The Mariners' Park Fall Festival Moves to Iconic Lions Bridge on November 7



Newport News, VA, October 26, 2026 - The Mariners' Museum and Park is preparing for its annual Fall Festival, presented by TowneBank, on **Saturday, November 7, from 1 - 5 p.m.** There will be exciting changes to the Festival this year, with the event taking place on the iconic Lions Bridge. Attendees can take in views of the James River while enjoying family-friendly activities, time on Mariners' Lake®, craft beer and cider tastings, delicious food truck offerings, live music, and more.

For the third consecutive year, TowneBank is the Festival's presenting sponsor. "Supporting local organizations and public spaces is at the heart of our commitment to the communities we serve," said Brian Skinner, president of TowneBank Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina. "TowneBank is honored to partner with The Mariners' Museum and Park once again to help make this beloved community tradition possible and to preserve the natural beauty and recreational opportunities that make Mariners' Park such a treasured regional asset."

The Noland 50K and Relay, courtesy of Flat-Out Events, will precede the Festival at 7:30 a.m. Race and relay participants gain free Festival entrance along with complimentary craft beer and cider tasting tickets. While enjoying the Festival's live music offerings, families can participate in yard games, pumpkin decorating, and a petting zoo provided by Teeny Tiny Farm. Families can also enjoy a unique Fall Festival experience on Mariners' Lake by signing up for canoe paddling near Lions Bridge.

"This festival is our largest, signature event celebrating all that Mariners' Park is to our community," said The Mariners' Senior Director of Advancement, Sabrina Jones. "Moving this year's event to Lions Bridge was intentional; it gives our community a chance to take in the scenic James River and Mariners' Lake on the opposite side. In one day, we are doing what our mission says, connecting people to the water and one another."

Festival admission can be purchased ahead of time online or on the day of the Festival. Admission is $2 per person and free for children 3 years old and younger. Beer and cider tasting tickets are $45 per person ($35 for Museum Members), and can be purchased in advance on the Museum's website as well. Those who purchase their Festival admission or tasting tickets in advance are eligible to receive a free Mariners' Park branded gift (one per household, while supplies last). **Festival proceeds will support the maintenance of Mariners' Park, including the Noland Trail, Mariners' Lake, and Lions Bridge.**

Local breweries participating in the Festival include: Center of the Universe Brewing Co., Triple Crossing Beer, New Realm Brewing Co., Tradition Brewing Co., Commonwealth Brewery, Sly Clyde Cider, Oozlefinch Nost, Alewerks Brewing, Billsburg Brewery, St. George Brewing, Devils Backbone Brewing Co., Coastal Fermentory, and Bold Rock Cider.

Food trucks joining the lineup include: Big Back Burgers, Big Head Dough Co., Catchin' Fish & Chips, Dough Haus, Flame and Pie Mobile Pizzeria, The Happy Poppers, On The Flip Side, Pete's Good Eats, and Weng's Kitchen.

Live music will be provided by Fine Swiss Cheese, SpaceFish, and Rocktane.

Guests planning to consume adult beverages at the Festival must present a valid photo ID. Please visit The Mariners' Park Fall Festival webpage for details about parking and complimentary shuttle service and to buy advance Tasting Tickets. A handicap-accessible drop-off location will be available close to the event site. This event is supported by Flat-Out Events and sponsored by TowneBank, Sentara, Warwick Mechanical Group, PBMares, M. Price Distributing Co., ITA International, and Newport News Shipbuilding.

For interview requests or more information about The Mariners' Museum and Park, media should contact Senior Director of Advancement Sabrina Jones at sjones@MarinersMuseum.org or (757) 591-7708.

About The Mariners' Museum and Park

The Mariners' Museum and Park connects people to the world's waters because through the water – through our shared maritime heritage – we are connected to one another. The organization is an

educational, private 501(c)(3) nonprofit institution accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and preserves and interprets maritime history through an international collection of ship models, figureheads, paintings, and other maritime artifacts. The Mariners' Museum® is home to the USS Monitor Center, and is surrounded by the 550-acre Mariners' Park, the largest privately owned and maintained park that is free and open to the public in North America. The Mariners' Museum Library is the largest maritime library in the Western hemisphere. Because of the Museum's world-class collection and its reputation for high-level exhibits and programs, in 1998, the U.S. Congress designated The Mariners' Museum as one of only two maritime museums that comprise America's National Maritime Museum. The Museum galleries are open to the general public with $1 admission, and the Mariners' team will continue to offer FREE virtual programs for those who prefer to engage online with us or through our social media platforms and blog posts. The Mariners' Park and Noland Trail is open for daily use. For additional information, visit MarinersMuseum.org, call (757) 596-2222 or write to The Mariners' Museum, 100 Museum Drive, Newport News, VA 23606.

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