



**Invitation letter for:**

**Celebration for the Life of "The Chief" George Braithwaite**

**at**

**Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation**

**George Braithwaite Table Tennis Court**

**Capobianco Field, Roosevelt Island, New York City**

**Saturday, October 23, 2021, 10am-4pm**

**Music, Poetry and Song by Michael Reff, Dance Performance by Alan Good**

**Food**

**Lots of Ping Pong,**

**Video tribute to the Chief,**

**Announcement of George Braithwaite Scholarship**

**150 Person Limit, please RSVP @**

**<https://pongspace.com/product/chief-commemoration/>**

**Donate @ <https://www.gofundme.com/f/celebrate-the-life-of-the-chief>**

**Tribute @ <https://www.georgebraithwaite.com/>**

209-211 Canal St. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10013

Telephone 917-770-3382

Email: Thomas.hu@aytto.org



Dear Table Tennis friend:

50 Years ago, George Braithwaite (deceased, October 26, 2020), travelled as a representative of the United States table tennis team to Nagoya, Japan, for a world competition. Fate would intervene and the team was invited to China. This ended a two-decade Cold War that had started with the end of World War II, and the Chief (as everyone knew him) led the team to historic meetings with Premier Zhou En Lai and Chairman Mao Ze Dong. Be it noted that the Chief worked at that time for a nearby institution known as the United Nations, with many world ties. Henry Kissinger then laid the groundwork for President Nixon to open relations, which has led to 50 years of friendship and prosperity for the two countries.

We are proud to honor the Chief by holding an outdoor gathering for the youth of the region, who will play at the George Braithwaite Courts, already named in his honor by the State of New York. You are invited along with representatives from around the globe, from countries such as China in Asia and Guyana in the Caribbean, as well as many other countries who had players and officials who claimed The Chief as a friend.

Feel free to come and say a few words about his impact on table tennis in America, or just have fun playing with everyone or enjoying great food and dance. The Chief was inclusive before the word became a necessity.

The three blue concrete tables we will enjoy were commissioned in his honor by the State of New York and were built by Alan Good of HENGE Tables, they were among the first big orders by New York State for these locally manufactured tables. There are now 200 of them spread across America and 100 in New York. We expect HENGE tables CEO Alan Good to attend, and the highlight of the day will be a work called DANCE TO THE CHIEF, performed by Alan Good, with commissioned music by Tristan Hu. After his performance Alan has offered to speak and to answer questions about the Chief and his presence.

We hope you will join us for a fun commemoration of the life of George Braithwaite, may his spirit continue forward in the play of the youth at this event and in the many lessons he taught us all, especially,

Friendship first, competition second!

Most Sincerely,

Thomas Hu (Chief Executive Officer)

American Youth Table Tennis Organization (Host of event)

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### **Planning Committee (In Formation)**

Luz Brissett - Family Representative of George Braithwaite

Jules Apatini – Long Time Friend and Creator of [www.georgebraithwaite.com](http://www.georgebraithwaite.com)

James Budenholzer – Friend of Table Tennis

Sydney Christophe – Former Caribbean Table Tennis Champion, Head Coach AYTTO

Mark Anthony – Retired UN Staff member

Michael Ten-Pow – Former Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations

Alan Good – CEO Henge Table

Gabriel Griffin - Actor

Mike McKinney – COO Spin Global

Max Kogler – Partner PingPod

Willy Leparulo – President NCTTA

Edmund Suen – COO American Youth Table Tennis Organization

Thomas Hu - CEO American Youth Table Tennis Organization (Host of event)

### **Sponsors**



**PINGPOD**



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