

WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE

– CREATIVELY TRANSFORMING OUR CITY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, March 27, 2023

Media Contact

Nicole Nehiley, Community Relations Manager
nicole@waterfire.org | 401.443.5543

WaterFire Providence Announces Additional Details for a Pre-season Lighting with the United Way of Rhode Island In Celebration of 401Gives

Providence, RI WaterFire Providence announces a special pre-season partial lighting in Memorial Park on Saturday, April 1, 2023 sponsored by United Way of Rhode Island in celebration of their annual [401Gives](#) campaign. The lighting will begin after sunset (7:10 p.m.) and the braziers will remain lit until 9:30 p.m.

“401Gives, powered by United Way of Rhode Island, was created as a collective day of giving to both support the state’s nonprofit community and uplift the vital work of a sector that touches nearly every Rhode Islander. Over the past three years, 401Gives has raised over \$6.6 million for over 625 local nonprofits. What a better way to celebrate the hard work of these nonprofits and thank donors than by sponsoring and gathering at our state’s beloved WaterFire,” Says Cortney Nicolato, President and CEO of United Way of Rhode Island

401Gives kicks off on Friday, March 31, 2023 at 6 a.m and closes on Monday, April 3, 2023 at 6 a.m. Rhode Islanders can choose between 500 nonprofit organizations to support during the statewide day of giving, including WaterFire Providence, at 401gives.org.

To celebrate United Way’s 401Gives campaign, there will be a special flag installation along Memorial Park and Memorial Boulevard along with a procession of hundreds nonprofit partners during the lighting ceremony.

Food fairs will be open on College Street, adjacent to Memorial Park. Enjoy local food from WaterFire favorites [One2Taconmore](#) and [Pam’s Grill On The Go](#).

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Visitors can find [A Silent Soapbox](#) living statue at the bottom of the College Street Bridge starting at sunset. The living statues from [Ten31 Productions](#) will be illuminating the monuments in Memorial Park at the base of the World War memorial.

Catch three fire-spinning performances beginning at 7:15 PM and continuing at 8:15 PM and 9:00 PM by [Cirque de Light](#).

WaterFire Providence will be announcing the 2023 season schedule on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. Details of the season schedule will be posted on the WaterFire Providence website at <https://waterfire.org/schedule>.

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About WaterFire Providence

WaterFire Providence® is an independent, 501(c)3 non-profit arts organization whose mission is to inspire Providence and its visitors by revitalizing the urban experience, fostering community engagement, and creatively transforming the city by presenting WaterFire for all to enjoy. Each year nearly 1 million people come to downtown Providence to experience WaterFire spending over \$114,000,000 to the local economy, generating over \$9,000,000 of direct tax revenue for the State of Rhode Island and supporting 1,294 jobs for community residents and strengthening Providence's Creative Capital and Rhode Island's State for the Arts brands. For information about WaterFire Providence and the WaterFire Arts Center visit <https://waterfire.org/>