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**BRYANT PARK CORPORATION AND BANK OF AMERICA ANNOUNCE
4th ANNUAL “BRYANT PARK FALL FESTIVAL” LINEUP**

**New York City’s Fall Cultural Season Commences with a Week of Free Performances by
the Metropolitan Opera, Burnt Sugar, Ballet Hispanico, and More**

August 31, 2011 (New York) – Bryant Park Corporation announces its fourth annual series of cultural arts performances from New York City’s premier ballet, modern dance, opera, rock, soul, and jazz institutions. “Bryant Park Fall Festival, presented by Bank of America” will include evening performances by artists from the Burnt Sugar the Arkestra Chamber, China Institute in America, Ballet Hispanico, the Metropolitan Opera’s Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, Jazzmobile, Elisa Monte Dance, Jennifer Muller/The Works, RIOULT, and daytime programs from City Winery, operamission, the Rubin Museum of Art, PuppetMobile, and Vital Theatre Company.

Fall Festival will be held in Bryant Park from September 16th through September 23rd. The schedule – which represents a wide variety of genres and cultural institutions – consists of eight evening performances, as well as several afternoon performances and a lunchtime talk with renowned theater and opera director Peter Sellars.

Families can look forward to a new addition to the Festival line-up: pre-performance interactive programs presented by Kids Club Thirteen, the new family membership program of WNET New York Public Media. The performing arts come to life with workshops, hands-on activities, favorites from PBS kids shows, and more.

Festival goers can also take advantage of special food and wine pairings jointly offered by ‘wichcraft and City Winery at each night’s performance.

“Bryant Park Fall Festival continues to evolve in exciting ways,” says Dan Biederman, President of Bryant Park Corporation. “There is something special about experiencing the performing arts outside in the fall air, and this year’s series has more performances, in more genres, than ever before. Once again, we timed them perfectly for office workers to enjoy at lunchtime or in the early evening. We are thrilled that so many of the city’s cultural institutions are taking this opportunity to celebrate the fall arts season, and we thank Bank of America for making it happen.”

“As a major supporter of the arts in New York City, and as a proud neighbor of Bryant Park, we look forward to continuing our involvement in the Fall Festival,” said Jeff Barker, Bank of America New York City president. “The city’s diverse cultural offerings are mirrored by the festival lineup, which residents and visitors alike are able to enjoy free of charge.”

Additional support is generously provided by the Durst Organization Inc. and HBO, and by media partners WNET New York Public Media, WNYC, and amNEWYORK.

The 2011 Bryant Park Fall Festival schedule is as follows:

Friday, September 16	12:30 pm: City Winery Red Poetry: wine and poetry collide in City Winery's latest limited edition wines. Grape-inspired poetry gets a rhythmic beat with live music and readings by the Bowery Poetry Club.
	6:00 pm: Burnt Sugar the Arkestra Chamber Greg Tate, Vernon Reid, Melvin Van Peebles, and Burnt Sugar the Arkestra Chamber rock the James Brown, Bowie, Van Peebles, Miles, and Sugar Songbooks. Presented by the Black Rock Coalition.

Saturday, September 17	1:00 pm: Kids Club Thirteen presents the PuppetMobile Master puppeteers tell the story of Bessie the Cow's dream to join the circus. Don't miss the pre-show workshop at noon.
	6:00 pm: China Institute in America The Shanghai Restoration Project and Le Zhang. Classical Chinese music meets jazz, hip hop, and electronica.

Sunday, September 18	1:00 pm: Kids Club Thirteen presents Vital Theatre Company Sing along to a medley of favorites from <i>Pinkalicious</i> , <i>The Musical</i> and <i>Uncle Pirate</i> . Celebrate all things pink and meet Pinkalicious herself.
	6:00 pm: Ballet Hispanico Theatrical and passionate works from the nation's premier Latino dance company.

Monday, September 19	12:30 pm: operamission <i>Figaro al fresco</i> : a comic cliffhanger. Acts I & II of Mozart's opera <i>Le Nozze di Figaro</i> in a fresh and vibrant new staging.
	6:00 pm: Jennifer Muller/The Works Electrifying and virtuosic movement by the world-renowned contemporary dance company.

Tuesday, September 20	5:00 pm: Kids Club Thirteen Pre-Performance Workshop
	6:00 pm: The Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program Opera's rising stars perform a selection of favorite arias, songs, and duets.

Wednesday, September 21	12:30 pm: Rubin Museum of Art Famed opera and theater director Peter Sellars and the dramatization of the irreverent and profound Vimalakirti Sutra.
	6:00 pm: Jazzmobile Seasoned drummer and vibrant band leader Winard Harper leads a superb septet in a non-stop set of Jazz and African rhythms.

Thursday, September 22	5:00 pm: Kids Club Thirteen Pre-Performance Workshop
	6:00 pm: Elisa Monte Dance Ferociously exciting modern dance company – a performing tour-de-force.

Friday, September 23	5:00 pm: Kids Club Thirteen Pre-Performance Workshop
	6:00 pm: RIOULT Musically astute, visually arresting, kinetically thrilling modern dance.

For additional details, including an up-to-date listing of festival performances, visit us online at: BryantParkFallFestival.org, follow us on Twitter at: [@BryantParkNYC](https://twitter.com/BryantParkNYC), or visit us on Facebook at: facebook.com/bryantparknyc.

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Bryant Park Corporation (BPC), a private not-for-profit company, was founded in 1980 to renovate, finance and operate Bryant Park in New York City. BPC is funded by income from events, concessions and corporate sponsors, as well as an assessment on neighboring properties, and does not seek or accept government or foundation funds. In addition to providing security and sanitation services, and tending the park's lush lawn and seasonal garden displays, BPC provides public amenities and activities, including movable chairs and tables, café umbrellas, restaurants, food kiosks, world-class restrooms, and a wide range of free events throughout the year. The Midtown park, conveniently located at 6th Avenue between 40th and 42nd Streets, is visited by over 5 million people each year and is one of the busiest public spaces in the world. BPC's website, www.bryantpark.org, is available for more detailed information and a schedule of upcoming events.

Bank of America and the Arts

As one of the world's largest financial institutions and a major supporter of arts and culture, Bank of America has a vested interest and plays a meaningful role in the international dialogue on cultural understanding. As a global company, Bank of America demonstrates its commitment to the arts by supporting such efforts as after-school arts programs, grants to help expand libraries, programs to conserve artistic heritage as well as a campaign to encourage museum attendance. Bank of America offers customers free access to more than 150 of the nation's finest cultural institutions through its acclaimed Museums on Us® program, while Art in our Communities® shares exhibits from the company's corporate collection with communities across the globe through local museum partners. The Bank of America Charitable Foundation also provides philanthropic support to museums, theaters and other arts-related nonprofits to expand their services and offerings to schools and communities. Bank of America partners with more than six thousand arts institutions worldwide.

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