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DYCD Hosts 6th Annual “Skate Day” for NYC Youth at Citi PondSM at Bryant Park

Nearly 400 young people from afterschool programs across the City take part in the annual daytrip

New York, NY – Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav today welcomed hundreds of children from DYCD’s afterschool programs to Citi PondSM at Bryant Park for the sixth annual “Skate Day.” The participants come from one of the more than 500 free afterschool programs funded by DYCD, which serves nearly 80,000 young people through its Out of School Time (OST), Beacon, Cornerstone and Teen ACTION Initiatives. The programs are located in schools, community centers, and public housing and parks department facilities across the City.

“Nothing says winter break like a cup of hot chocolate and a day of skating at Bryant Park,” said **DYCD Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav**. “As we celebrate this holiday season, I’m glad we can come together and give our young people an experience they’ll remember. I want to thank our partners at Citi PondSM at Bryant Park for once again helping us to make Skate Day a reality.”

The DYCD and Citi Pond partnership embodies the two organizations’ commitment to New York City youth through this annual event that has become a tradition. For the “Skate Day” event, Citi PondSM at Bryant Park has provided dedicated skating time for the youth during peak holiday hours, free skate rentals, skate coaches, complimentary hot chocolate and cookies and more.

“Citi Pond at Bryant Park was built around its commitment to the community,” says **Itai Shoffman, founder of Upsilon Ventures, the producer of Citi PondSM at Bryant Park**. “Citi Pond is proud to bring smiles to thousands of children’s faces each season, and we are excited to highlight this dedication through DYCD’s annual Skate Day event.”

DYCD supports New York City’s afterschool and youth workforce development programs throughout the five boroughs. The agency also oversees funding for anti-poverty programs, such as adult literacy and immigrant services. For more information, please go to www.nyc.gov/dycd or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Citi Pond at Bryant Park, located between W. 40th Street and W. 42nd Streets and 5th and 6th Avenues, is Manhattan’s first and only free-admission ice skating rink open through February 27, 2011. For more information on Citi Pond at Bryant Park, as well as for advance and group reservations and not-for-profit and school visits, please call 212-661-6640 or visit: www.CitiPondatBryantPark.com. Connect via Facebook: facebook.com/citipond and Twitter: @CitiPondNYC.

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