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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

MTA Kicks Off "Centennial Sounds" Music Celebrating 100 Years Of The NYC Subway

Metropolitan Transportation Authority Arts For Transit today kicked off "Centennial Sounds," a series of Music Under New York (MUNY) performances celebrating the 100th anniversary of the New York City Subway. Today's performance at the shuttle platform of Grand Central marked the beginning of many performances scheduled to run throughout the centennial year.

"Centennial Sounds performances are one of the many ways we are celebrating this great subway system's 100th birthday," said MTA Chairman Peter S. Kalikow. "Music is a wonderful part of the subway experience and we are pleased that Music Under New York performers are joining in this celebration of the subway."

MUNY is one of the many visual and performing arts programs administered by MTA Arts for Transit to increase the attractiveness of transit facilities for customers. It sponsors more than 100 individual performers and ensembles -- ranging from Classical to Cajun, African to South American and Jazz -- who participate in over 150 weekly performances at over 25 locations throughout the transit system.

The special Centennial Sounds roster of MUNY performers was created to perform monthly events at the Grand Central shuttle as well as at various other events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the subway system. The roster consists of groups and individuals who perform period pieces as well as original music written about the subway. For additional information on Centennial Sounds performances and Centennial events go to the MTA website at www.mta.info.

The New York City subway, operated by MTA New York City Transit, is the largest subway system in North America, moving over 4.5 million customers each day, in 6,400 train cars, over 656 miles of subway track, to 468 stations, on 27 train lines. The first subway opened from City Hall to Harlem on October 27th 1904.