

WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE

– CREATIVELY TRANSFORMING OUR CITY



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WaterFire Providence Announces *Starts At Sunset*

A New Community Gathering on the Michael S. Van Leesten Memorial Pedestrian Bridge Happening on August 30, September 14, and October 28

Providence, RI WaterFire Providence announces *Starts At Sunset*, a new community gathering on the Michael S. Van Leesten Memorial Pedestrian Bridge sponsored by the [Providence Tourism Council](#). This unique activation invites artists and observers to experience a night of immersive placemaking with living tableaus set against the backdrop of a picturesque sunset. WaterFire volunteers will be illuminating the bridge with the glow of five braziers.

"We're excited to unveil *Starts at Sunset*, a collaboration with the Providence Tourism Council, that marks the installation of five stationary braziers on the Michael S. Van Leesten Memorial Pedestrian Bridge as the backdrop of a series of new arts events. We thank the City of Providence, the Providence Parks Department, and the 195 District Park for their support in making this new art project a reality," says Peter A. Mello, Managing Director + coCEO of WaterFire Providence.

"The Providence Tourism Council is thrilled to be able to provide the support to activate this area of the river connecting the Downtown to the East Side. This plan has been in the making prior to COVID and we are excited to see it come to life to bring artists, businesses, residents and visitors together for future programming around the Pedestrian Bridge," says Alexis Gorriaran, Chair and Commissioner of the Providence Tourism Council.

Starts at Sunset will take place on Wednesday, August 30th; Thursday September 14th; Saturday, October 28th. On each occasion activities will begin at Sunset and run for approximately two hours.

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The lower deck of the bridge will be transformed into a dedicated performance area, hosting acoustic music and other performances that will accompany the event's overall ambiance. Adding an element of excitement, a fire spinner or flow artist will captivate the audience with their performances on the bridge piers.

In addition to the activation and gathering of artists on the bridge there will be a variety of push carts offering tasty treats organized by Providence Parks Department including the [The Guild Beer Garden](#) which will be located in Innovation Park on the cityside of the bridge and [Tizzy K's Cereal Ice Cream](#) which will be open on the east side of the bridge. On the night August 30th there will also be a [PechaKucha](#) event, with the theme of Memory Palace taking place at the Guild Beer Garden. On October 28th, *Starts at Sunset* will take on a Halloween theme and the City of Providence's [Wicked Walk](#), a family-friendly trick-or-treat experience, will be happening simultaneously on the bridge.

Full details and a complete schedule for *Starts at Sunset* will be available on the WaterFire Providence website with updates being made as performers and other activities are confirmed for each night.

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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 contributing over \$149,000,000 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/>.