the pavement and gutters in front of their properties every day. It was a simple request that led to spectacular results. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, ABNY became active in improving virtually every area of municipal life from transportation to education. ABNY spearheaded the legendary I ♥ NY campaign for New York. Rudin personally handed out thousands of golden apple lapel pins. In the process, he affectionately became known as “Mr. New York.” Rudin was a tireless advocate for New York City and its people until his death in 2001.

In the 2000s and 2010s ABNY continued to show up for New Yorkers—working to rebuild Lower Manhattan in the aftermath of 9/11, making sure our State had a fair and accurate count in the 2020 Census, and supporting efforts for an equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rudin’s legacy of service, personal responsibility, and communal accountability live on in our work today.



“ABNY seeks to build as broad a community as possible and to provide the space to create consensus in a moment where clashing views compete for our attention. To provide the opportunity for meaningful conversation and share in a collaborative approach to solving problems—that is the cornerstone of our organization.”

Steven Rubenstein
Chairman



Membership Plans

Corporate Sustaining Membership: **\$10,000**

Corporate (26+ employees): **\$5,000**

Corporate (5-25 employees): **\$2,500**

Corporate (4 employees or less): **\$1,500**

Private Philanthropy: **\$5,000**

Nonprofit (51+ employees): **\$2,500**

Nonprofit (50 employees or less): **\$1,000**

Legacy (retirees from ABNY member corporations): **\$750**

Independent Practitioner: **\$750**

Young Professionals Pipeline:

Year 1: \$250

Year 2: \$500

CARROLL AND
MILTON PETRIE
EUROPEAN
SCULPTURE
COURT

"What ABNY has always done best is to create an atmosphere in which New Yorkers with different views can come together to exchange ideas, develop strategies, allocate resources, and create lasting and effective solutions. At all times, we keep New York moving forward and staying focused on the belief that the city's greatest period of prosperity lies ahead."

William C. Rudin
Immediate Past Chairman

ABNY Member Benefits:

Discount pricing for Power Events.

Our signature Power Breakfast and Power Lunch events feature government officials and civic leaders discussing key issues impacting New York City and State.

Invitations to member-only Special Briefings.

Members have access to smaller, private briefings on pressing public policies directly affecting their businesses.

Entry to an ever-expanding network.

ABNY provides its members the ability to promote their events and efforts through ABNY's newsletter and social media platforms as well as at events where networking opportunities are optimal. The ABNY network is also a valuable tool to help our members grow their businesses and accomplish critical goals. ABNY's small but dedicated staff works with each member to figure out how to be the most helpful to each specific company or organization.

Participation in ABNY Young Professionals.

Members identify rising stars in their organizations and invite them to special programs and networking opportunities. This includes happy hour receptions, briefings, and educational opportunities aimed at cultivating the next generation of civic leaders.

Involvement in the ABNY Women network.

ABNY Women provides a platform for women to explore, discuss, and foster positive change in the workplace and beyond through a series of events and conversations with female leaders. ABNY Women offers unique programming to spark thoughtful dialogue and encourages discourse with the goal of forging a better future for all New Yorkers, together.

Engagement with The ABNY Foundation.

The ABNY Foundation was created to raise funds for social, educational, and civic initiatives that enhance the quality of life in the five boroughs of New York City. The Foundation's annual fundraiser, the Spirit of ABNY Awards, is widely considered to be one of the best events of the year for people looking to network and support important civic initiatives.

Access to advocacy resources.

ABNY weighs in on and supports issues that are of importance to members and to New York City and State as a whole. From development projects and rezonings to quality of life issues, ABNY communicates clear and strong messages from members to policymakers at public hearings and in one-on-one exclusive meetings.

Opportunities to actively participate:

- Become one of the civic leaders charged with exploring and implementing ideas to craft an agenda that keeps New York City moving forward.
- Convene on special committees and develop initiatives on important public policies affecting all New Yorkers in diverse communities throughout the five boroughs.
- Receive timely communications with member newsletters, networking events, and policy and legislative updates.
- Identify with New York's leading civic organization that mobilizes and activates the region's public and private sectors for the betterment of New York City's people, communities, and businesses.
- Access dozens of ABNY events annually.

Apply for your ABNY Membership [here](#).

ABNY Programs



Check out ABNY Member events [here](#).



Join the ABNY YP network [here](#).



Learn more about ABNY Women [here](#).

ABNY Members: ABNY's signature programs include Power Events, Special Briefings, and ABNY Talks. ABNY Power Events offer an opportunity for elected and government officials, as well as civic and business leaders, to present the ideas and policies they believe can help foster a better New York. ABNY Special Briefings are member-only events where government, business, and civic leaders update ABNY members on pressing issues and solicit feedback and input from the membership. ABNY Talks events are educational events open to all in the ABNY network (members and non-members) and are free of charge.

ABNY Young Professionals: The ABNY Young Professionals network (ABNY YP) aims to engage and to inform members about the importance of civic participation through educational programming, social events, and philanthropic initiatives. Since its launch in 2011, the group has grown to nearly 4,000 professionals from almost every sector across New York City.

The ABNY YP network provides an opportunity for young professionals to expand their professional contacts and offers educational and civic engagement opportunities to the next generation of leaders. Events are free of charge and programming varies from insider tours, to discussions with experts and industry leaders, to highlighting members of the ABNY YP community for monthly Young Professional Spotlights.

ABNY Women: ABNY Women was established to provide a forum for civically engaged women across industry sectors to come together to share and to address the pressing issues affecting women in the New York City workplace.

ABNY Women provides a platform for women to explore, discuss, and foster change in the workplace and beyond through a series of events and talks by female leaders. The network offers unique programming to spark thoughtful conversation and encourage discourse with the goal of forging a better future for all New Yorkers, together.

"To enter the room of an ABNY event is to open the door to opportunity. There are thought leaders to engage, decisionmakers to connect with, and professionals from every sector of New York City's economy to meet. It is the hallmark of the organization to establish and foster relationships to ensure the vitality of our businesses and our great city."

Frances Resheske
Board Member

Special Projects

2020 Census for a Better New York

In an effort to help New York City and State achieve the most accurate Census count possible in 2020, ABNY implemented a two-year strategic plan, and formed an organizing and action committee composed of corporate, nonprofit, community, and union leaders. Its objective and purpose was to achieve three primary goals:

1. Maximize the Census self-response rate in 2020;
2. Help New Yorkers complete the Census form; and
3. Work to ensure confidentiality and privacy protections under Title 13 of the United States Code.

The work was based on the understanding that ABNY's role was to support and supplement Census efforts by the U.S. Census Bureau, the State of New York, and the City of New York, informed by the advocacy and organizing work of New York Counts 2020, and in coordination with all Census 2020 stakeholders. ABNY used community engagement, consensus building, and stakeholder involvement as mechanisms to:

1. Provide leadership for a coordinated Census effort for New York City and State;
2. Provide support and resources to community-based, nonprofit organizations; and
3. Organize and facilitate a Census campaign for the business community.

See additional information about the effort [here](#).

Together, We Are New York

Together, We Are New York was a community-based arts campaign presented by ABNY, in partnership with community-based organizations, local artists, and neighborhood stakeholders to celebrate the cultural diversity of New York, its people, and its communities—showcasing New York City pride! *Together, We Are New York* culminated in neighborhood activations across the five boroughs of New York City, individualized arts projects using multiple disciplines, community engagement, and public art installations.

Please visit our website for more information [here](#).

Check out the *Together, We Are New York* videos [here](#).

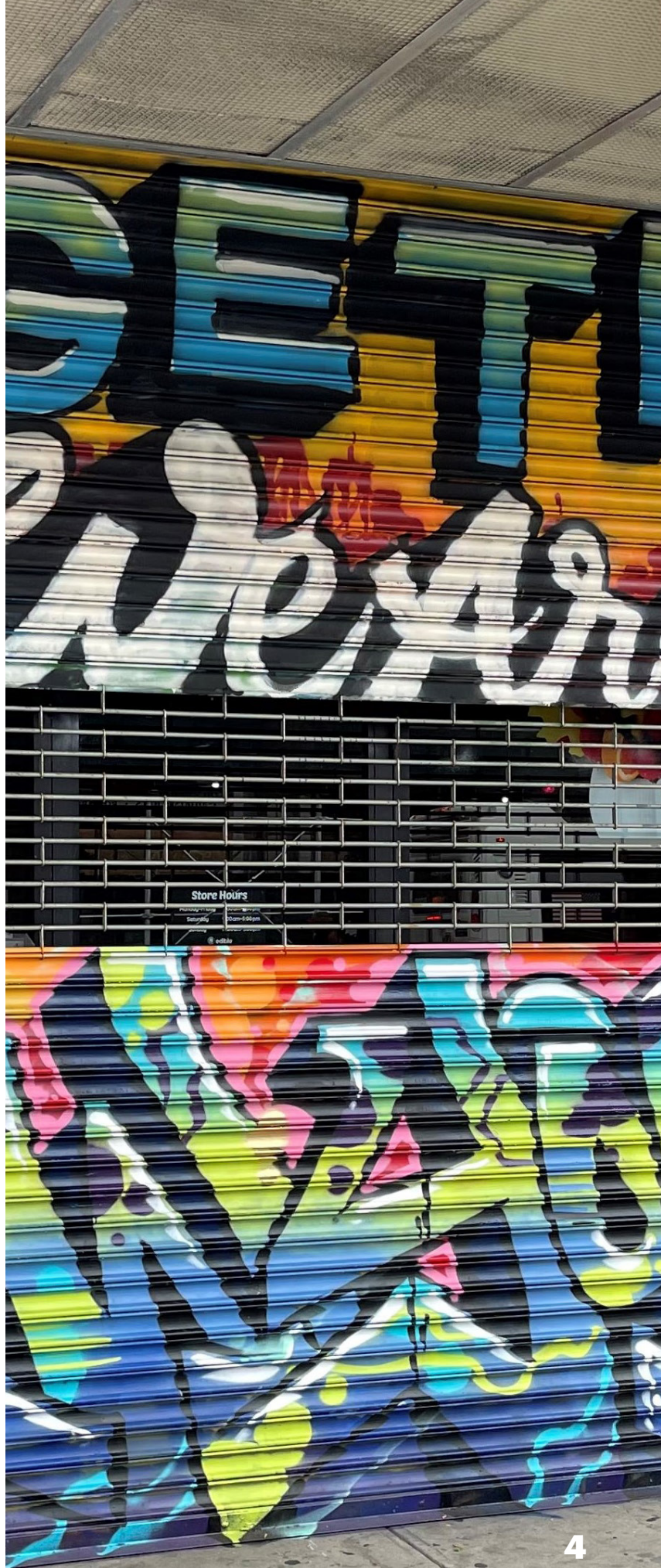
Advocacy & Original Reports

For decades, ABNY has worked to ensure the ABNY brand represents what is good for New York. The organization's advocacy centers on growing and diversifying the city's economy, creating jobs, improving infrastructure, strengthening the public education system, and ensuring that New York remains a hub of innovation, commerce, and culture globally.

The team also works with members to bring attention to issues of importance through original reports. Partnering with members such as AT&T, Citi, Global Strategy Group, and Google, ABNY has commissioned original research reports on critical and timely issues facing the city.

ABNY has been proud to advocate and provide testimony for initiatives such as the One Vanderbilt skyscraper project, South Street Seaport redevelopment, citywide public Wi-Fi with LinkNYC, and Cornell NYC Tech Campus on Roosevelt Island, among other projects that serve New York and New Yorkers.

Learn more about ABNY's reports [here](#).



The ABNY Foundation

Established in 1987, The ABNY Foundation was created to provide funds for social, educational, and civic initiatives that enhance the quality of life in the five boroughs of New York City. Each year, the Foundation prioritizes giving in line with the mission of its affiliate organization, the Association for a Better New York, and the most pressing needs in New York City for the upcoming year. The ABNY Foundation is a tax-exempt nonprofit corporation.

Learn more about The ABNY Foundation [here](#).

The Spirit of ABNY Awards

The ABNY Foundation created the [Spirit of ABNY](#) Awards in 2007 to raise funds while honoring select New Yorkers who have provided a distinguished level of service to our great city.

In addition, at the Spirit of ABNY Awards each year the Foundation recognizes the civic achievements of one individual by presenting the Lew Rudin Founder's Award, in memory of ABNY's first chairman. Likewise, the David N. Dinkins Lifetime Achievement Award is also presented to an individual who has played a significant role in shaping ABNY over the years.



"ABNY members understand that New Yorkers themselves are what makes this City so special. Since ABNY's founding, the organization has expanded to include the The ABNY Foundation, the ABNY Young Professionals group, and the ABNY Women network. By continuing to evolve to serve the needs of our people, ABNY has shown a steadfast commitment to making sure that all New Yorkers have the opportunity to participate in civic dialogue."

Maria Torres-Springer
Foundation Trustee

ABNY Members

We are a coalition of more than 250 member organizations, providing context in which government, businesses, and nonprofits can work together in service of our great city. Please see the most updated list of members [here](#):

Abacus Federal Savings Bank
ABS Partners Real Estate, LLC
Adam America Real Estate
AECOM
Allen & Company LLC
Alliance for Downtown New York
Altice
Amazon
AMC Networks
American Museum of Natural History
Anheuser-Busch Companies
Astoria Generating Company, LP
AT&T
Bank of America
BNY Mellon
Baruch College-CUNY
Battery Park City Authority
Benenson Capital Partners, LLC
Berkeley College
Blackrock, Inc.
Blackstone Group, LP
Bloomberg
Bob Lehrman
Bolton-St. Johns, LLC
Borough of Manhattan Community College-CUNY
Boston Properties
Broadway Association
The Brodsky Organization
Bronx Chamber of Commerce
Bronx Community College-CUNY
Brookfield Properties
Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
Brown & Weinraub, PLLC
Brownstone Family Foundation
Building & Construction Trades Council
Building Trades Employers' Association
Business Council of New York State
Capalino
Caspi Development, LLC
CBRE Group Inc.
CCA Metro – Carpenter Contractor Alliance of
Metropolitan New York
CetraRuddy Architecture
Charter Communications
Chelsea Piers
Citigroup, Inc.
Citizens Budget Commission
City College of New York-CUNY
Citymeals-on-Wheels
City University of New York
Claudia Wagner
College of Optometry-SUNY
Columbia University
Con Edison
Cornell University
Coro New York Leadership Center
Council of School Supervisors & Administrators
Cozen O'Connor
Crown Castle USA, Inc.
Dajia US
DalyGonzalez
Davidoff Hutcher & Citron LLP
Delta Air Lines
The Doe Fund

DoorDash
Douglaston Development, LLC
Downtown Brooklyn Partnership
Dune Real Estate Partners
The Durst Organization, Inc.
East Midtown Partnership
Edelman
Educational Alliance
Elmcor Youth & Adult Activities, Inc.
Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield
Emursive Productions
Ernst & Young, LLP
Facebook
Fashion Institute of Technology-SUNY
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
Fisher Brothers Management
Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership
Four Freedoms Park Conservancy
Ford Foundation
FreshDirect
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson
Friends of Hudson River Park
General Contractors Association of New York
GFP Real Estate
Gilbane Building Company
Glenwood Management Company
GLG
Global Strategy Group
Goldfarb & Fleece LLP
Goldman Sachs
Google
Gotham Organization
Grand Central Partnership
Greater New York Hospital Association
Greenberg Traurig LLP
Greenwich House, Inc.
H.J. Kalikow & Co. LLC
HK Organization
Harris Rand Lusk
Hess Corporation
Hollis Public Affairs
Hotel Association of New York City, Inc.
Howard Hughes Corporation
HR&A Advisors, Inc.
Human Services Council
Hunter College-CUNY
Ichor Strategies LLC
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 3
International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 237
International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 14-14B
Intersection
Invemed Associates, Inc.
Jack Resnick & Sons
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center of New York
Jamestown Properties
JetBlue Airways Corporation
Joe and Clara Tsai Foundation Social Justice Fund
JP Morgan Chase & Co.
Kasirer
Kaufman Organization
KPMG LLP
Kramer Levin, Naftalis, & Frankel LLP
L & L Holding Company, LLC
LaGuardia Community College

ABNY Members

LaGuardia Gateway Partners
LargaVista Companies
Las Vegas Sands Corp.
LeFrak Organization
Lenox Hill Hospital/Northwell Health
Lincoln Square BID
Loews Hotels
Lyft, Inc.
Macy's/Bloomingdale's
Madison Avenue BID
Madison Square Garden
Manhattan Chamber of Commerce
Manhattan Skyline Management Company
Marino Organization
MCR Development, LLC
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Mercury
Meringoff Properties
Metropolitan College of New York
Metropolitan Museum of Art
Muss Development LLC
National Grid
NBCUniversal
The New School
New York Academy of Sciences
New York Blood Center Enterprises
New York Building Congress
New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO
New York City Employment and Training Coalition
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital
New York Public Library
New York State AFL-CIO
New York University
Nonprofit New York
Nicholas & Lence Communications L.L.C.
NYC & Co.
NYC Hospitality Alliance
Ogden Cap Properties, LLC
Olnick Organization
Ostroff Associates
Pace University
Park Tower Group
Patrick B. Jenkins & Associates
Physician Affiliate Group of New York
Plaxall, Inc.
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Proskauer Rose LLP
Public Health Solutions
Queens Chamber of Commerce
RAL Development Services, LLC
Real Estate Board of New York
Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations
Regional Plan Association
Related Companies
Resorts World Casino
Risa Heller Communications LLC

Rockefeller Group Development Corp.
Rosen Partners LLC
RRE Ventures
RUBENSTEIN
Rudin Management Company
RXR Realty
Saint John's University
Savills
Sciame Construction, LLC
SEIU 32BJ
The Shubert Organization, Inc.
Siemens
Silvercup Studios, NY LLC
Silverstein Properties, Inc.
SJP Properties
Skanska USA
SL Green Realty Corp.
Southwest Airlines
Starbucks
Staten Island Chamber of Commerce
Steiner Studios
Sterling Equities
Suffolk Construction Company Inc.
Taconic Partners
Target
Tech:NYC
TF Cornerstone
Thomson-Reuters
Tiffany & Co.
Time Equities, Inc.
Times Square Alliance
Tishman Speyer
TLM Associates, LLC
Tonio Burgos & Associates
Turner Construction Company
Tusk Strategies
TWU of Greater New York, Local 100
UJA-Federation of New York
Union Square Partnership
United Airlines
United Federation of Teachers
Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone
Venable LLP
Verizon
Vornado Realty Trust
Walnut Hill Media
Westfield
WeWork
Wildlife Conservation Society
YMCA of Greater New York
Yoswein New York
Zillow
Zubatkin Owner Representation, LLC

"ABNY's strength has always been in convening stakeholders across industry sectors to address critical policy issues. I am excited that we have reaffirmed our focus to bring in employers large and small from all five boroughs and beyond, from influential large corporations to distinguished cultural institutions to grassroots community nonprofits, to come to the table to participate in this discourse that is so critical to our City's success."

Larry Scott Blackmon
Steering Committee Member

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For membership information or to learn how you can get involved,
please [contact us](#).

www.abny.org
212.370.5800
@abetterny

