

# 50 couples join in Times Square pre-New Year's kissing seminar

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She'd never been kissed before, but [Pennsylvania](#) waitress [Sarah Maher](#) finally caught a buss in [Times Square](#) Friday.

The 20-year-old, who works in a diner and goes to college, was in town to see a Broadway show when she stumbled across a pre-New Year's kissing seminar.

She recruited a perfect stranger, [Dutchess County](#) high school student [Tim Mulpeter](#), 17, right off the street to be her partner.

"Why not try anything once," Mulpeter said.

"He's my first kiss ever," Maher revealed.

They joined 50 couples in Duffy Square for the promotion put on by Nivea - with workers handing out free lip gloss while an emcee gave out lip-locking tips.

There were some nervous giggles as the crowd counted down, "5-4-3-2-1 Happy New Year" and then made contact.

Kissing expert [Andrea Demirjian](#) gave Maher and Mulpeter high marks for a "very sensual" kiss - though Maher sounded a little underwhelmed.

"It was really awkward. Kissing just isn't what I'm usually into," she said. "It met my expectations, but it was kind of strange."

With Koro White, 27, an actor-model from [Queens](#), and [Sunny Hwang](#), a [Manhattan](#) restaurant hostess, sparks flew.

They had never met, either, but each found out about the event on [craigslist](#) and were matched up when they got to Times Square.

Standing in the front row, they made out longer than the other couples with a slow, deep kiss lasting several minutes.

Then they made plans to go out for drinks.

"I think we will stay in touch," said Hwang.

The kissing seminar was a prelude to the big kiss at the stroke of midnight on New Year's.

A special kissing stage will be set up for couples to show off their technique, and Demirjian suggested those lovers try to keep their mouths off each other until Wednesday turns to Thursday.

"Abstaining is a good way to make the kiss more special," she said. "To know you can't kiss someone makes you anticipate it, for both new and old couples."

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