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INDEPENDENCE SEAPORT MUSEUM WELCOMES VISITORS WITH THE RETURN OF ON-WATER PROGRAMMING ON THE DELAWARE RIVER

Museum announces new admission packages, experiences, more

Photos: HERE

PHILADELPHIA, PA | May 9, 2023 – <u>Independence Seaport Museum</u> (ISM) is thrilled to announce the return of their popular on-water programming, <u>Kayak Excursions</u> and <u>Paddle Penn's Landing</u>, starting May 27. The Museum is also unveiling <u>new admission packages</u> that provide guests with various options for exploring its exhibitions and historic ships including <u>Cruiser Olympia</u> and <u>Submarine Becuna</u>. On select Fridays, from June to October, ISM will host the first-ever <u>Cruiser Olympia</u> Speakeasy Pop-Up <u>Experience</u>, where guests can enjoy an evening of drinks, music, and games aboard the oldest floating steel warship.

Paddle Penn's Landing

Beginning May 27, <u>Paddle Penn's Landing</u> reopens for the 2023 season, allowing visitors to enjoy an afternoon of fun under the sun paddling around the Penn's Landing basin in a paddleboat. The paddleboats are the perfect outdoor recreational activity for a family of four, with a choice of a swan, flamingo, yellow duck, or dragon boat!

Summer hours for Paddle Penn's Landing are from 3 p.m. to Dusk on Fridays and from noon to 8 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through September 3. Small paddle boats are available for \$25 per boat for 30 minutes and can accommodate up to two adults and a child. Large paddle boats are \$50 per boat for 30 minutes and can hold four adults and a child. Visitors are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance on ISM's website.

Kayak Excursions

<u>Kayak Excursions</u> will be offered again on select dates throughout the summer. Guests can choose from four specially curated tours designed to give unique perspectives of the Delaware River. Excursions range between three to ten miles and offer beginner to advanced options. With reimagined destinations, each excursion is directly connected to one of ISM's award-winning exhibitions to further ISM's mission of encouraging visitors to discover Philadelphia's river of history and world of connections.

Legendary Remains pairs with the *Selections from the Collections* exhibit; the tour takes participants to Graffiti Pier to explore the history of Philadelphia's river wards. Inspired by the *Patriots and Pirates* exhibition, the **Shipwrecked!** trip takes kayakers to the Three Sisters Shipwrecks to explore the wildly Philadelphian story of greed, corruption, curiosity, and fire. Guests can also embark on the **Blackbeard's Cove** excursion to see local and legendary pirate camps and learn about Philadelphia's swashbuckling history. ISM's *River Alive!* exhibition is best enjoyed with the **It's Alive!** expedition, where guides lead a trip around Petty's Island to uncover the impact of the Clear Water Act and leave kayakers empowered with easy steps they can take to improve the health of Philadelphia's watershed. Participants are encouraged to bring their own lunch for a picnic at Pyne Point Park.

Each guided paddle trip ranges from \$65 to \$85 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be found HERE.

Cruiser Olympia Speakeasy Pop-Up Experience

Starting June 9, ISM will host the <u>Cruiser Olympia Speakeasy Pop-Up Experience</u>, a brand new adults-only event where guests can step back in time aboard the oldest floating steel warship in the world. From 6 to 9 p.m., ISM will turn the historic ship into a 1920s speakeasy where the crew is dressed in period uniforms. Guests can enjoy a night of drinks, music, and games while learning about what it was like serving in the United States Navy during prohibition.

The Cruiser *Olympia* Speakeasy Pop-Up Experience is offered on select Friday evenings from June to October, with advanced tickets available for \$30 and \$35 at the door. Guests must be 21 or older to attend. Information and upcoming dates for the Speakeasy are available at www.phillyseaport.org/summer-on-the-ships.

Museum Programming

This May, ISM unveiled four new admission bundles to provide visitors with more options for visitors to learn, discover, and explore for affordable prices.

The **General Admission Ticket Package** comes with a self-guided experience among the Museum's award-winning exhibitions and aboard the historic ship Cruiser *Olympia*. For those only looking to tour the historic ships, the **Climb Aboard Package** offers self-guided access to Cruiser *Olympia* plus guided tours of the ship's Engine Room and Submarine *Becuna*. Visitors who purchase the **Explorer Package** can explore the entire Museum and *Olympia* on their own before taking a guided tour of *Becuna*. For the complete ISM experience, the **Admiral Dewey Package** offers self-guided access to the Museum building and Cruiser *Olympia*, a guided tour of Submarine *Becuna*, and a guided tour of Cruiser *Olympia*'s Engine Room.

During their time at the Museum, families are welcome to explore one of North America's largest maritime artifact collections. ISM recently opened the Richard C. von Hess Foundation Gallery and its inaugural exhibition, *At the Water's Edge: Working and living along the Delaware River* ("At the Water's Edge"). While only 326 miles long, the Delaware River has been home to millions of people for centuries and is the most significant geographic feature along the eastern seaboard. With *At the Water's Edge*, guests can learn about the people who lived and worked on the river, from sailors to ironworkers, to canal boatmen to newly arrived immigrants seeking economic and religious freedom. Additional exhibitions include the award-winning immersive exhibition *River Alive!*, *Tides of Freedom: African Presence on the Delaware River*, and *Patriots & Pirates*.

ISM is open to visitors Mondays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guided tours of the historic ships are available at select times every day and are typically 30 to 45-minutes long. From May 26 to September 4, the Museum extend the Historic Ship hours allowing guests to partake in guided tours of *Becuna* at 5 and 6 p.m. and self-guided access to *Olympia* from 5 to 8 p.m. Learn more about prices for each admission package and times for guided tours of Cruiser *Olympia* and Submarine *Becuna* here. Before leaving ISM, visitors can stop by the gift shop to find the perfect souvenir for the nautical lover in their life. All gift shop proceeds are re-invested in the ISM's programs, historic ships, and collections.

About Independence Seaport Museum

Independence Seaport Museum encourages visitors to discover Philadelphia's river of history and world of connections. Stewards of Cruiser *Olympia* and World War II-era Submarine *Becuna*, ISM is home to a boatbuilding workshop, interactive exhibitions, and one of the largest collections of historic maritime artifacts in the world. Visitors can explore the historic and beautiful Delaware River first-hand by renting a boat from the Museum or by participating in one of our kayak excursions. The Independence Seaport Museum is the premier, year-round destination on the Penn's Landing waterfront. Visit daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and see our full schedule of programs and events at phillyseaport.org.