SCREENING GUIDE

PREMIERES
February 18th 7p/6c
HBO | HBO NOW | HBO GO
Available on HBO ON-DEMAND on February 19th

For more information, go to
https://www.hbo.com/documentaries/we-are-the-dream

Invite your friends, family and colleagues to watch the film together, and then have a post-screening discussion.

WHAT’S THE FILM ABOUT?
Every year hundreds of children from pre-k through 12th grade participate in the Oakland MLK Oratorical Festival, a stirring public speaking competition where they perform poetry and speeches, both published and original, inspired by the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. WE ARE THE DREAM: THE KIDS OF THE OAKLAND MLK ORATORICAL FEST is a look at an event in which young people raise their voices about issues they care about, and a portrait of the unique community that celebrates and supports them.
HOW DO YOU HOST A SCREENING?

Invite your group to a gathering spot - anywhere from your living room to a more formal space - to watch the film together.

Here are some tips for hosting a screening:

1. Bring your group together. Send out invitations and collect RSVPs. Here’s a sample of what your invitation can say:

<HOST NAME> cordially invites you and a guest to a screening and discussion of

WE ARE THE DREAM: THE KIDS OF THE OAKLAND MLK ORATORICAL FEST

Young people take the stage in a public speaking competition honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A Portrait of the power of kids’ voices and of the unique community that celebrates them.

<TIME> WELCOME
<TIME> SCREENING (length <<>>h <<>>m)

Please RSVP to <EMAIL address> by <DATE>.

Create a Facebook event as well. Then, promote your screening to potential guests. Tag your tweets with #WeAreTheDreamHBO, @HBODocs. Share the poster (see the end of the guide). Send the link to the trailer too, available at:

www.hbo.com/video/documentaries/we-are-the-dream/videos/trailer

2. Introduce the film. Ask your group. ‘What do you know about oratorical competitions?’ or ‘Did you ever perform on stage as a child? What do you remember from the experience?’ or ‘How do you think public speaking and performance can contribute to growth and development of a child?’ Give everyone a chance to write or at least consider his/her responses before the film.

3. Watch the film. Resources are available at www.hbo.com/documentaries/we-are-the-dream

4. Talk about what you saw. What have they learned? Have their perceptions changed?

5. Invite guests to go to review the resources below. Also, urge people to tell their personal networks about the film, and the issues it raises.

6. Thank your guests. Send a thank you email the next day, and include some follow up comments on the discussion. You can include links to some of the groups listed below.
How do I get the discussion going?

After the credits end, turn up the lights and kick off the conversation. Below are some discussion prompts to start you off. A good place to start is by asking your guests if they were surprised by what they saw.