



**JOHN C. LIU, DENNIS WALCOTT AND NYC STUDENTS JOIN NBC NEWS AT OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE "EDUCATION NATION EXPERIENCE"—FRIDAY, SEPT. 23 AT 10:00AM**

*State-of-the-art exhibit on Rockefeller Plaza is open to visitors through Tuesday, Sept. 27*

NEW YORK, NY— Sept.22, 2011— John C. Liu, New York City's Comptroller, and Dennis Walcott, Chancellor of the New York City Dept. of Education, will join New York City students and representatives from NBC News, Comcast and WNBC at the official opening of the "Education Nation Experience" on Rockefeller Plaza. WNBC Anchor Chuck Scarborough will kick off the event on Friday, Sept.23 at 10:00am/et. NBC News' Ann Curry will also be on hand to make a special TODAY announcement in support of "Education Nation."

"NBC News' 'Education Nation' has been a great catalyst for the discussion about the future of education both here in New York City and across the country," said Walcott. "NBC's commitment to telling stories about both the challenges and triumphs happening in schools is to be commended, and I am so pleased that New York City is the host for this wonderful forum."

The "Education Nation Experience" exhibit at Rockefeller Plaza will be open to the public and school groups through Tuesday, Sept. 27. The state-of-the-art exhibit is designed to engage school groups and the broader community by using video and interactive tools to explore the skills, knowledge and training required to succeed in the 21st Century. The "Experience" will be open Friday-Tuesday (hours of operation are 10:30AM-7PM on Friday, 8AM-7PM on Saturday, 9AM-6PM on Sunday, 7AM-7PM on Monday/Tuesday). The "Education Nation Experience" is part of NBC News' 2011 "Education Nation"—which also includes the second-annual national Summit and education programming across the network's shows and platforms for the week of Sept. 25.

The "Education Nation Experience" is supported by: University of Phoenix, State Farm®, Microsoft, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The Bezos Family Foundation, The W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation.

"**Education Nation**" seeks to create a thoughtful, well-informed dialogue with policymakers, thought-leaders, educators, parents and the public, in pursuit of the shared goal of providing every American with an opportunity to achieve the best education in the world. These discussions cover the challenges, potential solutions and innovations spanning the education landscape. By providing quality information to the public, NBC News hopes to educate Americans so they can make decisions about how best to improve our education system both in the near and long terms, and to shine a spotlight on one of the most urgent national issues of our time, so that America can once again become the Education Nation of the world.

For more information about “Education Nation,” visit [EducationNation.com](https://www.educationnation.com), check us out on Facebook: [facebook.com/EducationNation](https://facebook.com/EducationNation) or follow us on Twitter [@EducationNation](https://twitter.com/EducationNation).