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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

### Two Pelham Line 6 Stations Set to Reopen Sunday

#### *Elder Ave and St. Lawrence Ave Stations Back After 8 Months*

MTA New York City Transit announces that the Elder Avenue and St. Lawrence Avenue 6 stations rehabilitation project is near completion and they will reopen at 5 p.m. Sunday, October 16. Subway service will resume at both Elder Avenue and St. Lawrence Avenue stations which have been closed for eight months in both directions in order to accomplish station renovations.

Fare-free boarding on local buses and the late night extension of the Bx4 bus service in the area will be discontinued.

The project included new mezzanines, new platform floors, windscreens, tactile warning strips and canopy roofs, as well as electrical upgrades and the installation of fluorescent lighting. While service at these stations will be restored, there is still work to be completed, including the installation of new interior and exterior wall panels and the upgrading of the stations' electrical and communications systems.

The stations will also be painted and artwork (see accompanying artwork list) will be installed in the platform windscreens and mezzanine windows. The entire rehabilitation is scheduled for completion in early 2012. This will mark the end of the \$89 million five-station renovation on the Pelham 6 line which included: Whitlock Avenue, Elder Avenue, Morrison Avenue-Soundview, St. Lawrence Avenue and Parkchester.

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#### **Artwork at Five Rehabilitated Pelham 6 Line Stations**

Whitlock Avenue  
BARBARA GRYGUTIS  
Bronx River View, 2010  
Stainless steel sculptural seating and windscreen

Inspired by the location of the Whitlock Avenue station, Bronx River View consists of five stainless steel sculptural units situated on the platforms and integrated into the windscreen walls. From floor to ceiling, the sculptures offer views to the Bronx neighborhood and the nearby Concrete Plant Park and Bronx River. The functional sculptures blend the transit experience with the surrounding community and provide resting points with windows of open air and sky views. Bronx River View creates an environment to inspire dialogue based on the old and new and the traditional and contemporary.

Elder Avenue  
JEAN WHITESAVAGE AND NICK LYLE  
Bronx Trees, 2011

Bronx Trees consist of 20 hand wrought steel sculptural grilles, representing a number of the native tree species of the Bronx River area. Installed within the platform windscreen, the grilles provide views to the buildings, streets and neighborhood below. Branches and leaves lend a treetop feeling to the view.

The Southbound platform displays grilles based on leaves and branches of the Shagbark Hickory tree (*Carya ovata*) and the Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*). The Northbound platform includes grilles based on leaves and branches of Sumac (*Rhus typhina*), Swamp White Oak (*Quercus bicolor*), Tulip (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) and Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*) trees. These trees were common in the forest that covered the Bronx until the mid -19th century when land development began for the creation of farms, highways, and industry. Today, various local organizations are working to replant native plants, revive the waterways and bring back a bit of the forest.

Morrison Avenue-Soundview  
MARIA CRISTALLI AND MARC BROWN  
The Land Between Two Waters, 2010  
Forged steel windscreen

Rendered in forged steel, The Land Between Two Waters consists of 14 panels in seven pairs that are integrated into the stations platform windscreens. The images evoke the nearby rivers and other elements of the landscape, both natural and constructed, associated with the history and evolution of the area.

Soundview is located near the point where the Bronx River flows into the East River and was once known as the "Land by the Two Waters" by the native Siwanoy people. With water as a central element, the artists depict a forest of native trees (oak, tulip tree, cottonwood, mountain ash, sweet maple,

sassafras, and flowering dogwood) and birds (wild pheasant, osprey, great egret, cedar waxwing, cardinal, and grey catbird). Other panels show farmland and the contemporary cityscape of homes, bridges, and distant skylines.

St. Lawrence Avenue

ALISON MORITSUGU

Community (Acer rubrum, Rosa palustris, Smilax rotundifolia, Carya cordiformis), 2011

Alison Moritsugu's mosaics intertwine two definitions of the word community. Community speaks of both people living in a specific geographic area as well as plants growing together, sharing the same ecosystem. The glass mosaics highlight four plants endemic to the Bronx area. They include *Acer rubrum* (red maple), *Carya cordiformis* (bitternut hickory), *Rosa palustris* (swamp rose), and *Smilax rotundifolia* (common greenbrier). Woven into the background are images of the people who form the Bronx community. They live and work in the area and are the people we see and travel with each day. Once the hunting grounds for the early Siwanoy Indians, this area became farmland and later residential developments. Like the natural landscape, populations are continually changing and always in flux.

Parkchester

WILLIAM LOW

A Day in Parkchester, 2011

Faceted glass on stairwell

A Day in Parkchester, created by artist William Low, features two picturesque, iconic day and night scenes of the neighborhood with a day and night view. Fabricated into 40 faceted glass panels, the monumental 11 feet high windows are located in the two stairwells leading from the mezzanine to the platform, filling the space with light and color. The main characters are the sun and the moon, placed high above the Bronx cityscape with rolling hills, beautiful old apartment buildings, and green parks. The colorful glass provides commuters with the opportunity to view and enjoy its effect throughout the day. Low was born and raised in the Bronx and was inspired by the station design, and incorporated elements of the original mosaic frieze into his work.