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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**New York City Center announces gala opening night of
In the Heights will honor**

**Lin-Manuel Miranda,
Quiara Alegría Hudes,
and
Mark Kingdon & Anla Cheng Kingdon**

**All funds raised support City Center's mission of affordability and accessibility
including 10,000 tickets for *In the Heights* offered at \$28 or less**

**Tickets from \$45 on sale now;
Gala packages for October 28 benefit from \$2,500**

JUNE 16, 2026 (NEW YORK, NY) – NEW YORK CITY CENTER today announced that creators **Lin- Manuel Miranda** (music & lyrics) and Pulitzer Prize winner **Quiara Alegría Hudes** (book), and philanthropists **Mark Kingdon and Anla Cheng Kingdon** will be honored at the gala opening night of *In the Heights* on Wednesday, October 28. Following the opening night performance, guests will join the cast and creative team for a celebratory evening of dinner and dancing at the iconic Ziegfeld Ballroom. All funds raised support City Center's mission of affordability and accessibility.

To celebrate New York City's "Hundreds of Stories," City Center is making 10,000 tickets to *In the Heights* available at \$28 or less through four initiatives: City Center's **Community Ticket Initiative** in partnership with **The Brotherhood Sister Sol**, **R.Evolución Latina**, **TDF**, **The People's Theatre** and more;

a **Lynne & Richard Pasculano Student Matinee**; **\$28 Access Club** tickets for audiences aged 40 and under; and an in-person **\$28 Heights Rush event** in Washington Heights this summer.

\$28 HEIGHTS RUSH TICKETS

This summer, join City Center in Washington Heights to enter the digital rush. Attendees who sign up in-person are eligible to purchase up to four non-transferable, \$28 digital tickets to a performance during the run of *In the Heights*. Rush tickets go on sale the same day as the sign-up event.

Check back for details this summer at [NYCityCenter.org/HeightsRush](https://nycitycenter.org/heightsrush).

OCTOBER 28 GALA HONOREES

A Pulitzer Prize, Grammy, Emmy, Tony Award-winning songwriter, actor, producer and director, **Lin-Manuel Miranda** is the creator and original star of Broadway's *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*, and the recipient of the 2015 MacArthur Foundation Award and 2018 Kennedy Center Honors. Miranda and the Miranda Family are active supporters of initiatives that increase the representation of people of color throughout the arts and government, ensure access to women's reproductive health, and promote resilience in Puerto Rico. He lives with his family in New York.

Quiara Alegría Hudes is an acclaimed playwright, screenwriter, novelist, and memoirist whose work has been celebrated for its exuberance, humanity, and intellectual rigor. She is best known as the book writer of the Tony Award-winning musical *In the Heights* and for her Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Water by the Spoonful*. Her recent fiction debut, *The White Hot*, was shortlisted for both the Carol Shields Prize and the PEN/Faulkner Award, while her memoir *My Broken Language* was longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal. Hudes also wrote the animated feature *Vivo* and co-founded the prison writing program Emancipated Stories. Born and raised in Philadelphia, she now lives in New York.

Mark Kingdon and Anla Cheng Kingdon are dedicated philanthropists, civic leaders, and champions of the arts. Mark Kingdon is the founder of Kingdon Capital Management and served on City Center's Board of Directors from 2013 to 2023 and has continued as a Director Emeritus since 2023. Anla Cheng Kingdon is the Founder, Chair, and CEO of [Serica Initiative](https://sericainitiative.org), a non-profit that amplifies Asian American voices across industries including the arts, tech, and business. Formerly, she was a finance executive investing in Asia for institutions for over 20 years. Together, their significant contributions to New York City Center have continued to ensure that New York City young people have access to the highest-



quality performing arts experiences while developing a lifelong appreciation for the arts. Their belief in the power of the performing arts to inspire, educate, and connect communities reflects the very values at the heart of City Center's mission.

ANNUAL GALA PRESENTATION IN THE HEIGHTS

Featuring Tony Award-winning music and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda and a book by Pulitzer Prize winner Quiara Alegría Hudes, *In the Heights* blends hip-hop, Latin rhythms, and traditional Broadway sounds to tell a multigenerational story about family, ambition, and belonging. The 2008 Tony Award-winning musical unfolds over three hot July days in New York City's Washington Heights as bodega owner Usnavi and his neighbors navigate the meaning of home in a rapidly changing neighborhood. Directed by **David Mendizábal** with Music Direction by **Alejandro Senior** and choreography by **Mayte Natalio**, this gala concert production underscores the show's lasting cultural resonance and introduces its story and score to a new generation of audiences. City Center's Annual Gala Production *In the Heights* opens October 28 for a special three-week-run through November 15, 2026.

TICKETS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Tickets for *In the Heights*, starting at \$45, can be purchased online at NYCityCenter.org, by calling 212.581.1212, or in person at the City Center Box Office.

Gala packages for the October 28 benefit start at \$2,500. For more details, contact

SpecialEvents@NYCityCenter.org or call 212.763.1205.

New York City Center is located at 131 W 55th St between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

NEW YORK CITY CENTER
Annual Gala Presentation
In the Heights
Oct 28 – Nov 15, 2026

Music and Lyrics by **Lin-Manuel Miranda**
Book by **Quiara Alegría Hudes**
Conceived by **Lin-Manuel Miranda**
Choreographer **Mayte Natalio**
Music Director **Alejandro Senior**
Director **David Mendizábal**



Major support for New York City Center provided by the Howard Gilman Foundation and the Shubert Foundation.

In The Heights is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

NEW YORK CITY CENTER (Michael S. Rosenberg, President & CEO) has played a defining role in the cultural life of the city for more than 80 years. The distinctive Neo-Moorish building was founded by Mayor Fiorello La Guardia in 1943 as Manhattan's first performing arts center with the mission of making the best in theater, dance, and music accessible to all audiences. This commitment continues today through celebrated dance and musical theater series like the Fall for Dance Festival, Artists at the Center, the Tony-honored Encores! series, and the annual season by Principal Dance Company Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. City Center welcomes audiences to experience internationally acclaimed artists including Kyle Abraham, Matthew Bourne, Ayodele Casel, Manhattan Theatre Club, Nederlands Dans Theater, and Twyla Tharp, on the same stage where legends made their mark. Dedicated to a culture built on the values of curiosity, collaboration, accessibility, and inclusivity, City Center's dynamic programming, art exhibitions, and studio events are complemented by a full slate of education and community engagement programs that bring the performing arts to thousands of New York City students, teachers, and families every year. NYCityCenter.org

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