

FROM: TIMES SQUARE NEW YEAR'S EVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Official Times Square New Year's Eve Event Lineup Announced

Grammy-Nominated Singer-Songwriter **KT Tunstall** to Headline Musical Lineup for Live, Commercial-Free Webcast and TV Pool Feed

LL Cool J, Chlöe, Journey and *Karol G* to Perform Live in Times Square for 2022 New Year's Eve Celebration

Global Event to Also Feature Performances by the USO Show Troupe, Liza Koshy, and The Sino-America Friendship Association

NEW YORK – December 26, 2021 – The Times Square Alliance and Countdown Entertainment, the co-organizers of Times Square New Year's Eve, today announced the official Times Square New Year's Eve event lineup, which will feature live performances by KT Tunstall, LL Cool J, Chlöe, Journey, Karol G, a Planet Fitness Dance Performance with Liza Koshy, and the USO Show Troupe, as well as an array of special activities and appearances that will happen throughout the evening.

The international celebration will build in excitement with hourly countdowns leading to the iconic Ball Drop when the Mayor of the City of New York will push the Waterford Crystal button that signals the descent of the New Year's Eve Ball, and lead the sixty second countdown to midnight.

The ceremony will begin at 6:00 PM ET with the lighting and raising of the New Year's Eve Ball atop One Times Square. The official opening ceremony will feature a beautiful Chinese cultural dance performance from Henan, China, presented by the Sino-American Friendship Association (SAFA).

Actor and beloved TV personality **Jonathan Bennett**, star of the Hallmark Holiday film "The Christmas House" and the 2004 film, "Mean Girls," and host of the *Food Network*'s top-rated "Cake Wars," "Halloween Wars," and "Holiday Wars," will return to the celebration as Times Square New Year's Eve Host. This year, Bennett will be joined by **Jeremy Hassell** – an experienced live event and celebrity interview host, most recently with Regal Cinemas, who will

serve as co-host. Hassell has been a part of the Times Square New Year's Eve celebration since 2016 serving as a street correspondent.

Times Square 2022 LIVE performances on the Planet Fitness and Countdown Stages:

- LL Cool J performs on ABC's "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- Chlöe performs on ABC's "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- **Journey** performs on *ABC*'s "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- **Karol G** performs on *ABC*'s "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- **KT Tunstall** performs her global chart-topping songs "*Black Horse and the Cherry Tree*" and "*Suddenly I See*", along with Tom Petty's classic, "I Won't Back Down", and John Lennon's "*Imagine*" just before the Ball Drop at midnight
- Liza Koshy performs a fitacular dance performance presented by Planet Fitness
- **The USO Show Troupe** performs "Stand by You", "Empire State of Mind", and "A Military Salute" to honor our Armed Forces
- The Sino-American Friendship Association ("SAFA") presents a Chinese cultural dance performance from Henan, China.

In addition to the live performances, the evening will feature many more special moments, including:

- The *Associated Press*, the world's oldest and largest news gathering organization, will present their year-in-review news reel highlighting some of the most memorable events of 2021.
- New York City Football Club (NYCFC) the only Major League Soccer team based in the five boroughs just won its first-ever MLS Cup championship and will join for the 11pm Hourly Countdown with the highly coveted MLS Cup trophy. NYCFC's win is extra special for the City because this marks the first time a New York-based team has won a championship title in the past ten years.

Revelers across the globe will be able to experience the excitement of the Times Square New Year's Eve celebration via the six-hour, live commercial-free webcast, enabled by Livestream. The webcast will capture all of the action, including the musical performances by **Tunstall**.

The 13th annual webcast will cover the action and festivities in Times Square, beginning with the Ball Raising at 6 p.m. EST, plus live musical performances, hourly countdowns, behind-the-scenes stories, and star-studded interviews as anticipation builds towards the midnight countdown and the famous Ball Drop. The custom-designed embeddable video provides viewers with a full Times Square New Year's Eve experience. This live webcast video experience is available to embed for digital media outlets, bloggers, social media editors, webmasters, and Facebook users as a source of fun and entertaining content on their own sites customized for their respective communities and networks.

For the second year, <u>Jamestown</u>, owner of One Times Square – home of the iconic Ball Drop Celebration – has brought back its **virtual New Year's Eve experience**. Everyone everywhere can

start the festivities today and enter the virtual world of Time Square and play exclusive games. Then, on December 31st, viewers can tune in for a live broadcast where they can choose from multiple camera feeds to direct their own New Year's Eve show. Wonderama will host an 18-hour live broadcast within VNYE that includes musical performances and appearances from Tony Orlando, Bootsy Collins, Randy Edelman, and more. The VNYE app is available to download in app stores. For more information, visit www.VNYE.com.

For 117 years, Times Square has been the center of worldwide attention on New Year's Eve, ever since the owners of One Times Square began in 1904 to conduct rooftop celebrations to greet the New Year. The first Ball Lowering celebration occurred in 1907, and this tradition is now a universal symbol of welcoming the New Year.

Vaccination Policy for Times Square New Year's Eve

As announced in November, this year's Times Square New Year's Eve celebration will safely welcome revelers back to Times Square to watch the Ball Drop in person, with proof of full vaccination and valid photo identification. In-person attendees will also be required to wear masks.

For more information on the vaccination policy and additional health and safety measures in place for in-person revelers, and how to watch all of the action and Times Square New Year's Eve festivities from anywhere, please visit www.TSQ.org/NYE.

How to Watch

The Times Square 2022 Webcast will begin at 6 p.m. ET on December 31, 2021 and end at 12:15 a.m. ET on January 1, 2022. The show will be streamed live on multiple websites, including <u>TimesSquareNYC.org</u>, <u>NewYearsEve.nyc</u>, <u>LiveStream.com/2022</u> and <u>TimesSquareBall.net</u>.

Embedding codes and additional webcast info is available at: https://www.timessquarenyc.org/times-square-new-years-eve/nye-live-webcast or LiveStream.com/2022.

Additionally, Jamestown, the owner of One Times Square – home of the iconic New Year's Eve Ball Drop Celebration – brought back its virtual New Year's Eve experience: <u>VNYE</u>. Through VNYE, people from across the globe can explore the virtual world of Times Square, play games, and livestream New Year's Eve celebrations in Times Square and around the world. In 2020, VNYE reached more than 3.7 million people worldwide.

A number of broadcast networks will be airing elements of the Times Square celebration, including *ABC* ("Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest") and *CNN* ("New Year's Eve Live with Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen").

Info for the Times Square New Year's Eve television broadcast pool feed is available at https://www.timessquarenyc.org/times-square-new-years-eve/media-press/new-years-eve-pool-feed-information

About Times Square New Year's Eve

The Times Square Alliance and Countdown Entertainment are the organizers of Times Square New Year's Eve. The Times Square Alliance works to improve and promote Times Square so that it retains the energy, edge and distinctiveness that have made it an icon of entertainment, culture and urban life. Countdown Entertainment represents the owners of One Times Square and the New Year's Eve Ball.

For more information about Times Square New Year's Eve, visit www.TimesSquareNYC.org.

To join the Times Square New Year's Eve conversation on Twitter, follow #BallDrop.

Times Square Alliance:

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Media Information:

To read a history of Times Square New Year's Eve and access images of past events or the New Year's Eve Ball, please click here.

To request interviews or for other questions, please contact:

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