

Upper – Upper – West Side Free-for-All

Weekend of June 25 to 27

– A day of free beauty on Broadway; an evening of free crafts; free wine; a Sunday of free dance classes; free late night dinner; free summer ice

Participate in an Upper West Side Free-for-All between 86th Streets and 106th Streets on June 25th, 26th and 27th. Nearly everything is totally free and local area businesses are participating so that all who come have fun and more fun!

The Little Shop of Crafts, the largest crafts studio in the tri-state area, is hosting a special, totally free Paint-a-thon for adults on Saturday evening, July 26 from 7 pm - 9:30 pm with free painting of anything you want – plaster, wood, pottery, mosaic, you name it (includes all pieces up to \$25, which is nearly every piece in the shop! - a big value!) And you can return as often as you'd like to keep touching up that great piece you've created (there's no charge for time here!)! There's complimentary wine (up to any value you want!) and great music as well! The owner of the Studio is doing the Event to benefit Doctors Without Borders, to which he will give a donation. 711 Amsterdam Ave. (corner of 94th Street); 212 531-2723; also: 431 East 73rd Street (between York and First Ave.); 212 717-6636.

Next in line is a new eatery a block away - The Corner – which is kicking in on that same Saturday night with a post paint-a-thon (or post anything you're doing!) free late night supper from 9 pm - 11pm featuring sliders and a special French fry garnish (your choice of veggie slider, steak-burger slider or chicken slider). 680 Columbus Ave. (at 93rd Street); 212 280-4103. Check it out – it's new and worth a visit on any account! (A \$6 to \$7 value!)

Then there's Beauty on Broadway! Blondi's, the chic hair salon at 2742 Broadway at 105th Street; 212 666-5505; is hosting an all-day hair-a-thon. Anyone who comes in for anything at all that doesn't include blow dry, gets one on the house along with a free conditioning treatment (the latter is also available to anyone who comes in for a service that doesn't include such a treatment!) on Sunday, June 27 from 10:30 am to 6 pm (A big big value! \$65 to \$70 for both services!) The salon will also be serving free refreshments all day. Elia Salon, considered to be among the finest Dominican salons in the country, is offering a free oil bath for your hair (for men and women; a \$25 value!) all weekend from 2:30 pm on Friday until 6 pm on Sunday. 850 Amsterdam Ave. (between 101st and 102nd Streets); 212 316-3100.

And the Friday night before, June 25th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, Portrait Bug, one of the city's best portrait and scrapbooking boutiques/studios aimed at moms, kids, and more is offering free date pictures for any online or non-online occasion (a minimum of a \$25 value) to anyone who wants them. The portraits here are excellent. 2466 Broadway (between 91st and 92nd Streets); 212 600-4457.

And back to Sunday, just feet from Blondi's, where those blow outs are in progress, is the much respected dance and yoga studio, Bridge For Dance, on Sunday, will be offering totally free dance classes – from 11 am to 12 noon (free zumba); and again from 1:30 pm to 3pm (free capoeira). 2726 Broadway (between 104th and 105th Streets), 3rd floor; 212 749-1165. (a \$30 value for both classes!) The perfect solution? Go for a dance class, then walk a few feet away and get a great cut, dry and conditioning treatment – and/or a special organic oil bath for your hair!!

And during it all, Rita's, the well-known Philadelphia-based Italian ice and frozen custard emporium that has just inaugurated its first New York outlet – where else but the Upper – Upper – West Side - is giving out up to 1000 gift certificates for a free Italian ice, their specialty (they have 45 flavors!). You have your choice of 12 featured flavors including mango and cherry daily and a rotating roster with the likes of banana, chocolate chocolate chip and watermelon (a \$3.81 value per Italian ice – offer unlimited and you can retrieve your ice(s) whenever you want, including after the Free for All!). 2486 Broadway (between 92nd and 93rd Streets); 212 362-5880.

For Free for All information please call 917-806-4072.