

**** MEDIA ALERT ** MEDIA ALERT ** MEDIA ALERT ****



For Immediate Release

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**ROSIE PEREZ, BEBE NEUWIRTH, AND OTHER STARS TO JOIN
30,000 PARTICIPANTS FOR 2016 AIDS WALK NEW YORK**

WHAT: AIDS Walk New York (AWNY)

WHEN: Sunday, May 15, 2016

- 7:30 a.m.** MEDIA CHECK-IN (at Loeb Boathouse Central Park): **Please RSVP to Anthony Hayes.**
- 9 a.m.** AEROBIC WARM-UP AND OPENING CEREMONY (at the stage next to Sheep Meadow)
- 10 a.m.** AIDS WALK BEGINS: Walkers step out onto the route through Central Park and the Upper West Side.
- 12 p.m.** POST-WALK CONCERT (at stage)
- 3 p.m.** ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUNDRAISING TOTAL (at stage)

WHO: More than 30,000 participants are expected to attend. The landmark event benefits GMHC and 40 other local AIDS service organizations that provide HIV/AIDS care, prevention services, and advocacy throughout the tri-state area and beyond.

Confirmed celebrity guests include: **Rosie Perez** (*The View*), **Bebe Neuwirth** (*Madam Secretary*), **Conrad Ricamora** (*How to Get Away with Murder*), **Kit Williamson** (*Mad Men*), **Erich Bergen** (*Madam Secretary*), **Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach** (*Miss Universe*), and **Nick Adams** (*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*).

Special musical performances by: **Jay Armstrong Johnson** (*Madam Secretary*), singing "If We Only Have Love," and **LaChanze** (*If/Then, The Color Purple*), singing "You'll Never Walk Alone." Also performing will be **Olitheia** prior to the

Opening Ceremony, and **Jonathan Celestin** directly after.

Celebrity images may be downloaded at: <https://goo.gl/r52oO8>

Elected officials expected to attend include: United States Representatives **Carolyn B. Maloney**, **Jerrold Nadler**, and **Charles B. Rangel**; New York State Senator **Brad Hoylman**; New York State Assemblymember **Keith L.T. Wright**; New York City Council Members **Corey Johnson** and **Stephen Levin**; New York City Comptroller **Scott Stringer**; New York City Public Advocate **Letitia James**; Manhattan Borough President **Gale Brewer**; and Bronx District Attorney **Darcel Clark**.

Kelsey Louie, CEO of GMHC, and **Craig R. Miller**, Founder/Senior Organizer of AIDS Walk New York, will also address the crowd.

The AIDS Walk Post-Walk Concert will feature **Leon and the Peoples** and DJs **Joanamor Kindred & Viktoria Vityuk**.

WHERE: General Entrance to the event is on 59th and 5th Avenue.
Venue map: <https://goo.gl/2BwJ9a>

All media, including satellite vans and trucks, please enter Central Park at 5th Avenue and 72nd Street and follow the East Drive north to the parking lot of **Loeb Boathouse Central Park**. Posted signs will direct you to the Media Check-In table, which will be located in the Boathouse parking lot. **Parking is available for satellite vans and trucks *only*; you must call Anthony Hayes (see number above) in advance to make any arrangements for parking or live feeds.**

- Best availability for photos and interviews: Backstage immediately following Opening Ceremony
- Best aerial overhead shot: 10:15-10:45 a.m. over east side of Central Park on East Drive between 72nd and 90th St.

MORE: **Walk registration and donation information:** For information about participating in or making a contribution to AIDS Walk New York, please call 212.807.9255 (WALK) or visit <http://ny.aidswalk.net/>.

About Gay Men's Health Crisis: Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) is the nation's leading provider of HIV and AIDS care, prevention services and advocacy, serving nearly 9,000 people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS in New York City, the epidemic's largest U.S. epicenter. As the world's first HIV and AIDS service organization, GMHC is an expert in providing services that every person affected by the epidemic deserves. GMHC is on the front

lines caring for people who are both HIV negative and positive, including: testing, nutrition, legal, mental health and education services. GMHC also advocates for stronger public policies at the local, state and federal level with the goal of ending AIDS as an epidemic in New York State by 2020. Most recently, GMHC and other HIV and AIDS organizations successfully persuaded the federal government to recommend widespread use of PrEP, a new daily treatment that is over 90% effective in preventing HIV infection. For more information, visit www.gmhc.org.

About AIDS Walk New York: Since 1986, AIDS Walk New York has raised more than \$144 million for HIV programs and services in the tri-state area, and has grown into the largest AIDS fundraising event in the world. In 2015 alone, 30,000 participants, many of whom were members of more than 2,600 corporate and community teams, raised nearly \$5 million for GMHC and 40 other tri-state area AIDS service organizations. For more information, please visit <http://ny.aidswalk.net/>.

About MZA Events: AIDS Walk New York was founded in 1986 by Craig R. Miller and his organization of activists, MZA Events. Miller is the AIDS Walk originator and has produced hundreds of public service campaigns and fundraising events, generating more than \$380 million for major AIDS organizations throughout the country. For more information, please visit mzaevents.com.

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