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# PRESS RELEASE

BIG APPLE PERFORMING ARTS



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## **BROADWAY POWERHOUSE, SHOSHANA BEAN TO PERFORM AT HARMONY, A GALA BENEFITING THE NEW YORK CITY GAY MEN'S CHORUS AND YOUTH PRIDE CHORUS**

### **ALONG WITH CELEBRATED NYC DJ, LINA BRADFORD SPINNING**

- *Harmony will also feature special performances the NYCGMC, YPC, and Tonewall*
- *The gala will also feature live and silent auctions*
- *Harmony will be held at the Diamond Horseshoe, 235 West 46<sup>th</sup> Street on February 17; tickets are on sale now*

**NEW YORK, January 19, 2016** – Big Apple Performing Arts, the home of the New York City Gay Men's Chorus and Youth Pride Chorus, today announced that Broadway powerhouse, **Shoshana Bean**, will perform live at their eighth annual *HARMONY* gala fundraiser on February 17 at the Diamond Horseshoe in the heart of the theater district. The official *HARMONY* dance party will then be hosted by the incomparable **DJ Lina Bradford**. The dance party will continue until 2am with **DJ Panos Mitos** spinning the tunes and controlling the dance floor.

For *HARMONY* 2017, the theme is **Studio 54**, honoring the most glamorous club the world has ever seen and the epicenter of all things decadent, dramatic, and disco. Being fabulous was your only way into the most over-the-top nightly extravaganza—a sanctuary free from labels, bigotry, and norms. On the eve of the 40th anniversary of the iconic club's opening in April 1977, we celebrate Studio 54's pioneering attitude to equality, diversity, glamour, and having the time of your life. But just like Studio 54, *HARMONY* will have one very strict door policy: be fabulous!

The evening will include live, silent, and online auctions for an array of prizes, such as exotic vacations, tickets to top Broadway shows, dinners at some of the city's best restaurants, special experiences, and many other exclusive offerings.

*HARMONY*, now in its eighth year, is Big Apple Performing Arts' annual fundraising extravaganza—the city's most flamboyant gala—benefiting New York City Gay Men's Chorus and Youth Pride Chorus.

Tickets for Harmony are now on sale at [nycgmc.org](http://nycgmc.org) and all proceeds go toward the NYCGMC and YPC. VIP tickets (which include a VIP reception with hors d'oeuvres, open bar, and other perks) start at \$295 (tables can be purchased for 6 to 10 people). General admission tickets (which include a drink ticket and access to the performances from 8pm) are \$95. Dance party tickets (for entry after 9.30pm) are \$45.

#### **About Shoshana Bean**

Shoshana made her NYC debut in the Off-Broadway revival of *Godspell*, her Broadway debut in the original cast of *Hairspray*, and starred as Elphaba, the green-skinned witch, in the Broadway and touring companies of *Wicked*. She appeared in the new musical *Beaches* as CeeCee Bloom, and inked a deal with ABC Signature for a musical pilot she co-created and for which she will compose the music. Her 3 solo albums charted in the top 5 on the iTunes R&B and Blues charts in both the US and the UK, including the peak position of #1! She has sold out solo concerts around the globe, amassed millions of views on YouTube, performed alongside artists such as Brian McKnight, Bebe Winans and sang back up for Michael Jackson for his 30th anniversary concert at Madison Square Garden. Her music has been featured in television shows on NBC, MTV, Oxygen, Bravo and Showtime. Getting to play the role of Fanny Brice is a lifelong dream fulfilled.

[www.shoshanabean.com](http://www.shoshanabean.com)

### **About DJ Lina**

Lina Bradford grew up in New York City, across the street from famed Carnegie Hall on the Upper West Side. Her career in entertainment began at an early age as a dancer. She studied modern ballet, tap and jazz for 11 years and performed in several companies throughout New York. Those same moves she learned in rehearsals became a part of her signature style when she began her DJ career by performing throughout the gritty East Village scene. She travels through Europe, appearing in Sardinia, St Tropez and Paris. Accolades soon came rolling in, including DJ of the year and Lifetime Achievement awards at the Glammys and Sage Innovator. DJ Lina is often seen hosting the biggest private parties from NYC to Europe. Even with all her accomplishments, she feels as if she is just beginning to hit her stride. "I've never felt more sexy and solidified in my life", she says. "This is by far the most beautiful spot I've been in."

### **About DJ Panos Mitos**

Back in his native country of Greece, Dj Panos Mitos started Dj-ing as a hobby while training to become a professional chef. Organizing parties and events in popular Athens clubs led to the decision that mixing tunes was much more fulfilling than mixing bowls, and he became a resident Dj in the underground club scene in Athens. He was quickly discovered and invited to spin in Mykonos, one of the world's most famous party destinations, where every summer he entertains packed crowds of international revelers. In 2014, Dj Panos Mitos became a New York City resident. He quickly began making a name for himself dj-ing in Hell's Kitchen and the Lower East Side, as well as parties and special events at the Boathouse in Central Park and Saks 5th Ave, among other places. He specializes in creating a party atmosphere, smartly mixing the spectrum of dance music from retro classics to today's hits.

### **About the New York City Gay Men's Chorus**

New York City Gay Men's Chorus is a world-class, world-renowned New York institution and a pioneering voice for the LGBTQ community. NYCGMC is comprised of more than 250 talented singers of various ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Together, we produce a vibrant sound and energy that audiences can feel and connect with. Through the power of this sound, and our spectacular performances, we are fearless champions for love, equality, and acceptance. Founded in 1980, NYCGMC has formed a strong bond with devoted followers and continues to make lasting connections with new and diverse audiences. We sing in every style from classical to pop, Broadway to gospel, and from cultures all over the world. As artists, we listen to the changing world around us and transform what we hear into music. We sing to challenge perceptions of the LGBTQ community, to combat fear and hatred, encourage compassion and human connection, and to thrill with the superb quality of our sound. Through our music, audiences mourn losses, cheer victories, find unconditional acceptance, and celebrate life. We perform in a variety of settings, including special, private, and corporate events, concerts, television appearances, festivals, Broadway/theatre productions, conferences, weddings, parties, fundraisers, and community events. [nycgmc.org](http://nycgmc.org)

### **About the Youth Pride Chorus**

New York City's Youth Pride Chorus harnesses the power of the performing arts to engage lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight young people ages 13-22 as agents of change. YPC fights homophobia, bullying, and all forms of hate by boldly asserting—through music—the joy, diversity, strength, and pride of today's youth. YPC singers discover their own power by empowering others in schools, online, and in the broader community through electrifying, high caliber singing and performances. [youthpridechorus.org](http://youthpridechorus.org)

### **About Big Apple Performing Arts**

Big Apple Performing Arts is the non-profit management company for the New York City Gay Men's Chorus and Youth Pride Chorus. With over thirty years of history, innovative programs, and service to the LGBTQ community, Big Apple Performing Arts is renowned for producing legendary performances, commissioning new works, and taking a leading role in the movement for social justice. From Carnegie Hall to City Hall, from the AIDS crisis to the struggle for marriage equality, as well as today's gender and identity politics, the choruses of BAPA have been leaders and activists in the New York City community since 1980.

**Here are links for more information on the following:**

[NYCGMC](http://nycgmc.org)