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We Are Boston Gala

By Jonathan Soroff | Jan. 13, 2017



Alejandra St. Guillen, Richard Holbrook and Mayor Marty Walsh at the We Are Boston Gala



If the inscription on the Statue of Liberty read “Bring us your hungry, your thirsty, your ready to party...” it would have accurately described the crowd at the *We Are Boston Gala*, hosted by the Mayor’s Office for Immigrant Advancement.

The Improper was a proud sponsor of the event, which was held at the *Park Plaza* and attracted an eclectic crowd that included special guest and Boston homie **Diane Guerrero** of *Orange Is the New Black*, co-chairs **Micho Spring**, **Steve Melia** and **Rob DeMartini**, the dazzling **Denise Dunbar**, fashion plate **Sonia Garufi**, Channel 5 head honcho **Bill Fine**, the flawless **Atsuko Fish** and her adoring other half, **Larry**, fashionisto **David Josef** and his handsome husband, **Danny Forrester**, bespoke tailor **Alan Rouleau**, celebrity chef **Chris Coombs**, the unsinkable **Doris Yaffe** and mistress of ceremonies **Maria Stephanos**, to name a mere smattering.

Food from Boston’s Best winners Deuxave, Sophia’s Grotto and Suya Joint kept the crowd well fed, while the entertainment ranged from Irish step dancing to sizzling salsa. Meanwhile, the program pointed out the enlightening statistics that one in four Bostonians and 33 percent of the city’s workforce is foreign-born, and that immigrant businesses provide more than 52,000 jobs, prompting one guest to say, “We should be building a door, not a wall.”

Meanwhile, conversations ranged from the relative merits of certain Patriots players’ derrieres to where the best soup dumplings can be found (not telling), but the evening’s funniest remark came when an adorable toddler did a face-plant in the middle of the ballroom.

“That’s me at the end of the night,” said one man, “diaper and all.”
