



For Immediate Release

April 22, 2026

LMCC Holds Annual Downtown Dinner Gala, April 27 at Tribeca 360°

Event Hosted by Actress Clare McNulty Honors Julie Menin, NYC Council Speaker; Filmmaker Linda Genereux & LMCC Board Chair Emeritus Timur Galen; Gallerist Jack Shainman & Artist Carlos Vega; and Grammy Award-Winning Musician and Educator esperanza spalding

Featuring a Special Performance by esperanza spalding

LMCC (Lower Manhattan Cultural Council), the nonprofit organization that champions artists and connects them to vital resources and public spaces across New York City, holds its annual **Downtown Dinner Gala** on **Monday, April 27 at Tribeca 360°**. **Clare McNulty**, best known for her role as Chantal Witherbottom on the cult hit *Search Party*, hosts the evening, which features a special performance by Grammy Award-winning artist **esperanza spalding**.

At the Downtown Dinner, LMCC confers the 2026 Liberty Awards, recognizing outstanding artists, civic leaders, and community members for their contributions to arts and culture in New York City. **Linda Genereux & Timur Galen** receive the Liberty Award for Community Equity & Sustainability; **Julie Menin, Speaker of the NYC Council**, receives the Liberty Award for Civic Leadership; **Jack Shainman & Carlos Vega** receive the Liberty Award for Cultural Leadership; and **esperanza spalding** receives the Liberty Award for Artistic Excellence. LMCC also presents its 2026 Alumni Artist Awards, honoring **Chloë Bass** (Michael Richards Award for Visual Arts), **Moriah Evans** (Sam Miller Award for Performance), and **Normandy Sherwood** (Sarah Verdone Award for Writing).

The Downtown Dinner brings together hundreds of New York City's business, civic, and cultural leaders to support LMCC's vibrant, resilient arts ecosystem.

WHAT:

LMCC's Downtown Dinner Gala

WHERE:

Tribeca 360°

10 Desbrosses St, New York, NY 10013

WHEN:

Monday, April 27, 2026

6–7 PM: Cocktail Hour

7–9 PM: Dinner & Program

9 PM: Afterparty

WHO:

Host: Clare McNulty, actress, writer, and director (Search Party, Fort Tilden)

Liberty Award honorees:

Linda Genereux & Timur Galen, Liberty Award for Community Equity & Sustainability

Julie Menin, Speaker of the NYC Council, Liberty Award for Civic Leadership

Jack Shainman & Carlos Vega, Liberty Award for Cultural Leadership

esperanza spalding, Liberty Award for Artistic Excellence

Alumni Artist Award honorees:

Chloë Bass, Michael Richards Award for Visual Arts

Moriah Evans, Sam Miller Award for Performance

Normandy Sherwood, Sarah Verdone Award for Writing

Special Performance:

esperanza spalding, Grammy Award-winning musician and educator

Guests:

Brad Hoylman-Sigal, Manhattan Borough President

Gale Brewer, NYC Council Member

Chris Marte, NYC Council Member

Leslie Wayne, artist

Don Porcaro, artist

Bill T. Jones, choreographer, Artistic Director/Co-Founder/Choreographer of Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company, and Artistic Director of New York Live Arts

Lileana Blain-Cruz, theater director

Kaneza Schaal, actress and theater director

Yancey Strickler, Co-founder of Kickstarter

Anne Hamburger, theater director and Founding Artistic Director of En Garde Arts

Kay Takeda, Executive Director of the Foundation for Contemporary Arts

Christine Kuan, President/CEO of Creative Capital

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MORE INFO:

lmcc.net/downtowndinner2026

ABOUT LMCC

Founded in 1973, LMCC serves, connects, and makes space for artists and community members in Lower Manhattan and across New York City. As Manhattan's leading arts council, LMCC provides artists with resources, funds, and support ranging from arts grants to studio residencies, and animates the public realm with free arts programming. For more information, visit lmcc.net.