

FROM: TIMES SQUARE NEW YEAR'S EVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Official Times Square New Year's Eve Event Lineup Announced

Chelsea Cutler and JVKE to Lead Musical Lineup for Live, Commercial-Free Webcast and TV Pool Feed

Jax, Ava Max, J-Hope, Osmani Garcia, New Edition, Sech, and Duran Duran to Perform Live in Times Square for the 2023 New Year's Eve Celebration

Global Event to Also Feature Performances by the **Sino-American Friendship Association** and **ANEW**

Jonathan Bennett and Jeremy Hassell to Co-Host Times Square New Year's Eve Celebration

Live Content from Times Square Available on Commercial-Free Webcast and TV Pool Feed

NEW YORK – December 26, 2022 – 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 Chelsea Cutler, JVKE, Jax, Ava Max, J-Hope, Osmani Garcia, New Edition, Sech, and Duran Duran, 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, Eric Adams will push the Waterford Crystal button that signals the descent of the New Year's Eve Ball and lead the 60 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. This will be followed by a stunning performance from Hong Kong titled "Fusion, Motion, Inspiration - Hong Kong Rocks!", presented by the Sino-American Friendship Association (SAFA).

Returning as the evening's host is actor and beloved TV personality **Jonathan Bennett**, star and Executive Producer of the Hallmark Holiday film "The Holiday Sitter," star of the 2004 film, "Mean Girls," and host of the *Food Network*'s top-rated "Cake Wars," "Halloween Wars," and "Holiday Wars." Bennett will be joined by co-host **Jeremy Hassell**, an experienced live events and celebrity interview host, who most recently was with Regal Cinemas. Hassell has been a part of the Times Square New Year's Eve celebration since 2016.

Times Square 2023 LIVE performances on the Planet Fitness and Countdown Stages:

- Chelsea Cutler performs several of her hit singles prior to the New Year's Eve tradition of singing John Lennon's "Imagine" moments before midnight
- **JVKE** performs his hit songs "this is what falling in love feels like," "this is what heartbreak feels like," and latest hit single "golden hour," which is currently #15 at Top 40 radio and has been streamed nearly 375 million times globally
- Jax performs on ABC's "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- Ava Max performs on CNN's "New Year's Eve Live"
- J-Hope performs on ABC's "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- Sech performs on Univision's ¡Feliz 2023!
- **New Edition** performs on ABC's "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- Osmani Garcia performs on Univision's ¡Feliz 2023!
- **Duran Duran** performs on ABC's "Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve with Ryan Seacrest"
- The Sino-American Friendship Association (SAFA) will present a cultural performance from Hong Kong titled "Fusion, Motion, Inspiration Hong Kong Rocks!"
- **ANEW**, a New York dance group, will perform a collection of different genres of music and inspire the audience to begin a new Renaissance in 2023

In addition to the 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 2022.

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 **Cutler** and **JVKE**.

The 14th 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 third year, Jamestown, the owner of One Times Square – home of the iconic New Year's Eve Ball Drop Celebration – has brought back its virtual New Year's Eve experience with the <u>VNYE app</u>. Through the VNYE app and website, 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. Since its launch for New Year's Eve 2021, VNYE has reached more than 3.7 million people worldwide.

For 118 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.

How to Watch

The Times Square 2023 Webcast will begin at 6 p.m. ET on December 31, 2022 and end at 12:15 a.m. ET on January 1, 2023. The show will be streamed live on multiple websites, including <u>TimesSquareNYC.org</u>, <u>NewYearsEve.nyc</u>, <u>LiveStream.com/2023</u> and <u>TimesSquareBall.net</u>.

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"), *CNN* ("New Year's Eve Live with Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen") and Univision (¡Feliz 2023!).

Embedding codes and additional webcast information is available at <u>TimesSquareNYC.org</u> or LiveStream.com/2023.

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:

Like on Facebook: <u>Facebook.com/TimesSquareNYC</u> Follow on Twitter: <u>Twitter.com/TimesSquareNYC</u> Follow on Instagram: Instagram.com/TimesSquareNYC

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 <u>here</u>.

To request interviews or for other questions, please contact:

TJ Witham / Times Square Alliance 212-452-5234 / TJWitham@TimesSquareNYC.org

Kristen Bothwell / Rubenstein 212-843-9227 / <u>KBothwell@Rubenstein.com</u>