

amNY.com  
MONDAY  
May 6, 2013

10th Anniversary  
**am** NEWYORK



HI 66° LO 52°  
Partly cloudy

MANHATTAN'S HIGHEST DAILY CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER

**NYC GETS FREE**

Theaters booming  
in Big Apple  
PAGES 2-3



**"AM I CRAZY? OR  
AM I SO SANE THAT I JUST  
BLEW YOUR MIND?"**

*Seinfeld*

WEEKNIGHTS  
11 & 11:30 PM

**PIX**

## WEATHER

TODAY  
HI 66° LO 52°  
Partly  
cloudy

TOMORROW  
HI 70° LO 56°  
a.m. clouds/  
p.m. sun

WEDNESDAY  
HI 63° LO 56°  
Showers

## HOT LIST



**CARRERA's new shades collection** is out today as part of its "You Race or You Don't" campaign. Visit a Solstice Sunglasses store or you can go to [SOLSTICESunglasses.com](http://SOLSTICESunglasses.com)

Receive a **free engraved Oscar de la Renta** picture frame with any purchase of the new "**Something Blue**" fragrance tomorrow between noon and 5 p.m. at Saks Fifth Avenue, 611 Fifth Ave.



**Baked by Melissa** is now offering **Celebration Boxes** packed with cupcakes and other fun gifts. Available in stores, at [bakedbymelissa.com](http://bakedbymelissa.com) or at 212-842-0220.

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# NYC'S FLICK FRENZY

New movie theaters have been opening across the Big Apple

BY TIM HERRERA  
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**N**etflix? Why bother when you can catch a flick on the town.

Movie theaters have been popping up across New York in droves over the past few years, and the latest is set to break ground tomorrow when the city's first "all documentary, all the time" theater, the DCTV Cinema, begins construction.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer and others will be joined by filmmakers including Michael Moore and Morgan Spurlock to unveil the new theater, which will be built on the first floor of 87 Lafayette Street.

"There aren't that many

theatrical opportunities for documentary filmmakers, and we wanted to create one, since we've devoted our lives to this," Downtown Community Television Center co-founder Jon Alpert said.

The theater, which is expected to open in 2015, is only the latest in a string of recent cinema openings in the city, including last year's MIST Harlem Cinema and Williamsburg Cinemas, 2011's Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center and Nitehawk Cinema, and 2010's reRun Gastropub Theatre in DUMBO.

Austin, Texas' popular Alamo Drafthouse is set to open outposts in Manhattan and Brooklyn, after making its first inroad into the area with a Yonkers theater in July.

Despite the fierce competition from more conve-



The DCTV firehouse at 87 Lafayette St., where the first floor will be turned into an all-documentary cinema.

nient and much cheaper stay-at-home options such as Netflix and Amazon's Instant Video, and the pervasiveness of home entertainment systems, theaters are still enjoying huge levels of success in the city.

"People who go out to theaters are believers in cin-

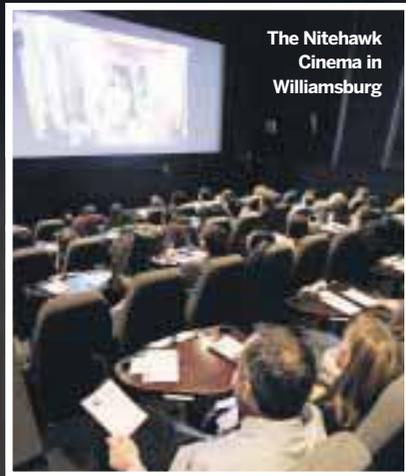
emas. They want that communal experience," said David Poland, editor of [MovieCityNews.com](http://MovieCityNews.com).

"New York is the hub of art cinema, period. L.A. is not a good town for independent film, it never has been," Poland added. "In New York, there is a large

cultural space, especially in downtown Manhattan and Brooklyn. It's the real film culture city."

Indeed, theaters lately have done particularly well, mostly aligning with a national uptick in both sales and revenue last year, according to a report by the Motion Picture Association of America. Nationwide, box office sales were up 6% last year over 2011 because of increased attendance rather than jumps in ticket prices, the MPAA said.

Matthew Viragh, executive director of Williamsburg's Nitehawk Cinema, said city theaters are booming because cinema is built into New York's DNA. New York "has been the backdrop for generations of filmmakers and it's such a great city for film lovers because you have access to



The Nitehawk Cinema in Williamsburg



Lincoln Center's Elinor Bunin Monroe Film Center

GETTY

CHARLES ECKERT

## City's new screens

Theaters have been popping up all over the city over the last few years. Here are some of the most notable openings:

**Williamsburg Cinemas:**  
2012

**Harlem Mist Cinema:**  
2012

**Nitehawk Cinema:**  
2011

**Elinor Bunin Monroe Film Center:**  
2011

**Videology:**  
Late 2012

**reRun Gastropub Theater:**  
2010

## Coming soon ...

Some high-profile theaters are set to open over the next few years:

- **Alamo Drafthouse:** This staple of Austin's hip moviegoing scene is coming to New York, opening locations in both Manhattan and Brooklyn. The Alamo Drafthouse is famous for its strict no-talking policy.
- **DCTV Cinema:** This documentary-only cinema breaks ground tomorrow, and will have a major focus on interactivity with audiences, including panels with filmmakers and an online community aspect.

## Boro-by-boro

The number of movie theaters in each borough:

Manhattan

**36**

Queens

**16**

Brooklyn

**13**

Bronx

**4**

Staten Island

**3**

theater is worlds better than staring at a small TV on the couch, even if ticket prices in the city can be as high as \$20.50 (for IMAX 3-D).

"New Yorkers are more social, you move to the city to be social, to be around people, and not to just be at home," said Jessica De Los Santos, 24, who recently saw "Graceland" at Village East Cinema.

"It's expensive, but I love it," she added.

Moviegoer Rennie Sharp, 51, who lives in the Bronx and recently saw "G.I. Joe: Retaliation," said: "It's part of the culture of New York — you want to be out and about. Any big metropolitan city, there's always something to do outside, whether it's free or you pay, like the movies."

(WITH IVAN PEREIRA AND ANNA SANDERS)

a full spectrum of film programming here," Viragh said.

"Even with this rich history and passionate population, it's still an underserved city in terms of population versus movie screens," he said.

Viragh added that the Nitehawk emphasizes creating a full-fledged experience for its audience.

"Since we're only a three screen, we have to pick the very best first-run films out there, then we develop food and drink specials inspired by these films," he said.

"The fundamental idea is that people are looking for unique experiences, especially in NYC, and we try to provide that using films that we love as the foundation," Viragh said.

Some New Yorkers agreed that a night at the

## Lohan's drug of choice: Ecstasy, not coke

Lindsay Lohan

Stop the presses: Lindsay Lohan says she likes ecstasy more than cocaine.

The troubled starlet, who entered rehab on Friday, opened up to Piers Morgan in an interview in the Daily Mail yesterday and revealed she did use cocaine in her early 20s but hasn't touched it since.

"Everyone thinks I've done it so many times. But I've only done it maybe four or five times in my life," the 26-year-old said.

She said the drug made her feel a "little too buzzed" and uncomfortable. Ecstasy, however, was a different story.

Lohan said it was the best drug she tried.

"I liked that better than the others (giggles). I didn't drink on it, so I was just chilling," she said.

The "Mean Girls" ac-

tress checked into a rehab clinic, reportedly the Betty Ford Clinic, Friday morning as a way to avoid problems with her probation.

Other subjects Lohan talked about included:

### Why she was going to rehab:

"I don't think there's anything wrong with people taking time to just be by themselves. I think people want to see me do that."

### On her alcohol issues:

"I've never been a huge drinker. I've never woken up in the morning and had a drink." (AMNY)



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## Drive to support retired Finest

The developers behind the Barclays Center will be holding a drive to support a sick retired member of New York's Finest.

Steve Bonano, who's the head of security at the Brooklyn arena, has a rare 9/11-related blood cancer, so Forest City Ratner will host a bone marrow drive at 345 Jay St. tomorrow and Wednesday.

Interested visitors can head to the location between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. to register.

Bonano, who served in the Navy, is a 30-year veteran of the NYPD and worked at Ground Zero. He recently earned a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University.

(IVAN PEREIRA)



A bone marrow drive will help Steve Bonano.

## Night work sidelines N, R on Fourth Ave.

The N and R lines will be closed on Fourth Avenue in Brooklyn each night this week as part of the MTA's Fastrack repair program.

From 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. on weeknights from tonight to Friday morning, the Fourth Avenue N and R stations will be closed from 95th to 36th streets. At 36th Street, the N train will be rerouted over the D track to Coney



At 36th Street, the N train will be rerouted over the D track to Coney Island-Stillwell Avenue.

Island-Stillwell Avenue.

There will be free shuttle buses hitting stops along Fourth Avenue, as well as special N shuttle trains stopping at stations between 8th Avenue and

Coney Island-Stillwell Avenue. The Fastrack program schedules work for four weeknights in a row to perform maintenance in tunnels, stations and tracks.

(DAN RIVOLI)