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**TRANSCRIPT: MAYOR DE BLASIO DELIVERS REMARKS AT THE REOPENING  
OF THE QUEENS NIGHT MARKET**

**Commissioner Jonnel Doris, Small Business Services:** Thank you, John. Hi everybody. Where's the crowd? Hey, everybody. Hey, Queens Night Market – night, not day, right? Okay. Night market, all right. I am excited as you can see to be here because right out here we have about 70 small businesses who are reliant on you and me to help them to get through this crisis. And this is a great opportunity for us to show support to our small businesses here in the city of New York and specifically in my borough Queens. Because I'm excited about coming – yes, that's right. My borough, Queens, where you at Queens? Queens stand up. We're so excited to be here. I want you to take your time and peruse all these businesses here and let them know that you are here to support them. Spend your money. Yes, that's right. As much as you can, don't go back home with anything, leave it all here. You know why? Because they've been through a tough year and they need us. And I want to thank John and everyone that really put this together to give a lifeline to small businesses. About 350 small businesses were started out of this project. And that's something to be commended. Thank you, John, for what you're doing.

So, my message is simple. Let's continue to support each other, support our small businesses, lift them up, go and shop small. Shop your city, hashtag #ShopYourCity. Let me hear you. Shop your city. Again, support them, let them know you're here. Thank you everybody. Enjoy the rest of the evening.

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**Mayor Bill de Blasio:** Thank you very, very much. All right, I'm going to come over here. Everybody, I have an official announcement to make, get ready. The Queens Night Market is back! And you are the lucky few to come here to start this off. So, you, everyone tonight, you are making history, bringing the market back. And we need this market back because it represents the best of Queens and the best of New York City. Am I right? I want to give a special thanks – Where did John go? John and Storm, who created this. We got to remember people who do something amazing, that thousands and thousands of people benefit from and enjoy and make life in this city even better. Thank John and Storm for everything they've done to create this beautiful market.

We have very special entertainment this evening. She tried to be a journalist and decided DJing was a much better way forward. Her skills are exceptional. Yes. You never will get laid off from being a DJ. Okay? Everyone, thank DJ Katie Honan. Queens, I don't know why she's wearing a shirt that says Queens, get the money? Can you help me understand? Get the money? I just don't

know. I just don't know. Okay. But I want everyone to spend your money. I want you to reach into your wallets tonight. Take the amount of money you thought you would spend at the Queens Night Market, double it or triple it. Because we want these small businesses to come back. I want you to know that John and Storm, during the pandemic did something absolutely beautiful and amazing. They made sure that our health care heroes were fed, that our EMT and paramedics were fed. They went out and helped the people who helped us. And so, we've got to thank them and thank all the small businesses here by really giving everything we've got to them. And I need you to tell your friends to come back and make the night market strong and beautiful and stronger than ever.

Last thing I want to say. Some people suggested that the pandemic would be too much for New York City and we wouldn't be able to come back. Some people, yes – who said that? I want to know names. I want names. Some people thought if New York City got knocked down, we would not get back up. Those people don't know New Yorkers do they? So, New York City right now is in the middle of the greatest comeback in our history. And it will be capped tonight by a victory at the Barclays Center for the Brooklyn Nets. And then they will go all the way to the NBA Championship. You heard it here first. Hold it, there's a Bucks fan. Look, everyone. I want to instruct the crowd mob the Bucks fan – no, no, we wouldn't do that. We wouldn't do that to you. Peaceful, loving environment here. Peace and love. Peace and love. All good. Someone follow him though. Okay. But everybody it is simple as this, there is no stopping Queens. There's no stopping the Queens Night Market and there's no stopping New York City. Thank you, DJ.

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