

Western Connecticut State University



Substance Abuse Prevention Program



A BRONX TALE

A Bronx Tale, Robert De Niro's directorial debut film is based on Chazz Palminteri's play and screenplay. It's 1960 and Lorenzo Anello (De Niro) an Italian-America bus driver, lives in the Bronx with his wife Rosina (Katherine Narducci), and young son Calogero (Francis Capra), who is fascinated with the local mobsters led by Sonny (Chazz Palminteri), a neighborhood wiseguy.

One day, 8-year-old Calogero (Francis Capra) witnesses a murder committed by Sonny. When Calogero chooses to keep quiet when questioned by NYPD detectives, Sonny (Chazz Palminteri) takes a liking to him and gives him the nickname "C". Sonny's crew offer his father Lorenzo (Robert De Niro) a job to make more money, but Lorenzo, preferring a law-abiding life, politely declines. Sonny, however, befriends Calogero and introduces him to his crew. "C" earns tips amounting to \$600 working in the Mafia bar and throwing dice. When his father discovers the money, he scolds Calogero and returns the \$600, warning Sonny to keep away from his son.

Eight years later, 17-year-old Calogero (Lillo Brancato, Jr.) has secretly been visiting Sonny regularly without his father's knowledge. Calogero is also part of a gang of local Italian boys he grew up around. Sonny tries to persuade Calogero to keep away from the gang and focus more on his schoolwork.

One day "C" meets an African American girl named Jane Williams (Taral Hicks), and is smitten with her. Despite the high level of tension and dislike between Italian and African Americans, particularly with Calogero's friends, "C" arranges a date with Jane. He then asks for advice from both his father and Sonny who lends Calogero his car.

At home, Calogero is confronted by his father, who saw him driving Sonny's car from the window. An argument ensues, and Calogero storms out. Though he idolizes Sonny, the boy loves and respects his decent, honest father. But it takes a major tragedy for "C" (Lillo Brancato) to decide his true course in life.

On Wednesday, April 30th, actor Lillo Brancato will appear at the Q&A at the Western CT State U Midtown Campus Student Center and discuss how substance abuse and his poor personal choices destroyed his life. Ira Joe Fisher, the EMMY award winning television journalist, will host the evening's events. Admission is free and seats are on a first-come basis.



Robert De Niro (right) directing Lillo Brancato (left) in "A Bronx Tale"

Q&A • LILLO BRANCATO • ACTOR

HOW SUBSTANCE ABUSE DESTROYED MY LIFE

WEDNESDAY • APRIL 30, 2014 • 6:30 PM

HOST • IRA JOE FISHER

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CHOICES • HVCASA • MCCA

ADMISSION IS FREE

SEATS ARE ON A FIRST-COME BASIS

THE WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT CENTER THEATER • MIDTOWN CAMPUS
181 WHITE ST., DANBURY, CT, 06810

