

# Public Event

## Citizen Science and Noise

We tend to take sound for granted, but it's an important part of our lives. We associate music we listen to with strong emotions, and we use it to lift our spirits. Sounds tell us where we are and what time it is. Familiar sounds we hear as we fall asleep tell us that we're safe. When we listen to sounds in nature, we realize that the world is so much bigger than all that we know.

What is noise? When does sound become noise? Is noise something we have to accept because we live in a city – is noise just part of city life? Is there anything that we can do to reduce some of the noise in our lives? What if noise affects our sleep, or our concentration? Where can we go to find quiet?

On April 24th, people throughout the world will commemorate the 24th Annual International Noise Awareness Day, or INAD. The event was founded in 1996 to encourage people to take action to reduce noise that negatively impacts their lives.

On April 20th, members of The Quiet Coalition will lead an interactive program at the Clarendon Library to introduce mobile phone apps that help people measure and describe sound in order to contribute to “citizen science” – a way to empower people to play a role in addressing noise in their communities, as well as a way to identify and preserve quiet places.



You don't need a smart phone to participate, but there will be demonstrations of the apps. The presenters will also discuss educational modules about sound and noise for public schools and the City's noise code, and they will provide guidance about effectively using the 311 system to submit reports about noise.

**Brooklyn  
Public  
Library**

**Saturday  
April 20th**

**12:30-2:00 PM**

**Clarendon  
Library**

**2035  
Nostrand  
Avenue**

**718-421-1159**