



Balancing Work and Family

Explore a recreated 1980's Chinatown Garment factory featuring the story of the Wong family. The Wongs immigrated to the United States following the Hart-Celler immigration act, which ended harsh restrictions on immigration from Asia. Participants can engage independently with interactive technology while learning about work/family struggles and how people find community in their work places. **Recommended for Advanced learners.*

Pre-Visit Materials:

Your Story, Our Story Connection

During their visit, students will learn stories of immigrants, migrants, and refugees from long ago. Our Your Story, Our Story digital collection offers students the opportunity to make deeper connections. On pg. 2 you will find one YSOS story that complements the theme discussed during the workshop. Students are also welcome to use these stories as inspiration to write their own stories of immigration as well.

Your Story, Our Story Connection

The Challenge¹



My name is Maria Cordova, I am from Ecuador, I came to New York City in 2016, and I am attending the English program at Sunnyside Community Services. When I came to America, I was very excited with a new life, a new world and new experiences. How lucky!

But when I moved to NY, I experienced many changes in my life. I am alone and financially **broke**². It is very difficult. First of all, I need to get a better job and a better salary. Second, it is hard to live in a room without the things I had in my country. The most difficult thing is living without my family, especially my mother. I always take my mother's picture with me wherever I go. It inspires me to follow my dreams and to relieve my pain.

Two years have passed. But even with my bad situation, my spirit is full of hope and faith. All these experiences taught me that if I want a new **lifestyle**³, I have to **go for it**⁴. Also, I know that I have many **blessings**⁵, and I thank God because he gives me strength every single day.

Now it is my time to show that it might be hard to reach my goals but it is not impossible. The challenge is to study English, meet different people, help others, and accept changes because they will help me to grow as a human being. New York City is a blessing to people who want to be successful and I would like to be one of them.

-Your Story, Our Story Submitter

Your Story, Our Story, a national project, explores American immigration and migration through crowd-sourced stories of everyday objects. You and your students can explore curated collections on the website and add stories of their own. Visit yourstory.tenement.org.

¹ A difficult situation

² Having no or very little money

³ The way a person or group lives

⁴ Try

⁵ Good things