



For Immediate Release
Parade of Lights Returns to the Waterfront
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HOLIDAY LIGHT PARADE AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES AT THE WATERFRONT ON DECEMBER 10

PHILADELPHIA, PA (November 22, 2016) – Independence Seaport Museum’s [Parade of Lights](#) will return to the waterfront on Saturday, December 10, 2016. Now in its 7th year, the seasonal event includes a full day of family-friendly activities and entertainment inside the Museum, leading up to a lighted boat parade on the Delaware River at 5:30 p.m.

For the first time, United States Coast Guard will be joining the festivities. "We're very proud, excited and honored to visit Philadelphia and the Independence Seaport Museum to celebrate their *Patriots and Pirates* exhibit, and specifically the full-scale model of Schooner DILIGENCE. This is a fantastic way to learn more about our nation's great maritime history. We look forward to showcasing our ship—the sixth in a long DILIGENCE line—and sharing information about Coast Guard missions today," says Commander Justin M. Carter, Commanding officer. USCGC DILIGENCE will be decorated in lights and located outside the Museum at Penn’s Landing for all day long. FREE tours are available to the public from 10 a.m. to sunset on December 10 and 11.

“Parade of Lights offers a unique opportunity to connect the commercial maritime industry to the admiring (or curious) public in a manner that engages the spirit of the holiday season. Our mariners enjoy participating in an event that showcases the power and beauty of their vessels in a fun and exciting atmosphere,” says Nathan Hauser, Vice President/General Manager of Moran Towing. Boats from the Philadelphia Fire Department, Police Marine Unit and Coast Guard (Boat 29) are expected to participate in this year’s spectacle, along with Moran Towing, United States Army Corp of Engineers, River Services of New Jersey Company of Philadelphia, *Liberty* of Patriot Harbor Lines, *Freedom Elite* of Spirit Cruises and additional pleasure boats from the Greater Philadelphia area, as they all compete for top prizes.

Due to popular demand, this year's parade route has been extended to cover both Philadelphia and Camden shorelines, reaching audiences at both the [Battleship New Jersey](#) and [Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest](#). “This is what the Parade of Lights allows us to do, bring people to the water... as we showcase what Penn’s Landing and the attractions located along the waterfront have to offer,” says Captain Walt Bohn, General Manager of Patriot Harbor Lines. The parade is emceed by KYW Newsradio personality Steve Nikazy, from the 2nd floor balcony at Independence Seaport Museum, and will also be broadcast live aboard the Battleship New Jersey.

Most activities and entertainment are free with Museum admission. Paid visitors have access to the 2nd floor balcony to view the parade. Additionally, the Museum will offer express entry and free admission for members.

Activities, entertainment and amenities include:

- Santa’s “Workshop on the Water” with make-and-take holiday ornaments and gingerbread boats
- Visit from Santa
- Face painting by a local artist
- Lighted ship model display at the Ship Model Shack
- Pose with Jingle Jack, a holiday pirate
- Live music from the Philly POPS
- Holiday soundtrack by WOGL
- Silver Ships display, featuring dozens of tiny silver ships from the Museum's collection, guest-curated by Alex Stadler (*Hello Sailor: The Sailor Icon in Pop Culture*)
- Make-and-take snow globe submarine in our Citizen Science Lab
- Refreshments available for purchase

The Museum will stay open late to approximately 7 p.m. for this special event. For more information on *Parade of Lights* visit phillyseaport.org/lights.

Sound sponsored by Audio Gods.

About Independence Seaport Museum

Independence Seaport Museum deepens the appreciation, understanding and experience of the Philadelphia region’s waterways through history, science, art and community. The Museum maintains one of the largest maritime collections in North America, combining more than 25,000 artifacts with hands-on exhibits, small boat rentals and large-scale models. The Museum houses a traditional boat shop, the Workshop on the Water; J. Welles Henderson Archives and Library and Penn’s Landing Playhouse. The Museum also includes two National Historic Landmark ships: Cruiser *Olympia*, and Submarine *Becuna*. Located at Philadelphia’s Penn’s Landing Waterfront, the Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit phillyseaport.org for more information.

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