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ESD AND NBC KICK OFF RETURN OF SUMMER'S NUMBER ONE REALITY SERIES "AMERICA'S GOT TALENT" TO RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL IN NEW YORK CITY

Live Shows At Storied And Historic Venue Begin Tonight

Empire State Development (ESD) and NBC Universal today kicked off the return of summer's number one reality series "America's Got Talent" ("AGT") to Radio City Music Hall in New York City. The live shows begin at the storied and historic venue today, Tuesday, July 29, and air live from Radio City Music Hall twice a week from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. ET/PT.

"Tonight "America's Got Talent," airing live from historic Radio City Music Hall, will make its primetime return to New York and bring with it significant employment and economic opportunities," said Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Kenneth Adams. "The popular reality show has made its mark on nighttime television thanks to its creativity and outstanding performances, and will once again make its presence felt in New York City by attracting even more visitors and generating millions in revenue for local businesses. We look forward to the kickoff of what is sure to be another memorable season for "AGT," and warmly welcome the show back to New York City."

Robert Greenblatt, Chairman, NBC Entertainment said, "NBC is thrilled to return to Radio City Music Hall for the live telecasts of 'America's Got Talent.' The rich history of this legendary theater – and its long association with NBC as neighbors sharing a home at Rockefeller Center – is an inspiration to all of the final AGT contestants and reflects the spirit of this competition show."

This season of "AGT" premiered on May 27, and for the first time in the show's history, "AGT" Boot Camp – the final round of auditions that determine the Top 48 acts that advance to the live performance shows – was held in New York City and in front of a live audience. The Boot Camp occurred from May 14 through May 17.

Last season, "AGT" generated over \$79 million in spending and over 1,080 hires, with residents earning approximately \$8.4 million in wages, and also attracted approximately 86,000 tourists

or visitors. Expenditures resulting from the show included more than \$134,000 for catering, \$19,500 for set construction materials, and \$445,000 in truck and vehicle rentals.

Radio City Music Hall, located in New York's famed Rockefeller Center and opened in 1932, holds nearly 6,000 seats and has long been the home of the iconic New York City dance company known as the Rockettes. The theater, which has been visited by millions of visitors from around the world, is listed in the United States National Register of Historic Places.

After a nationwide search for talent earlier this year, outstanding acts that made it through the season nine open-call auditions were invited back to perform in front of celebrity judges Howie Mandel, Mel B, Heidi Klum and Howard Stern. The judges' auditions, filmed in front of a live audience and hosted by Nick Cannon, occurred in several cities, including New York City at the Theater at Madison Square Garden.

Howard Stern, the legendary radio host, best-selling author, actor and entrepreneur, and a judge on "America's Got Talent" said, "I join with New York State in applauding TV and Film production in our wonderful City and State; and I am very happy to be part of AGT in adding its luster to the legendary Radio City Music Hall."

Since taking office in 2011, Governor Cuomo has made the attraction of the film and television production and post-production industries, as well as the resulting jobs and economic impact, a key component of his overall strategy to develop New York State's economy. Since 2011, the Governor has signed several important changes into law to both programs to make New York more competitive in this global marketplace, and the results have been significant. Both programs enjoyed record-breaking years in 2013, bringing billions of dollars in new spending and thousands of jobs into the Empire State. And the stability provided by multi-year funding in particular has encouraged the development of television series production work and long-term investments in infrastructure, yielding thousands of jobs directly and indirectly related to the actual productions themselves.

During calendar year 2013, applications for 181 film productions were submitted and included 124 films, 31 television programs, and 25 pilots and 1 "relocated television show. The impact of these projects includes:

- Generating a direct spend of \$2.09 billion in NYS;
- Collecting a projected \$466 million in credits; and
- Hiring an estimated 126,301 actors and crew for the 181 projects submitted.

About the New York State Governor's Office for Motion Picture & Television Development

The New York State Governor's Office for Motion Picture & Television Development (MPTV), a division of Empire State Development (ESD), offers film, television and commercial productions and post production tax credits for qualified expenditures in New York State. The office also serves as a liaison between production companies and city and local governments, state agencies, a network of statewide contacts, local film offices and professional location scouts

and managers. For more information on filming in New York State or the Film Production and Post Production Tax Credit Programs, please visit www.nylovesfilm.com.

Empire State Development (ESD) is New York's chief economic development agency (www.esd.ny.gov). The mission of ESD is to promote a vigorous and growing economy, encourage the creation of new job and economic opportunities, increase revenues to the State and its municipalities, and achieve stable and diversified local economies. Through the use of loans, grants, tax credits and other forms of financial assistance, ESD strives to enhance private business investment and growth to spur job creation and support prosperous communities across New York State. ESD is the primary administrative agency overseeing Governor Cuomo's Regional Economic Development Councils and the marketing of "I Love NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information on Regional Councils and Empire State Development, visit www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov and www.esd.ny.gov.

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