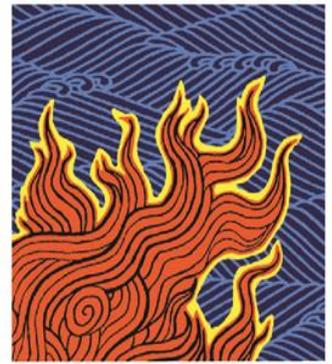


WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE

-CREATIVELY TRANSFORMING OUR CITY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS CONTACT: Bronwyn Dannenfelser

401.640.4038

Bronwyn@waterfire.org

WATERFIRE ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF NEXT FULL LIGHTING ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14

PROVIDENCE, RI – **WaterFire Providence**, the award-winning sculpture by artist Barnaby Evans, announces the details of the next full lighting of the 2014 season, Saturday, June 14th. The full lighting is sponsored by the University of Rhode Island College of Business and the Rhode Island Hospitality Community. Sunset on June 14th will occur at 8:22 PM. The fires will be lit shortly thereafter and will burn until midnight.

WaterFire is excited to join the celebration of the University of Rhode Island College of Business' 90th year of education, innovation, and leadership. The University of Rhode Island College of Business, the first accredited business school in Rhode Island, seeks to educate and provide the necessary skills that business leaders demand for those who have, are, and will soon lead and manage change in the global business economy. The URI College of Business is also excited to honor four of its graduates as sterling examples of the tradition of successful College of Business graduates: Michael Ziggy Giles, MBA '13; Alex Couture '95; Kathryn Jervis M.S. '87; Andrea Osorio '14. Mark Higgins, Dean and The Alfred J. Verrecchia-Hasbro Inc. Leadership Chair in Business, says "The University of Rhode Island College of Business is extremely proud to sponsor WaterFire Providence, which, like the College of Business, is a brilliant light powering Rhode Island. WaterFire will continue to revitalize Providence and inspire its people; we could not be more thrilled to be a part of such a powerful event."

The Rhode Island Hospitality Community has joined together to support WaterFire again this year. In a unified effort to give back to the community, hotels and restaurants contributed funds to sponsor this lighting. WaterFire is grateful to have partners like these within the community; helping make Providence a better place to live, work, and visit. Thank you to this lighting's sponsors: AQUA, Blake's Tavern, Bluefin Grille, The Courtyard Marriott, E&O Tap, The Hampton Inn & Suites, Hemenway's Seafood Grill & Oyster Bar, The Hilton Providence, Hotel Providence, Lola's

Tequila Bar & Cantina, Omni Providence, Providence Biltmore, Providence Marriott Downtown, Providence Warwick Convention and Visitors Bureau, Ruth's Chris Steak House, Vanity Supper Club, and The Whiskey Republic.

The Gaspee Incident and the Birth of America: Rhode Island was the site of the first organized rebellion against the British crown and led the effort to establish America as an independent nation, a year and a half before the Boston Tea Party. Rhode Island citizens met at Sabin's Tavern to debate the challenges, opportunities, and risks of rebellion, and ultimately decided to take action against the British. They launched long boats after dark and attacked and captured British sloop, The Gaspee, off Gaspee Point, and burned the vessel to the waterline. WaterFire is pleased to bring to life this astonishing history for the third year in a row with several WaterFire history presentations.

- **From Flash Mob to Freedom:** Join us throughout the day to follow this thrilling story of daring patriotism by seeing it all unfold in the long-lost twitter feeds of that famous day. Starting at 12:00 PM on June 14, 2014, WaterFire will use technology and social media to bring to life the key characters including Lt. William Dudingston, Captain of the Gaspee, James Sabin, owner of the Sabin Tavern, and many more! Check out the WaterFire Gaspee Twitter feed (**#wfgaspee**) (<https://twitter.com/search?q=wfgaspee&src=typd>) and witness the revolt as it unfolds. For background and context, and to learn more about Rhode Island's revolt against British rule, join us at <http://gaspee.waterfire.org>
- **Sabin's Tavern - The Great Debate:** From 9:00 PM to 10:30 PM, discover a fascinating re-enactment of the lively debate that occurred at Sabin's Tavern on June 9, 1772 over whether or not the colonies should demand independence from Great Britain. At The Wild Colonial Tavern at 250 South Water Street (one block from WaterFire downstream at the intersection of Power Street), three engaging historians, John McNiff, John Concannon, and Earl Salisbury, will lead us towards a deeper understanding of what was discussed that night from the perspective of the Providence residents who first started the American Revolution. Learn their grievances and arguments against the Crown, their hopes for a new country, and their fears of reprisal for acting to ensure their liberty.
- **Revolutionary Reenactments:** At 9:15 PM, the Pawtuxet Rangers Fife and Drum Corps and the Warren Federal Blues will lead a torch procession to the Wild Colonial. The Pawtuxet Rangers were commissioned in 1774 to help protect the ports, ships, and shoreline of RI against the Royal Navy.
- The free Independence Trail tour can be done via mobile phone and covers four centuries of RI history. Visit www.independencetrails.com.

The Arts Festival Plaza returns for the second full lighting of WaterFire and takes over both Steeple and Washington Streets. Starting at 6:00 PM, local artists and crafts-people will share their wares and fine works from photographs and sculptures, paintings and hand crafted ceramics, to jewelry and

specialty textiles. Visitors can look forward to seeing work from Andrea Grimaldi, Shannon Caldwell Roche, Sema Gurerk, Monique Sousa, and many more.

Your favorite WaterFire characters will be back including fire dancers, Andrew Anselmo “The Origami Guy”, Mime Artist Michael Grando and the characters from TEN31 Productions all evening throughout the installation. Become part of the art and visit the WaterFire Merchandise Store at Canal and Steeple Streets and mini merchandise and donations stations throughout the installation.

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WaterFire is an independent, non-profit arts organization whose mission is to inspire Providence and its visitors by revitalizing the urban experience, fostering community engagement, and creatively transforming WaterFire for all to enjoy. The powerful work of art is installed on the three rivers of downtown Providence as a moving symbol of Providence’s renaissance. To learn more about WaterFire or make a donation visit www.watefire.org or www.facebook.com/waterfireprovidence.