For Immediate Release

TIMES SQUARE NEW YEAR'S EVE AND NEW YORK CITY TO HOST IN-PERSON AUDIENCES FOR LIVE CELEBRATION

Revelers invited to celebrate in Times Square with proof of full vaccination

NEW YORK – **November 16, 2021** – Mayor de Blasio and Times Square Alliance President Tom Harris today announced details of the highly anticipated December 31 Times Square New Year's Eve celebration, which will safely invite revelers back to Times Square to watch the Ball Drop in person, with proof of full vaccination and valid photo identification.

The highly anticipated festivities – organized by The Times Square Alliance and Countdown Entertainment – will also be broadcast for television and internet audiences, and will include a virtual multi-media experience. Vaccination requirements are detailed below.

"New York City is a heroic city. We have fought through COVID, bolstered our vaccination efforts, and reopened to vaccinated international travelers," said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. "New Year's Eve in Times Square will be an incredible celebration of our City's recovery, and we thank our partners at the Times Square Alliance for leading the way to ensure the safety of revelers from near and far."

"This year, we are ready and thrilled to welcome a full house of revelers back to Times Square to celebrate the New Year," said **Tom Harris, President, Times Square Alliance**. "Now more than ever we need to come together to revive our favorite traditions with our loved ones – reflecting on a tough year behind us while looking forward to a new year with hope."

The health and safety of New Year's Eve revelers is the priority of Times Square New Year's Eve 2022. The event is working closely with medical experts to consult on all health protocols and to ensure that everyone follows the state established safety guidelines.

Vaccination Policy for Times Square New Year's Eve

The Times Square New Year's Eve organizers will require full vaccinations for all in-person revelers.

Attendees who are age 5 or over must present proof of COVID-19 vaccination to enter the event. Proof of vaccination must include a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or World Health Organization (WHO) approved COVID-19 vaccine. These are Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca/Oxford, Sinopharm or Sinovac.

Unvaccinated minors under the age of 5 must be accompanied by a vaccinated adult to enter the event. The vaccinated adult must present proof of a Food and Drug Administration or World Health Organization approved COVID-19 vaccine. These are Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca/Oxford, Sinopharm or Sinovac. Face coverings are required for unvaccinated minors who are medically able to tolerate a face-covering.

Persons who are unable to get vaccinated because of a disability will be required to:

- Present proof of a negative COVID PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test taken within 72 hours prior to the event; and
- If medically able to tolerate a face-covering, wear a mask for the entire duration of the event.

How to Watch

The Times Square New Year's Eve commercial-free 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 webcast 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: <u>https://www.timessquarenyc.org/times-square-new-years-eve/nye-live-webcast</u> or LiveStream.com/2022.

Additionally, Jamestown, the owner of One Times Square – home of the iconic New Year's Eve Ball Drop Celebration – will bring back its virtual New Year's Eve experience with the VNYE app. Through the VNYE app, 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, the VNYE app reached more than 3.7 million people worldwide.

A number of broadcast networks will be airing elements of the Times Square celebration.

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

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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 <u>here</u>.

To request interviews or for other questions, please contact:

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