

WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE

– CREATIVELY TRANSFORMING OUR CITY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Media Contact

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WaterFire Providence Announces *Starts At Sunset* Happening on Thursday, September 14, 2023

**A New Community Gathering on the Michael S. Van Leesten
Memorial Pedestrian Bridge**

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](#) happening on September 14, 2023. Sunset is at 6:57 p.m. and the five stationary braziers will burn until 9:15 p.m.

"We are elated to invite the public back to the Michael S. Van Leesten Memorial Pedestrian Bridge for another installation of *Starts At Sunset*, a joyous celebration of artmaking and placemaking in the City of Providence," says Peter Mello, Managing Director + coCEO of WaterFire Providence

There will be two live performances happening on the lower deck of the bridge. Catch alternating performances beginning at 6:45 p.m., with poets [Louie.](#), [Vlad](#), [Nelson Tavaraz](#), [Mel](#), and [Charlene D'Sao Nicolau](#), and vocalist [Of Lions And Giants](#). Fire performer, [Spogga](#), will be also fire spinning throughout the night.

[Skyscrapers, Inc.](#) will have three telescopes for visitors to stargaze throughout the evening. [Emily Baroody](#), immersive sound artist, will perform soothing sound baths to compliment the dreamy evening.

There will be two WaterFire Ambassador stations on each side of the bridge; stop by and support WaterFire with a donation or a purchase of locally designed apparel and gifts. Make a quick and easy donation with the DipJar and receive a ribbon of light.

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Indulge in local food fairs and brews organized by Providence Park's like [Tizzy K's Cereal Ice Cream](#) which will be located on South Water Street side, and [The Guild Beer Garden](#) and [Ming's Asian Street Food](#) which will be located in 195 District Park.

Starts at Sunset is part of a three-event series with the last activation happening on Saturday, October 28th. The October event will take on a Halloween theme and coincide with the City of Providence's [Wicked Walk](#), a family-friendly trick-or-treat experience.

Full details and a complete schedule for *Starts at Sunset* will be available on the WaterFire Providence website at waterfire.org/startsatsunset

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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/>.

About Starts At Sunset

Starts At Sunset is a new and unique activation that invites artists and observers to experience a night of immersive placemaking with living tableaux set against the backdrop of a picturesque sunset. WaterFire volunteers will be illuminating the bridge with the glow of five braziers. 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.