



From American Idol to Hollywood to Broadway, Justin Guarini to Host and Perform at the 17th Annual Winter's Eve at Lincoln Square

*The Annual Holiday Celebration Featuring FREE Live Entertainment, Children's Activities, Food Tastings from Top Local Kitchens and the Upper West Side's Only Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on **Monday, November 28, 2016, at 5:30PM***



New York, NY— November 15, 2016 - The [Lincoln Square Business Improvement District](#) (BID) is thrilled to announce that American Idol and Broadway star, **Justin Guarini**, will join as the host for the 17th Annual Winter's Eve at Lincoln Square, New York's largest outdoor holiday festival, which is set for Monday, November 28th from 5:30PM – 9:00PM! Guarini will lead the lineup on the main stage at Dante Park (Broadway & 63rd Street) performing a variety of holiday classics. The multitalented host will introduce this year's headliner, funk and soul singer Sharon Jones and also help light the Lincoln Square holiday tree.

The annual holiday festival will feature more than 20 free, world-class musical performances, processional groups, dancing, face-painting, ice-sculpting, jugglers, stilt-walkers and other street festivities. Winter's Eve revelers can also indulge in savory samples of signature dishes from more than 30 Upper West Side restaurants for nominal costs (\$1 - \$4).

Winter's Eve offers genres and entertainment as diverse as the city itself. Additional renowned talent performing at the exciting festival includes: [Alicia Svigals](#); [Ikebe Shakedown](#); [Steven Bernstein](#); [Loston Harris](#); [Brady Rymer](#); [People's Champs](#); and many more.

“We’re thrilled to have such a multitalented and charismatic host to lead the diverse and fabulous lineup for this year’s Winter’s Eve,” said Lincoln Square BID President **Monica Blum**. “Justin will give us a taste of Broadway and light up the Upper West Side with holiday cheer at this annual celebration that has become one of New York City’s iconic public, holiday events! Whether you live here or are visiting; whether you are a foodie, a student, a retiree, a theater or klezmer music enthusiast; there is something for everyone at Winter’s Eve.”

Fans know him best as the famous runner-up to Kelly Clarkson on the first season of American Idol. Since then, the curly-haired heartthrob made appearances in movies and television shows including *Fast Girl*, the TV sitcom *The Wizards of Waverly Place*, reality TV show *Gone Country* and more. He made his Broadway debut in 2011 in *American Idiot*, and returned to Broadway in *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* followed by the 2013 revival of *Romeo & Juliet*.

Guarini joined the Broadway production of *Wicked*, in the role of Fiyero in 2014. Other stage work includes lead roles in regional reproductions of *Rent*, *Chicago*, *Company* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoats*.

In 2015, he starred in the New York City Center Encores presentation *Paint Your Wagon*. Guarini also starred in the 2015 original musical *Moonshine: The Hee Haw Musical* and *Mamma Mia!* in 2016.

Guarini is now performing in Broadway’s ground-breaking a cappella musical *IN TRANSIT* which officially opens on December 11th. With a book, music and lyrics by Academy Award® winner Kristen Anderson-Lopez (*Frozen*), James-Allen Ford, Russ Kaplan and Sara Wordsworth and vocal arrangements by Deke Sharon (*Pitch Perfect*, “The Sing-Off”), *IN TRANSIT* is directed and choreographed by three-time Tony Award® winner Kathleen Marshall (*Anything Goes*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*).

Guarini also hosts and/or performs for various Broadway and industry events including *Broadway on the Hudson* and the *Times Square Tony Awards Simulcast* in 2014 and 2015. He was an executive producer for the 2015 revival of the musical *Side Show*. In 2016, Guarini co-hosted backstage coverage of the live broadcast Tony Awards.

In addition, Guarini has been a recurring commentator for *Today*, MSNBC, Fox News Channel, Style Channel, Comcast and *Larry King Live*.

For more information about the Lincoln Square BID’s Winter’s Eve, please visit: www.WintersEve.nyc or call 212.581.3774.

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