



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Chris Martin of Coldplay Host Impromptu Benefit Concert for The Bowery Mission**

**NEW YORK** – On Wednesday, December 21, Chris Martin of Coldplay held an unexpected jam session with formerly homeless men at The Bowery Mission homeless shelter, and then announced on Twitter an impromptu benefit concert at Mercury Lounge the same night. The sold-out crowd enjoyed an intimate evening with Martin and his new "band" recruited from The Bowery Mission as they performed Coldplay standards as well as covers of Prince, David Bowie and Drake, Christmas favorites and even "Amazing Grace."

"The Bowery Mission is an incredible place. I want to thank everyone there for letting me hang out and giving me an unforgettable day," said Martin.

Martin's new "band mates," James Macklin and Ron Nelson, both received critical help from The Bowery Mission as they recovered from homelessness and addiction -- Macklin in the 1980s and Nelson in recent years. "Chris Martin proved once again the power of one person to make a difference through The Bowery Mission," said Macklin, who is now the Mission's Director of Outreach. "As the temperatures drop and we serve thousands of lonely people during the holidays, Chris has lifted our spirits today."

To join Chris Martin and Coldplay in supporting The Bowery Mission during the holidays, use the following link: <http://www.bowery.org/coldplay>.

[Link to photos and video coverage](#)

### **About The Bowery Mission**

The Bowery Mission has served homeless and hungry New Yorkers since 1879. Last year alone, the Mission provided more than 505,000 meals to men, women and children, 97,300 nights of shelter and 56,200 articles of clothing, as well as showers, haircuts, and expert medical and optometric care. Each meal and every night of shelter is an invitation to residential recovery programs, where men and women get a second chance and lives are transformed from hopelessness to hope. To ensure that at-risk children have a positive first chance at life, The Bowery Mission's city and summer camp serves nearly 1,005 at-risk children from poor city neighborhoods. [www.bowery.org](http://www.bowery.org)

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