CAPITAL ONE CITY PARKS FOUNDATION
SUMMERSTAGE ANYWHERE
ANNOUNCES “THE PEOPLE SPEAK”
A PERFORMANCE OF
VOICES OF A PEOPLE’S HISTORY
FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH AT 7:00PM EST

FEATURED PERFORMERS INCLUDE
MICHAEL EALY, MEGALYN ECHIKUNWOKE,
RYAN JAMAAL SWAIN, STACEYANN CHIN,
MARC BAMUTHI JOSEPH, AND CELISSE HENDERSON

SUMMERSTAGE ANYWHERE JUNE SCHEDULE
INCLUDES LAMC PRIDE CELEBRATION,
JUNETEENTH DAY OF DANCE, POP ARTIST MAX,
AND GLOBAL MUSIC STAR ANGELIQUE KIDJO

JUNE 8, 2020 – NEW YORK, NY – Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage’s SummerStage Anywhere digital series has announced, “The People Speak”, a collaboration with VOICES, a nonprofit arts, education and social justice organization, this Friday, June 12th at 7:00PM EST on the SummerStage YouTube channel. The organization originally founded by Howard Zinn and Anthony Arnove, who together edited the book Voices of a People’s History of the United States, brings to life the extraordinary history of ordinary people who built the movements that made the United States what it is today, ending
slavery, protesting war and injustice, creating unions, advancing women’s rights and LGBTQ liberation, and struggling to right wrongs of the day.

By giving public expression to rebels, dissenters, and visionaries from our past—and present—SummerStage Anywhere and VOICES seek to educate and inspire a new generation working for social justice, and this is especially important right now. The performance will feature contemporary artists and authors who will use events, music and words from our nation’s history as inspiration for new discussions. Performing excerpts by Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Maya Angelou, Nina Simone, James Baldwin and others will be: spoken word poet, performance artist, and an LGBTQ rights and political activist Staceyann Chin; Golden Globe nominee actor (film) Sleeper Cell, Barber Shop, 2 Fast 2 Furious Michael Ealy; actor (television) 24, Night school, Step Sisters, Almost Family Megalyn Echikunwoke, also known as Megalyn E.K., accompanied by Ben Harper on guitar; singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Celisse Henderson; poet and the Vice President and Artistic Director of Social Impact at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Marc Bamuthi Joseph; and actor (television) Pose Ryan Jamaal Swain.

“The People Speak” performance will premiere exclusively on Friday, June 12th at 7:00PM EST on the SummerStage You Tube channel.

“For over 30 years, SummerStage has provided a platform to bring communities together. We believe deeply that we cannot change the future if we do not have an understanding of our past,” said Erika Elliott, Executive Artistic Director of SummerStage. “The historical texts within Howards Zinn’s A People’s History of the United States give voice to timely and poignant information that is as important to today’s dialog as it was when the words were first spoken. SummerStage stands in solidarity with our fellow New Yorkers who are pushing for necessary change. We hope this performance will provide some inspiration to help initiate that change and help us rebuild a stronger city and country.”

Following VOICES, on Saturday, June 13 at 3:00PM EST, LAMC (Latin Alternative Music Conference) will bring its annual showcase digitally to SummerStage Anywhere. Hosted by Los Angeles' KCRW radio DJ Raul Campos, LAMC at SummerStage Anywhere will feature an exclusive showcase from key voices in the Latino LGBTQ community including pop singer Kany Garcia, hip hop artist Mabiland, indie electro pop musician Javiera Mena and rock band Circo. These artists from Colombia, Chile and Puerto Rico will come together with original performances on LAMC’s Twitch channel. SummerStage Anywhere will also host the official afterparty with a DJ Takeover on the SummerStage Twitch channel at 4:00PM EST featuring Raul Campos and Latin Grammy winning artist Cheo, formerly of Los Amigos Invisibles.

On Friday, June 19 at 7:00PM EST, SummerStage Anywhere will honor the 155th anniversary of Juneteenth, the nationally celebrated commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States, with a digital day of dance. Tribute performances will be presented on SummerStage’s Instagram channel culminating in a performance on SummerStage’s You
Tube channel, featuring a panel discussion led by Executive Artistic Director of The Billie Holiday Theatre, Dr. Indira Etwaroo, followed by a tribute performance of "HANGING TREE", featuring Jamel Gaines Creative Outlet Dance Theatre, vocalist Marcellé Lashley, and poet Carl Hancock Rux in addition to an excerpt from RudduR Dance's ballet, "WITNESS".

On Wednesday, June 24 at 7:00PM EST, native New Yorker and pop phenom MAX will deliver a special performance to the SummerStage audience. Called a “Young Pop God” by GQ, MAX was named a “top popstar to watch” by Billboard and was nominated for “Best New Pop Artist” at the 2019 iHeartRadio Music Awards. The Billboard top-pop star’s double platinum hit single “Lights Down Low” earned half a billion streams globally. The performance will premiere on the SummerStage You Tube channel.

Closing out the June programming is Grammy Award-winning Beninese singer-songwriter, actress and activist Angélique Kidjo. SummerStage alumna Kidjo will bring her Afropop world fusion sound to an exclusive performance on SummerStage You Tube channel, on Friday, June 26 at 7:00PM EST.

Following June, SummerStage Anywhere will be home to a one-of-a-kind digital content series highlighting genres that were born in or deeply represent New York -- hip hop, salsa, jazz, global, indie, contemporary dance. The summer series will include weekly content segments including interviews with and performances by iconic artists, neighborhood tours with artists, and arts engagement for youth. For a full schedule of upcoming programming, please visit summerstageanywhere.org.

For ongoing updates on SummerStage Anywhere as well as SummerStage programs, please continue to visit summerstageanywhere.org.

As an independent, non-profit organization, we rely on our donors to help us make SummerStage possible. Support from donors will help secure the future of SummerStage as New York’s largest free outdoor performing arts festival. We believe the arts are for everyone and encourage those who can donate to visit cityparksfoundation.org/give for more information.

Capital One is the Title Sponsor of the 2020 SummerStage festival. Disney is a sponsor of SummerStage family programming. Supporting sponsorship is provided by Bloomberg Philanthropies and United Airline

Generous private support is provided by The Thompson Family Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Mertz Gilmore Foundation, The Shubert Organization, and the New York Community Trust NYC COVID-19 Response and Impact Fund. SummerStage is also supported, in part, by public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, the NYS Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the NYS Legislature, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support is generously provided by our dedicated SummerStage Members.
Media partners include iHeart Radio featuring Lite FM, Power 105.1, 103.5 KTU, Q104.3, and Z100, WFUV, Relix and DoNYC.

In all of its programming and activities, City Parks Foundation partners with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation to improve neighborhood parks and the communities they serve.

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**About City Parks Foundation**
At City Parks Foundation, we are dedicated to invigorating and transforming parks into dynamic, vibrant centers of urban life through sports, arts, community building and education programs for all New Yorkers. Our programs -- located in more than 400 parks, recreation centers and public schools across New York City -- reach 300,000 people each year. Our ethos is simple: thriving parks mean thriving communities.

**About SummerStage**
Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage is New York’s largest free outdoor performing arts festival. SummerStage annually presents approximately 100 performances in 15-18 parks throughout the five boroughs. With performances ranging from American pop, Latin, world music, dance and theater, SummerStage fills a vital niche in New York City’s summer arts festival landscape. Since its inception 34 years ago, more than six million people from New York City and around the world have enjoyed SummerStage. *Capital One is the Title Sponsor of SummerStage.* For more information, visit [www.SummerStage.org](http://www.SummerStage.org).

**About Capital One**
Capital One Financial Corporation ([www.capitalone.com](http://www.capitalone.com)) is a financial holding company whose subsidiaries, which include Capital One, N.A., and Capital One Bank (USA), N.A., had $249.8 billion in deposits and $372.5 billion in total assets as of December 31, 2018. Headquartered in McLean, Virginia, Capital One offers a broad spectrum of financial products and services to consumers, small businesses and commercial clients through a variety of channels. Capital One, N.A. has branches located primarily in New York, Louisiana, Texas, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey and the District of Columbia. A Fortune 500 company, Capital
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**Press Contact**

**Katy Cooper | Big Picture Media**
Office: 212-675-3103 | Katy@BigPictureMediaOnline.com
195 Broadway, Suite 341, Brooklyn, NY 11211

[Website] [Twitter] [Instagram] [Facebook]