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**Clean the Bronx and Get Free Yankees Tickets: Sanitation Foundation, New York Yankees, Bronx Borough President Gibson Announce Third-Annual Summer Cleanup Series**

*The highly anticipated Bronx Summer Cleanup Series returns, featuring a celebration of hip hop to commemorate the transformative genre's 50th anniversary!*

**JULY 21, 2023 – BRONX:** The Sanitation Foundation, the official nonprofit partner of the New York City Department of Sanitation, today announced that its third annual volunteer summer cleanup series will begin in the Bronx on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Participants at any of the six summer cleanup events will each receive a voucher valid for two tickets to select New York Yankees 2023 regular season home games. In addition, the volunteers at the cleanup site that collects the most litter will be invited to take part in a VIP Game Experience at Yankee Stadium on Friday, 9/8.

As part of the City's celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of hip hop, the Bronx Summer Cleanup Series features six events around the borough that pay homage to the people and iconic places that gave rise to the genre, including Kingsbridge Heights, Highbridge, Mott Haven, Soundview, Mount Eden, and near Yankee Stadium. Events will take place on select Fridays and Saturdays in July and August from 10 am - 12 pm. Volunteers will collect litter along a predetermined route, and all tools and safety equipment will be provided. Full details and required registration can be found at [sanitationfoundation.org/bronx-series](http://sanitationfoundation.org/bronx-series).

Each cleanup event will also feature a local artist. Additional information on each artist is below.

Borough resident and multi-disciplinary artist **Marthalia** will lead a live painting event in Kingsbridge Heights. She names hip hop and the work of independent visual artists

as sources of inspiration and the use of “visual risk, joy, and color” as influences in her own work.

In Highbridge, **Intikana**, who was born and raised in the Bronx, will be leading a hip hop history walking tour paying homage to the borough and its native indigenous history. Intikana is a passionate storyteller and recipient of the Bronx Council on the Art's BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) Award in Performing Arts. His live performances have been covered in The New York Daily News, Time Out NY, and The Village Voice, among others. He's appeared on VH1, BET, and Shade 45's Sway In The Morning. Through hip hop, he seeks to create artistic works that illustrate real-life experiences while addressing social issues.

In Soundview, catch emcee **D-Nasty ThaMasta**, a longtime fixture of the NYC Underground hip hop scene, heard at the Rapathon, Spittin In Da Wip, Freestyle Mondays, Supreme BARs, and Lyricist Lounge. He will be performing a freestyle with sounds by SWiiiFT.

**XO Wavy** is a 10 year old entertainer from Harlem, New York who will be sharing his talents in Mott Haven, with additional sounds by SWiiiFT. He began his career by dancing “LiteFeet,” a New York style of hip hop dancing that has traditional break dancing roots. “Hip hop has been my culture since I was born,” said Xo Wavy. The Mott Haven cleanup will also be produced in partnership with **UP NYC**.

Renowned hip hop producer **Amadeus** has produced for over 100 artists thus far, ranging from Jennifer Lopez, French Montana, Trey Songz, Chris Brown, 50 Cent, Justin Bieber, Fabolous, T.I, Young Jeezy, Tyga, Keyshia Cole, Wale, Busta Rhymes, just to name a few. He has also produced and scored music for BET, VHI, Burger King, Sprite, EA Sports, and ESPN.

He is truly passionate about giving back, motivating and inspiring people to believe in themselves and their dreams, and doing whatever it takes in a positive manner to see their dreams become a reality. Amadeus will be reading from his new book “Life of Amadeus: The Beat Goes On” at the Mount Eden cleanup on Friday, August 11. The Mount Eden Cleanup will be hosted in collaboration with the **New Settlement Community Center**.

Hailing from the South Bronx and rounding out the Bronx Summer Cleanup Series at Yankee Stadium, **Division X** is a classic hip hop collective that proudly emphasizes an original true grit sound, and a thought-provoking rap edge. With their descriptive heart of the Bronx lyrics, and self-produced soundscapes, Division X is clear on what their music represents. It's music for the have-nots and underdogs—the story of resistance, joy, love and struggle.

All performances are produced by **Str8OuttaBklyn Media**, a community-based arts and culture organization. Str8OuttaBklyn focuses on implementing youth and artist development initiatives. Through artistic programs and vocational training, they create safe spaces for our youth and community artists to thrive.

This cleanup series is produced in partnership with the New York Yankees, the Bronx Borough President's Office, and the NYC Department of Sanitation and is made possible with support from NYC Service and Amazon.

“A clean street is its own reward, but at these special events, New Yorkers can get another reward: Yankees tickets. A big thanks to the Yankees, Amazon and all of our supporters for making this possible. We encourage all New Yorkers to attend a cleanup and celebrate the 50th anniversary of hip hop,” said **Pam Harris, President of the Sanitation Foundation**.

“New Yorkers expect and deserve clean streets, and the 10,000 people who make up the Department of Sanitation work every day to deliver for them – but we also need residents and community groups to help. This is an opportunity to keep your neighborhood clean and to be rewarded for doing the right thing, and I hope to see all Yankees fans at these events,” said **Jessica Tisch, Commissioner, New York City Department of Sanitation**.

“As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Hip Hop, I am grateful to the Sanitation Foundation, the New York Yankees and other partners highlighting this milestone during the 3rd annual Summer Cleanup Series,” said **Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson**. “Not only will all 6 clean up sites feature industry leaders, including emcee, D-Nasty ThaMasta, XO Wavy, producer Amadeus, and others, each participant gets two tickets to a regular season New York Yankees home game. I want to thank Chair of the Board of the Sanitation Foundation, Caryl Englander; Commissioner of the New York City Department of Sanitation, Jessica Tisch; New York Yankees Senior Vice President of Corporate/Community Relations, Brian Smith; and NYC Chief Service Officer at the NYC Service for the Office of the Mayor, Laura Rog, for creatively accomplishing their goal to enhance the beauty of our borough, while also, amplifying a music genre that has forever transformed American culture, music and art.”

“We are excited to continue this partnership with the Sanitation Foundation and the Bronx Borough President’s Office as we embark on year three of the Summer Clean-Up Series,” said **Brian Smith, New York Yankees Senior Vice President of Corporate/Community Relations**. “The enthusiastic participation of past volunteers in their efforts to keep city streets clean has been inspiring. We look forward to welcoming everyone again this summer.”

“The Bronx Cleanup Series is an amazing example of how innovative volunteer partnerships get stuff done for NYC! We are thrilled to support the Sanitation Foundation with the launch of Bronx-based volunteer programming this summer and applaud the Yankees for their partnership in service to the residents of the Bronx,” said **Chief Service Officer Laura Rog**. “Collaborations that bring people together to create a culture of service are key to contributing to our city’s success and recovery.”

"At Amazon, we are excited to partner again with the Sanitation Foundation for its annual Bronx Clean-Up series," said **Carley Graham Garcia, Head of Community Affairs for Amazon in New York**. "This year is even more special as we're thrilled that our support coincides with the 50th anniversary of hip hop and supports artists in New York City. Come join us for this great event!"

Last year, the series was expanded from four events to six – creating more opportunities for New Yorkers to participate in keeping the streets clean. At the 2022 series, 430 volunteers collected over 5,300 pounds of litter.

This year’s series aims to showcase the power of music, community engagement, and environmental stewardship. Participating is a great way to make a meaningful impact on New York City’s neighborhoods, with Yankees tickets as an added bonus.

All interested New Yorkers can register and find full details at [sanitationfoundation.org/bronx-series](https://sanitationfoundation.org/bronx-series)