

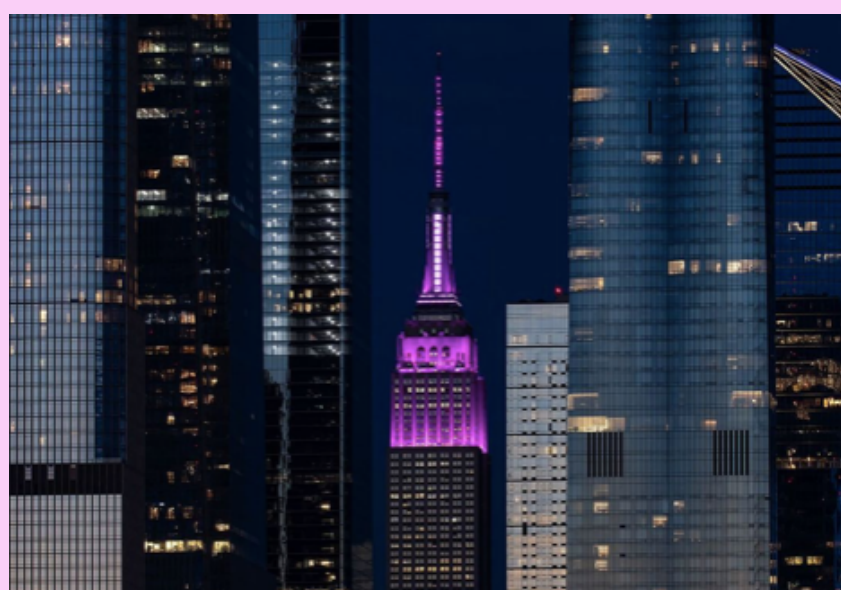
## AN AMAZING CAMPAIGN FOR DISABILITY INCLUSION

We in the SDMNY community believe that people with I/DD – and those with all kinds of other disabilities—are valued and valuable human beings, with the same human rights, including the right to be fully included in society, as all others. We are also proud that our work, promoting and protecting the right of everyone to make their own decisions, is part of a world-wide movement.

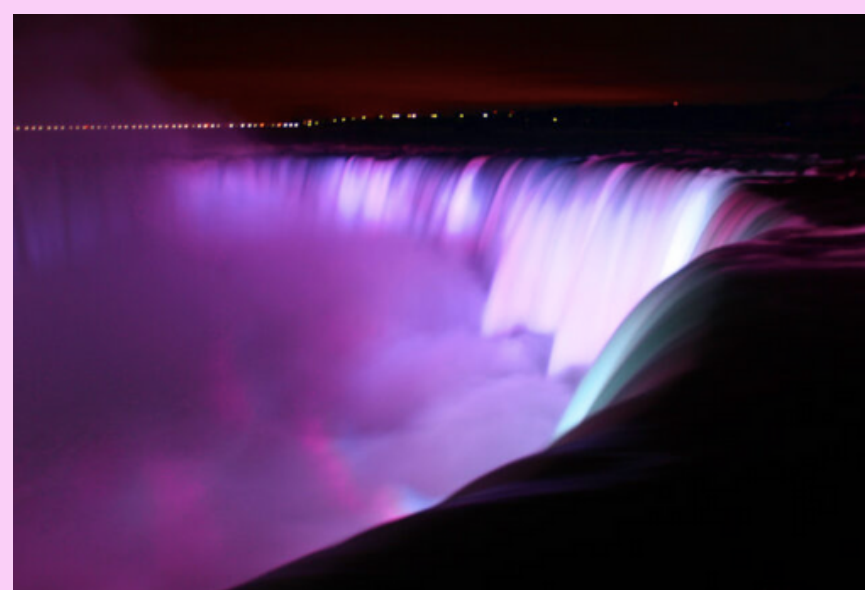
Last night, in conjunction with the opening of the Paralympics in Tokyo next week, **#WeThe15** launched a huge, decade-long, truly international campaign aimed at putting disability at the center of the inclusivity agenda.



**#WeThe15** (which represents the fact that people with disabilities make up 15% of the world's population) is a coalition of 20 organizations, including UN Human Rights, UNESCO, and Special Olympics, and spearheaded by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) and the International Disability Alliance. Last night's launch featured 125 global landmarks across six continents—including the Empire State Building, Niagara Falls, the London Eye, the Colosseum and the world's tallest tower, Skytree in Tokyo—lit up in purple, representing the international color of disability, and demonstrating cross-border solidarity among people with disabilities, wherever they live. Just in case you missed it....



*Empire State Building*



*Niagara Falls*

**#WeThe15** will be prominent throughout the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics, and a wonderful short film they've made will be broadcast live during the Paralympics opening ceremony on August 24 (on NBC here in the U.S.) It features 40 disabled people from around the world, from London to Milan to Bogota to Bangkok, (although they all seem to have British accents!) Check it out by clicking [here](#).

WHAT A GREAT IDEA! THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO **#WeThe15.**

