

WATERFIRE PROVIDENCE

– CREATIVELY TRANSFORMING OUR CITY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

Media Contact

Ed Cabral, Director of Sponsorships
ed@waterfire.org | 401.451.0445

WaterFire Providence Announces a Special New Years Eve *Starts At Sunset* Activation

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](#) (PTC) happening on December 31, 2023 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The rain date will be January 1, 2024.

"WaterFire is excited to be working with the Providence Tourism Council once again to bring back a special *Starts at Sunset* activation on the 29th anniversary of WaterFire's first lighting in Providence. We join the Providence Tourism Council and the City of Providence in encouraging visitors to join us in celebrating another year of magic by the river." says Peter A. Mello, Managing Director + coCEO of WaterFire Providence.

Catch performances by the [Providence Drum Troupe](#) and the [Extraordinary Rendition Band](#) followed by an Illuminate PVD Fireworks show at 8:30 p.m. Jose Docen from [Of Lions and Giants](#) will be performing from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. inside the PTC tent with refreshments available by Guild PVD Beer Garden.

Visitors can find [A Silent Soapbox](#) roaming on the Michael S. Van Leesten Pedestrian Bridge as the Winter Fairy from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m..

Indulge in local food fairs and brews organized by Providence Park's like [The Guild Beer Garden](#) and [Ming's Asian Street Food](#) which will be located in 195 District Park.

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

###

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.