



**APOLLO THEATER
ANNOUNCES PERFORMANCES FOR
APOLLO RESOUNDING
A VIRTUAL BENEFIT TO SUPPORT THE APOLLO ON
MONDAY, JUNE 7 AT 7:30PM ET**

Featuring performances and tributes by Grammy nominated singer MAJOR, choreographer and tap dancer Ayodele Casel, opera singer and featured performance on “The Voice” John Holiday, jazz, pop, rock trio the Kennedy Administration and more

Event includes highlights from the Mary J. Blige induction into the legendary Apollo Walk of Fame

The evening will also honor Felicia and Ben Horowitz with the Impact Award for Philanthropy and Derrick ‘D-Nice’ Jones with the Percy E. Sutton Award

Harlem, NY – June 4, 2021 – The Apollo today announced a full lineup of artists and performances at the non-profit’s annual spring fundraiser, taking place virtually on the [Apollo Theater’s Digital Stage](#) on **Monday, June 7 at 7:30pm ET**. This year’s benefit, *APOLLO RESOUNDING*, will feature performances by Grammy nominated singer **MAJOR**; jazz vocalists **Alita Moses**; opera singer and featured performer on “The Voice,” **John Holiday**; *Amateur Night at the Apollo* emcee **Greginald Spencer**; New York-based jazz, pop, soul, r&b, hip-hop and rock trio the **Kennedy Administration**; bassist **David “DJ” Ginyard**; actress, choreographer and tap dancer **Ayodele Casele**; violinist **Kersten Stevens**; internationally renowned trumpeter and composer **Marquis Hill**; percussionist **Senfu Stoney**; award-winning jazz bassist **Russell Hall**; and young artist **Dash**. The benefit will include highlights from the recent induction ceremony of nine-time Grammy Award-winning and two-time Academy Award nominee **Mary J. Blige** into the **Apollo’s Walk of Fame**. The evening will also feature tributes to activist and educator **Brittany Packnett Cunningham**; Motown Records Chairwoman and CEO **Ethiopia Habtemariam** and; President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund **Sherrilyn Ifill** for their dedication to amplifying Black culture and their ongoing work for a more just and equitable future.

APOLLO RESOUNDING will honor **Felicia and Ben Horowitz** with the inaugural **Impact Award**, given to individuals whose philanthropic leadership has made an extraordinary impact on the arts and artists and who share the Apollo’s values of innovation, diversity, and inclusion. Multihyphenated producer and DJ **Derrick ‘D-Nice’ Jones** will receive the **Percy E. Sutton Award**, recognizing individuals who uphold the value of the arts and philanthropy as a crucial part of the fabric of our community. The benefit is chaired by the Apollo Board Chair **Charles Phillips** and **Karen Phillips**, **Cheryl** and **Derek Jones**, and **Carolyn** and **Mark Mason**.

APOLLO RESOUNDING underscores the Apollo’s role as a mission-driven cultural and community anchor, which provides a safe space for creativity and unites people all over the world, including thousands

of artists at every stage of their careers. Always at the forefront of new cultural movements, even during the pandemic, the messages and music from the storied theater have resounded for nearly 90 years.

APOLLO RESOUNDING, the Apollo's annual fundraising event, will illuminate the power of the arts to transform, build community, and heal. In addition to raising funds for the Apollo's innovative artistic and educational programs that serve more than 200,000 people annually, a portion of the resources raised will – once again – support the micro-grant initiative, which was launched last year in partnership with the Apollo, 125th Street Business Improvement District (BID), and Harlem Commonwealth Council. This spring, the micro-grant initiative will continue. Additional details and how to apply can be found [here](#).

For more information on **APOLLO RESOUNDING**, visit www.ApolloTheater.org.

About the Apollo Digital Stage

When the pandemic forced the Apollo Theater to close its doors to in-person events, the Theater created the Apollo Digital Stage, offering live and pre-taped concerts, presentations and more, including a livestreamed performance with Wyclef Jean, past *Amateur Night at the Apollo* performances, live sessions with Apollo Music Café artists such as Infinity Song, the bi-annual Women of the World Festival, last June's *Let's Stay (In) Together Benefit*, education events for children and teens, and conversations with an array of artists and thought leaders, including Ta-Nehisi Coates, John Legend, and more. Since March 2020, programs on the Digital Stage have garnered more than 420,000 views. For more information, please visit apollotheater.org/digitalstage.

Support

The Apollo's season is made possible by leadership support from Citi, Ford Foundation, HBO, Howard Gilman Foundation, the Jerome L. Greene Arts Access Fund in the New York Community Trust, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Public support for the Apollo Theater is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

ABOUT THE APOLLO

The legendary Apollo Theater—the soul of American culture—plays a vital role in cultivating emerging artists and launching legends. Since its founding, the Apollo has served as a center of innovation and a creative catalyst for Harlem, the city of New York, and the world.

With music at its core, the Apollo's programming extends to dance, theater, spoken word, and more. This includes the world premiere of the theatrical adaptation of Ta-Nehisi Coates's *Between the World and Me* and the New York premiere of the opera *We Shall Not Be Moved*; special programs such as the blockbuster concert *Bruno Mars Live at the Apollo*; *100: The Apollo Celebrates Ella*; and the annual *Africa Now! Festival*. The non-profit Apollo Theater is a performing arts presenter, commissioner, and collaborator that also produces festivals, large-scale dance and musical works organized around a set of core initiatives that celebrate and extend the Apollo's legacy through a contemporary lens, including the *Women of the World (WOW) Festival* as well as other multidisciplinary collaborations with partner organizations.

Since introducing the first *Amateur Night* contests in 1934, the Apollo has served as a testing ground for new artists working across a variety of art forms and has ushered in the emergence of many new musical genres—including jazz, swing, bebop, R&B, gospel, blues, soul, and hip-hop. Among the countless legendary performers who launched their careers at the Apollo are Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Billie

Holiday, James Brown, Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight, Luther Vandross, H.E.R., D'Angelo, Lauryn Hill, Machine Gun Kelly, and Miri Ben Ari; and the Apollo's forward-looking artistic vision continues to build on this legacy. For more information about the Apollo, visit www.ApolloTheater.org.

#

For more information, please contact:

Fatima Jones
Senior Director of Marketing and Communication
press@apollotheater.org

Destanie Martin-Johnson / Julie Danni / Josh Balber
Resnicow and Associates
dmartin-johnson@resnicow.com / JDanni@resnicow.com / JBalber@resnicow.com
212-671-5172 / 212-671-5173 / 212-671-5175