

# 2026 Culture Keepers Award

## *Greg Young & Tom Meyers*



Greg Young and Tom Meyers, the creators and voices behind *The Bowery Boys Podcast*, have spent nearly two decades transforming the way audiences experience New York City's past.

Since launching the podcast in 2007, they have built an expansive and deeply researched audio archive that now includes more than 480 episodes as of 2026. Together they trace the city's evolution across more than 400 years of history, drawing connections between the major forces that shaped New York including immigration, industry, urban development, culture, and crisis, along with the smaller and often overlooked stories of individuals and neighborhoods that gave the city its character.

Their work moves fluidly between eras, from the arrival of immigrants at Ellis Island and the rise of the modern metropolis to the grit and spectacle of mid-century and 1970s New York, including the transformation of Times Square and the shifting identity of the boroughs. Rather than treating history as distant or static, they present it as something embedded in the streets themselves, layered, living, and always evolving.

What distinguishes their storytelling is not only its scholarly depth but also its accessibility. With a blend of careful research, curiosity, and conversational warmth, they bring historical figures, both well-known and forgotten, into vivid focus, making complex urban history feel immediate and human. Over time, their work has cultivated a loyal global audience and helped shape a broader public appreciation for New York City's cultural and historical landscape.

Through their enduring collaboration, Greg Young and Tom Meyers have built a narrative map of New York City, one episode at a time, inviting listeners to see the city not just as a place but as an ongoing story written across centuries.