

## Community Leaders across the City Host Viewing Parties for "We Are New York"

Community leaders in Washington Heights, Jackson Heights, and Brighton Beach hosted celebrations for "We Are New York," a new show created by the Mayor's Office of Adult Education and the City University of New York. Guests viewed clips from episodes filmed in their neighborhoods and shared ways to use this exciting new TV show to help adults learn English.

- <u>Alianza Dominicana</u> and Marisco Centro Restaurant hosted a celebration for We Are New York in Washington Heights – site of the "New Life Café" episode. Milagros Batista, Co-Director of Alianza Dominicana, promoted the importance of health literacy and healthy eating habits in the community.
- <u>DRUM</u> and Dera Restaurant in Jackson Heights showed clips from "The Wedding." Chito Atienza, the 2008 New York Times ESOL Teacher of the Year, shared ways to use "We Are New York" as an effective teaching tool in the classroom.
- <u>Brighton Beach Business Improvement District</u> and the New Winter Garden Restaurant brought together guests in Brighton Beach – site of the "No Smoking" episode. Kingsborough Community College president, Regina Peruggi, spoke about the importance of immigrants and immigrant neighborhoods. Members from the Coney Island Polar Bears Club, the inspiration behind one of the main characters in the episode, made a surprise appearance.

Teachers across the City have found "We Are New York" to be a great conversation starter for most students. The authentic stories of immigrant life in New York appeal to learners of all levels and of every nationality. The show also supports instruction by communicating important information that students need to know.

If you are interested in using "We Are New York" in your classroom, or want to create conversation groups at your program using the show, please <u>contact</u> "We Are New York."