



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES
RoAnn M. Destito, COMMISSIONER

Heather Groll - Public Affairs Office
(518) 474-5987
heather.groll@ogs.ny.gov
<http://www.ogs.ny.gov>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
November 18, 2014

NEW YORK STATE HARLEM TREE LIGHTING NOVEMBER 20

Live music, visit from Santa, candy cane giveaway, Santa Express train rides, and more

New York State Office of General Services (OGS) Commissioner RoAnn Destito today announced the annual New York State Holiday Tree Lighting at the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building Plaza will be held on Thursday, November 20. An evening full of free outdoor family fun and entertainment, including performances from a host of local and national talent, a visit from Santa, train rides on the Santa Express, free candy canes, and hot chocolate provided by the Salvation Army, will start at 5 p.m. with live entertainment beginning at 6:15 p.m. The lighting of the holiday tree is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. and will coincide with the 125th Street Business Improvement District's street lighting event.

"OGS is excited to be collaborating with the 125th Street BID in presenting this special lineup of performers and activities planned for this nearly 40-year-old tradition of lighting a holiday tree at the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building Plaza," Commissioner Destito said. "Governor Cuomo and I hope the holiday decorations and tree are a welcome addition to the festive atmosphere of the season, and I want to thank all the sponsors of this holiday celebration for their generous support."

The public is invited to bring their family and friends to this free event that will be emceed by DejaVu from WBLS.

Live Performances Scheduled For The Tree Lighting Include:

- **Vy Higginsen and the Mama Foundation For The Arts Gospel for Teens Choir** — Mama's mission is to present, preserve, and promote the history and fundamentals of gospel, jazz, and rhythm and blues music for current and future generations. The Foundation has established a cultural space in Harlem where youth and adults have access to quality training and employment as performing artists.
- **Choclattjared** — Musician, composer, entertainer, and master bucket drummer, Choclattjared is a percussion prodigy who started incessantly playing drums at the tender age of three. At 13, Choclattjared took his beats to the streets for the first time, and he soon gained recognition as one of the world-renowned bucket drummers of the New York City Streets and subway stations.
- **Traedonya!** — Coming from a formal musical background and learning from such jazz greats as Chico Hamilton, Reggie Workman and Bernard Purdie, Traedonya!'s voice reflects a professional, sophisticated urban sound in a scene often flooded with generic, commercial beats. Her musical influences range from the unforgettable classics of artists like Mary J. Blige and Billy Holiday to the underground sounds of Drum-n-Bass, 2 Step Garage, and Trance.

The Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building is located at 163 West 125th Street.

Sponsors include Harlem Community Development Corporation, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, Wellcare, Salvation Army, HealthFirst, and WBLS.

###