



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 7, 2016

Contact: Laura McDonald,
Communication Specialist, 212-341-2258

GrowNYC's Youthmarkets Open for the 2016 Season

New York, NY—GrowNYC's Youthmarkets are open for the season in partnership with community-based organizations the week of July 5th at 14 locations throughout Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and the Bronx. From July through November, neighborhood youth will operate these farm stands that provide residents and community members with access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Through Youthmarket, families in NYC have increased access to farm fresh food; youth in these areas earn money and learn small-business skills; and farmers in the New York City region are achieving higher revenue through access to under-served markets.

Brand new this season is the Ditmars Park Youthmarket located on Steinway between Ditmars and 23rd Avenue in Astoria. This market was made possible through a partnership with Friends of Ditmars Park and generous funding from New York City Councilmember, Costa Constantinides. It will be open on Saturdays from July 9th until November 19th from 9 am until 4 pm.

Also new this season, two Youthmarket locations, Learn It Grow It Eat It in the Bronx and Rockaway Beach, will accept food scraps for composting during certain hours.

In 2015, Youthmarkets sold 275,000 pounds of produce worth \$330,000 with over half of the purchases made using nutrition subsidies such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and the WIC and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program. Youthmarket worked with 65 neighborhood youth last summer and 14 community partners.

“Many neighborhoods in New York City are experiencing epidemic rates of diet-related disease like obesity and diabetes which is in part due to a lack of affordable fresh fruits and vegetable in their neighborhoods,” said GrowNYC Executive Director Marcel Van Ooyen. “GrowNYC's Youthmarket program helps address this lack of access to fresh and healthy food while also empowering the youth to be ambassadors for healthy eating to their neighbors, friends and family. Coupled with the small business skills they learn, Youthmarket participants are well on their way to living healthier and more successful lives.”

All of the produce sold at Youthmarkets comes from family farms selling through GrowNYC's own wholesale food hub and distribution arm, [Greenmarket Co.](#) The power of bulk purchasing allows for the affordable retail price while mid-size family farmers still receive a fair price for their products insuring they will be able to continue supplying the residents of New York City with fresh, healthy, local food for years to come.

Manhattan

Lower East Side Youthmarket
Grand Street between Pitt St & Willet St, Manhattan
Thursdays, 7/7 to 11/17
8:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Community partner: Henry Street Settlement

El Barrio Youth Marqueta
116th Street at Park Ave, Manhattan
Open 7/7 to 11/19
Thursdays & Saturdays, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Community partners:
Urban Garden Center
Getting Out Staying Out
Hon. Melissa Mark-Viverito, New York City Council Speaker

Gouverneur Health Youthmarket
Madison St. between Clinton and Jefferson Sts., Manhattan
Thursdays, 7/7 to 11/17
8:30 pm to 3:00 pm
Community partners:
Gouverneur Health Medical Center
HHC (NYC Health and Hospital Corporation)
Metro Plus

Queens

Ditmars Park
Steinway St between Ditmars Blvd and 23rd Ave, Queens
Open Saturdays, 7/9 – 11/19
Hours: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Community Partners:
Councilmember Costa Constantinides
Friends of Ditmars Park
Global Kids

Rockaway Youthmarket
Beach Channel Drive and Beach 58th St, Queens
Saturdays, 7/9 to 11/19
9:00 am - 3:00 pm, **compost collection: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**
Community partner:
Rockaway Youth Task Force

Ridgewood Youthmarket
Cypress Ave, between Myrtle and Putnam Aves, Queens
Saturdays, 7/9 - 11/19
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Community partners:

Myrtle Avenue Business Improvement District
Ridgewood Local Development Corporation
Make the Road NY

Bronx

Learn It Grow It Eat It Youthmarket
McKinley Square at 169th St & Boston Rd, Bronx
Wednesdays, 7/6 to 11/23
10:00 am - 3:00 pm, **compost collection 10:00 am – 3:00 pm**
Community partner:
GrowNYC's Learn It Grow It Eat It Program

Norwood Youthmarket
E Gun Hill Rd & DeKalb Ave, Bronx
Thursdays, 7/7 to 11/17
12:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Community partner:
Friends of Van Cortlandt Park
Montefiore Medical Center

Riverdale Youthmarket
Mosholu Ave. and 256th St., Bronx
Thursdays, 7/7 to 10/27
2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Community partner:
Bronx Community Board 8
Riverdale Neighborhood House

Brooklyn

Brownsville Rockaway Youthmarket
Rockaway Ave between Livonia and Dumont Aves, Brooklyn
Fridays, 7/8 to 11/18
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Community partner:
Brownsville Partnership
Project EATS

Brownsville Pitkin Youthmarket
Thomas Boyland St between Pitkin and Sutter Aves, Brooklyn
Saturdays, 7/9 to 11/19
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Community partner:
Brownsville Partnership
Project EATS

Cypress Hills Youthmarket
Fulton St between Richmond and Logan Sts, Brooklyn
Fridays, 7/8 to 11/18

11:00 am to 6:00 pm
Community partner:
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
Cypress Hills/Fulton Street Senior Center

Flatbush Junction Youthmarket
Flatbush Avenue and Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn
Saturdays, 7/9 - 11/19
8:30 am to 3:00 pm
Community partner:
Councilmember Jumaane D. Williams
East Flatbush Village, Inc.

Kensington Youthmarket
Ft. Hamilton Pkwy btwn E. 5th and E. 4th, Brooklyn
Saturdays, 7/9 to 11/19
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Community partner:
New York City Councilmember Brad Lander

###

GrowNYC is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization that works to make New York City more sustainable, and improve the lives of all New Yorkers. Reaching two million New Yorkers every year, GrowNYC operates Greenmarket farmers markets, engages New Yorkers in recycling education and resources, builds and maintains green spaces and engages young people in hands-on education. Learn more at www.grownyc.org.