Belmont Park, NY (December 3, 2021) — St. John’s University, UBS Arena and the New York Islanders announced today a five year partnership that will focus on the education of students and future business leaders.

St. John’s will be working with the Islanders and UBS Arena, located 7 miles from JFK International Airport on the border of Queens and Nassau County, to develop a graduate program focusing on the business of sports, entertainment and facilities management. *The Business of Sporting Events and Facilities* is a shared academic certificate program officially beginning in September, 2022 that will feature curriculum offered in The Peter J. Tobin College of Business and the Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies at St. John’s. In addition, UBS Arena and the Islanders will award two annual $25,000 scholarships for graduate students in the Collins College and Tobin College.

“We are proud to be partnering with St. John’s University. Their academic programs are highly regarded and to be able to provide guidance, assistance and educational opportunities for students looking to enter the sports and entertainment industry is something special,” said Tom Pistore, President Commercial Business Operations at UBS Arena. “We look forward to working with these bright young minds and the university moving forward.”

The team and venue will also participate in speaker series opportunities with the university including lectures, panels, symposiums and seminars. As part of the agreement, UBS Arena and the Islanders will be providing several internships on an annual basis for Tobin and Collins College students, as well as hosting an annual career fair with St. John’s at UBS Arena.

“The business of higher education is a collaborative one,” said Rev. Brian J. Shanley, O.P., President of St. John’s University. “St. John’s is excited to partner with UBS Arena and the New York Islanders to provide a dynamic variety of new learning and career opportunities for our students with scholarship, service, and career success—hallmarks of the signature St. John’s experience—for all involved in this partnership.”

During the St. John’s vs. Kansas NCAA Men’s Basketball game this evening at UBS Arena, leadership from the building and the university along with Sparky, the New York Islanders’ mascot and St. John’s mascot Johnny Thunderbird will take the court during a timeout in the first half to commemorate this new partnership.
Made for music and built for hockey, the metropolitan area’s newest premier entertainment and sports venue and home of the four time Stanley Cup Champion New York Islanders is located in Elmont, N.Y. and developed in partnership with Oak View Group, the New York Islanders, and Jeff Wilpon, with Sterling Project Development serving as development manager. Providing a significant boost to the regional economy, especially when economic activity has been greatly impacted by the pandemic, the world-class entertainment venue, with its timeless and classic design, will bridge its iconic past with today's advanced technology and amenities.

The $1.1 billion multi-purpose, state of the art arena located on the historic grounds of Belmont Park will host more than 150 major events annually while delivering an unmatched live entertainment experience including clear sightlines and premier acoustics. UBS Arena is designed to hold up to 19,000 people for concerts and audiences up to 17,250 for NHL games. In an effort to build a greener future, UBS Arena intends on being carbon neutral for operations before 2024, which will make it the first arena to do so on the eastern United States seaboard.

About St. John’s University
St. John’s University is a private, coeducational, Roman Catholic University founded in 1870 by the Congregation of the Mission (the Vincentians), with its main campus located in Queens, NY. St. John’s University also has campuses and locations in Staten Island and Manhattan, and in Hauppauge, NY; in Rome, Italy; in Paris, France; and in Limerick, Ireland. St. John’s University is comprised of six colleges, including the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, The Lesley H. and William L. Collins College of Professional Studies, St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, The Peter J. Tobin College of Business (including the Maurice R. Greenberg School of Risk Management, Insurance and Actuarial Science), The School of Education, and the School of Law. As of Fall 2021, the University has 1,410 full-time and part-time faculty, 15,452 undergraduate students, and 4,206 graduate students who come from 48 states and 118 countries. St. John’s offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate programs, including 15 doctoral programs.

About UBS Arena
UBS Arena at Belmont Park is made for music and built for hockey. New York’s newest premier entertainment and sports venue and home of the New York Islanders is developed in partnership with Oak View Group, the New York Islanders, and Jeff Wilpon with Sterling Project Development serving as development manager. The state of the art arena will host more than 150 major events annually while delivering an unmatched live entertainment experience including clear sightlines and premier acoustics. In an effort to build a greener future, UBS Arena intends on being carbon neutral for operations by 2024, which will make it the first arena to do so on the eastern United States seaboard.

Located on the historic grounds of Belmont Park, UBS Arena is located less than 15 miles from both JFK and LaGuardia Airports and is accessible via car and ride share at exits 26A, 26B, and 26D off the Cross Island Parkway. For guests using the Long Island Rail Road, UBS Arena will be accessible to East and Westbound travelers at the Queens Village LIRR station, Eastbound travelers at the brand-new Elmont Station (accessible Westbound in Fall 2022), and via the Belmont Spur station, operating from Jamaica on event days. In addition to the Long Island Rail Road, the arena is also accessible via MTA Bus Routes Q2 and Q110 and the Nassau County Inter-Express N6 bus service.

Upcoming events at UBS Arena at Belmont Park include Eric Church on Saturday, December 4, Genesis on Friday, December 10 and a sold out Sebastian Maniscalco show on December 27.
For additional information, please visit UBSArena.com or @UBSArena on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

**About the New York Islanders**
Founded in 1972, the New York Islanders Hockey Club is the proud winner of four Stanley Cup Championships and nineteen consecutive playoff series victories. The Islanders have had nine members inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame and play in the National Hockey League’s Eastern Conference.

The Islanders Children’s Foundation has helped countless youngsters in need around the world since its inception. Donations are raised through the efforts of our players, management, and employees, along with our fans and partners.

UBS Arena at Belmont Park is the team’s new, state of the art home starting this season.

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