

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***The Language of the City: Immigrant Voices.***  
**September 13, 2019 – December 2019**



Ellis Island and New York Harbor, September 19, 1956. Department of Marine & Aviation Photo. Credit: NYC Municipal Archives.

**NEW YORK, September 12, 2019** — The New York City Department of Records & Information Services opens to the public on September 13, a new exhibit ***The Language of the City: Immigrant Voices***. The new show incorporates ***“We Are Brooklyn: Immigrant Voices,”*** a multimedia exhibition based on oral histories conducted by Brooklyn College students and materials from the New York City Municipal Archives.

The installation includes a series of panels that use text, photographs and audio to tell the stories of immigrants and children of immigrants from the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Haiti, Pakistan, Albania, Italy, Guatemala, China and Grenada. The Municipal Archives draws on documents and photographs from its extensive collections highlighting how City government responded to immigrant populations. New York City welcomed millions of new immigrants to their first home in the United States.

The exhibition *We Are Brooklyn*, with its associated website, [www.wearebrooklyn.org](http://www.wearebrooklyn.org) originally opened at Brooklyn College on Sept. 13, 2018. It has traveled to Guttman Community College, Bronx Community College, the CUNY Graduate Center, and the Lefferts Historic House in Prospect Park. Selected from more than 500 oral histories created by 800 Brooklyn College students for the Brooklyn College Listening Project (BCLP) the stories celebrate the diversity of the city and the lives of regular New Yorkers. *We Are Brooklyn: Immigrant Voices* received funding from the Whiting Foundation, Humanities New York and the Office of the Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, Brooklyn College.

The BCLP is celebrating its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary this fall. It was created as an interdisciplinary project to empower students in a variety of disciplines—American Studies, English, History, Sociology, Journalism, among others—to conduct interviews with Brooklyn and City residents. The resulting work shares with

the larger world the wisdom of everyday people, celebrates the diversity of Brooklyn College students and their communities and tells deep and nuanced stories of the people of New York City.

***The Language of the City: Immigrant Voices.***

***On View:*** September 13, 2019 – December 2019

***Location:*** NYC Municipal Archives 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Gallery, 31 Chambers Street, Manhattan.

***Opening hours:*** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Thursday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturdays: Sept. 14 and 28; October 12 and 26; November 2 and 16; December 14 and 28: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Municipal Archives preserves and makes available New York City government's historical records dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Its online gallery provides research access to over 1.7 million items digitized from the vast holdings, [click here](#).



**Department of Records  
& Information Services**

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