



CCCADI's location, on 125th and Lexington Ave, was originally home to a fire station that was then abandoned a few decades after its construction.

By choosing this site as its home, CCCADI not only preserves a physical piece of Harlem's history but also reclaims the site as a space for cultural exhibition and community building. This firehouse represents a piece of Harlem's tangible history. The site's transformation into a cultural center not only preserved a piece of Harlem's architectural past but also a significant portion of its cultural upbringing.

## INTANGIBLE HISTORY

CCCADI was founded in 1976 by Dr. Marta Moreno Vega in order to promote the cultural and artistic expressions of the African Diaspora throughout the Americas. Over the years, the institute has been very effective in preserving the legacies of these communities, consistently shedding light on people whose stories have often been overlooked.

Radical preservation focuses on preserving communities, cultural practices, and histories that often go unrecognized in traditional approaches to preservation. For CCCADI, radical preservation is about protecting what makes a space meaningful, especially in communities of color that have faced marginalization and displacement. By preserving this meaningfulness, CCCADI acknowledges the people, traditions, and experiences that have been the foundation for what is Harlem today.