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MAYOR DE BLASIO, SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO AND FOUNDERS ENTERTAINMENT ANNOUNCE DATES FOR 2015 GOVERNORS BALL MUSIC FESTIVAL

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Study Finds 2014 Festival Generated \$40 Million in Economic Activity for NYC

November 11, 2014 (New York, NY)- New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and Founders Entertainment, today announced The Governors Ball three-day music festival will return to Randall's Island in 2015 from June 5th-7th. A limited amount of pre-sale tickets will go on-sale Thursday, November 13 at 12pm EST at www.govball.com, and the lineup for the fifth year festival will be announced in mid January.

The announcement comes on the heels of an economic impact study of Governors Ball 2014 that found the festival generated \$40 million in economic benefits for New York City. More than 350 new jobs were created and \$20 million in wages were earned. Many of the jobs and economic benefits were created in the East Harlem and South Bronx communities, which surround Randall's Island. To see the total economic impact of the 2014 festival, visit www.govball.com/economic-impact.

"We're thrilled to welcome our city's own music festival, Governors Ball back for another year, but the success of their work goes far beyond the stages of Randall's Island, touching New Yorkers' lives all over the city," said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**. "The Governors Ball gives back to our city through its local hiring initiatives, small business partnerships and donations to local and citywide charities, including giving to the Mayor's Fund after the East Harlem tragedy this spring."

"Governors Ball not only put on a great festival but did so by forging local partnerships and creating jobs for our community," said **City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito**. "We look forward to strengthening the bond we've developed over the past several years and welcoming back what is sure to be an amazing line up of music, food and entertainment next June."

“Governors Ball has been a terrific partner for the past four years, attracting tens of thousands of new visitors to Randall’s Island while also advancing a public good,” said **NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP**. “We look forward to working together again to make 2015 our most successful year yet.”

Governors Ball co-founder Tom Russell of Founders Entertainment said, “Each year we have grown bigger and better, drawing larger crowds, booking amazing acts, and finding new ways of helping our city and community. We are hoping to make 2015 our biggest year yet by bringing new talent to the city along with exciting new opportunities for further supporting our neighbors and partnering with local businesses. We thank Mayor De Blasio, Speaker Mark-Viverito and our incredible partners on Randall’s Island whose support has helped make Governors Ball an annual world-class music event.”

Created and nurtured by Tom Russell, Jordan Wolowitz, and Yoni Reisman, three New Yorkers, The Governors Ball is the city’s only homegrown music festival and maintains a long track record of giving back to its community by working with, and donating to local organizations, non-profits, and community groups. Last year, the festival hired hundreds of local residents from East Harlem and the South Bronx, partnered with dozens of local NYC food vendors, and donated \$10,000 to the Mayor’s Fund in support of the victims of the East Harlem building explosion.

Below is a full list of Governors Ball’s philanthropic and community partnerships from 2014, which the festival hopes to expand in the coming year:

East Harlem Explosion Response:

In an effort to help the Mayor’s Fund ongoing support for the victims of the East Harlem explosion and building collapse, Founders Entertainment made a seed donation of \$10,000 and encouraged patrons of the festival to donate via the Mayor’s Fund website at www.nyc.gov/fund.

New York Police & Fire Widows’ & Children’s Benefit Fund Donation:

Founders Entertainment earmarked \$50,000 of revenue from ticket purchases to be donated to the New York Police & Fire Widows’ & Children’s Benefit Fund, in addition to previously donated concert tickets and event merchandise.

Community Jobs and Internships:

Founders Entertainment promoted local hiring for its cleaning company, Clean Vibes, and other festival positions by working with Union Settlement and Jobs Plus, a training and jobs placement program based in NYC Housing Authority developments, specifically Jefferson Houses in East Harlem and Millbrook Houses in the South Bronx. All together it hired over 100 community members. The event also sponsored a college internship program for "on the job training" in the areas of artist relations, security and logistical support for the event.

Community Group Showcase:

At the festival itself, two local social service organizations, Union Settlement and Hot Bread Kitchen, were given each a booth at the free of charge where they could distribute their literature, sell products and showcase their mission and services to thousands of concertgoers.

Union Settlement Field trip:

Founders Entertainment organized a successful field trip to Governors Ball for 15 teenagers from the East Harlem Union Settlement. The trip provided them with an insider's view of the music industry and concert promotion and allowed them to learn about and observe the professional opportunities associated with both.

Hot Bread Kitchen:

Founders Entertainment supported and partnered with Hot Bread Kitchen, a local social enterprise that provides workforce development for low-income minority women, by making them the preferred bread vendor at the event.

Randall's Island:

The Randall's Island Park Alliance, Inc. (RIPA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works with the City of New York and local communities to provide an innovative and exciting destination through a wide range of sports venues, cultural events and environmental exploration. As the dedicated steward of Randall's Island Park, the Alliance sustains, maintains, develops and programs the Park to support the wellbeing of all New Yorkers. You can learn more about RIPA at www.randallsisland.org