



For Immediate Release

Contacts:

Cub Barrett
Vice President, Communications
GMHC
212.367.1561
CubB@gmhc.org

Krishna Stone
Director, Community Relations
GMHC
212.367.1016
KrishnaS@gmhc.org

AIDS WALK NEW YORK RETURNS TO CENTRAL PARK MAY 20 WITH ALL-STAR LINEUP AND MACY'S-SPONSORED 5-MILE RUN

Participants can register for the Walk or Run at ny.aidswalk.net

New York, NY (May 10, 2018)— AIDS Walk New York, which will bring together 20,000 people on Sunday, May 20 in Central Park to raise millions of dollars for Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) and other tri-state area AIDS service organizations, will feature a line-up of stars including **Matt Bomer**, **Zachary Quinto**, *Queer Eye's* **Antoni Porowski** and **Tan France**, **Rosie Perez**, the **Pointer Sisters**, *RuPaul's Drag Race* contestants, and many more.

Participants will have a choice of the traditional [10K walk](#) through Central Park and the streets of the Upper West Side, or the Macy's-Sponsored [5-mile run](#) contained entirely within the park. Whichever they choose, these participants will be an important part of that day's community, said GMHC CEO **Kelsey Louie**.

"Given our polarizing political climate, it's important that we come together to show that stigma, discrimination, and ignorance have no place in our society or in our response to HIV/AIDS," Louie said. "HIV/AIDS remains an urgent public health and social justice crisis. Over the past 30-plus years, the tens of thousands of people who have joined together for AIDS Walk New York have not only raised crucial funds we need to help end this epidemic, but have demonstrated to the world the power of a united group of caring individuals."

The Opening Ceremony, kicking off at 9:15 am, will feature Porowski and France, Academy Award winner **Mercedes Ruehl**, Broadway star **Michael Urie**, **Andrea Navedo** (*Jane the Virgin*), **Nico Tortorella** (*Younger*), **Annie Golden**, **Selenis Leyva**, **Dale Soules**, and **Hunter Emery** (*Orange is the New Black*), and Bomer, Quinto, and **Andrew Rannells** (*Boys in the Band*). More celebrity participants will be announced over the next 10 days.

Upon their return from the route, fundraising participants will be treated to a Post-Walk Show at Rumsey Field with **the Pointer Sisters**, **Frenchie Davis**, and performances by top stars of *RuPaul's Drag Race*, including **Phi Phi O'Hara**, **Milk**, **Aja**, **Trinity Taylor**, **Jiggly Caliente**, **Ivy Winters**, and hosted by **Alexis Michelle**.

Founded in 1986, AIDS Walk New York has raised more than \$150 million for GMHC and many other AIDS services organizations throughout the tri-state area, and is the world's largest single-day AIDS fundraising event. The millions of dollars raised provide vital services for people living with, and affected by, HIV/AIDS.

These dollars are vital as we seek to end the epidemic in New York State by 2020 and continue to be a national leader in the local response to HIV/AIDS. While New York City realized its lowest number of new HIV infections on record in 2016, we are grappling with an uptick in new infections among women, threats to life-saving health care for those living with HIV and other chronic conditions, and a national climate that is increasingly hostile to at-risk populations. "As one of the city's largest and most diverse community events, AIDS Walk New York continues to help us celebrate how far we've come while also shining a spotlight on the work we still need to do—and what we must overcome," says **Craig R. Miller**, Founder and Senior Organizer of the event.

There is no fee to join in the AIDS Walk. Participants are encouraged to raise as much as they can from family, friends, and co-workers. To learn more and to register, visit ny.aidswalk.net.

The event's presenting sponsor is **Delta Air Lines**, the official airline of GMHC. Premier Sponsors are **Dentons**, **Gilead Sciences**, and **ViiV Healthcare**. Principal Sponsors are **Barclays**, **Bloomberg Philanthropies**, **Cam4**, **Duane Reade by Walgreens**, **Fiona and Stanley Druckenmiller**, **J. Crew**, **The Keith Haring Foundation**, and **Pepsico**.

More information:

What: AIDS Walk New York

When: Sunday, May 20; 8:30 am sign-in, 9:15 am Opening Ceremony

Where: Central Park; enter at 72nd Street from either 5th Avenue or Central Park West.

- [Walk route](#)
- [Run route](#)

###

About GMHC: Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) is the world's first HIV/AIDS service organization. GMHC is on the front lines providing services to over 12,000 people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Programs include: testing, prevention, nutrition, legal, supportive housing, mental health and substance use services. GMHC also advocates for stronger public policies at the local, state and federal levels with the goal of ending AIDS as an epidemic. For more information, visit www.gmhc.org.

About AIDS Walk New York: Since 1986, AIDS Walk New York has raised more than \$150 million for HIV programs and services in the tri-state area, and has grown into the largest AIDS fundraising event in the world. In 2017 alone, 20,000 participants, many of whom were members of nearly 2,000 corporate and community teams, raised close to \$5 million for GMHC and many 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 \$400 million for major AIDS organizations throughout the country. For more information, please visit mzaevents.com.