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## **Festival of Sail (Tall Ships) comes to the Foss Waterway Seaport June 15, 16, 17 & 18**

TACOMA – The Foss Waterway Seaport, Puget Sound’s maritime heritage, education, and event center, will officially welcome and host Festival of Sail 2017.

The Festival of Sail has partnered with the Foss Waterway Seaport to bring over 22 ships to the Thea Foss Waterway. Many of the 22 vessels will feature dockside and on board tours along with day sails of Commencement Bay. Passengers on these day sails may be asked to assist in the raising and maneuvering of the ship’s sails or with steering the ship. The Seaport is also pairing up with the charter boat **My Girl** for daily sailings and guided tours of maritime history and marine life on the waterway and Commencement Bay. Sailing will leave daily June 16, 17 and 18 at 9, 11, 1, 3pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, on site from the South End of the Foss Waterway Seaport, 705 Dock Street. **Tickets are \$20.00 can be purchased on site or from Captain Paul at (253)927-5351.**



The Festival will take place on the historic Thea Foss Waterway between the Museum of Glass and Thea’s Park. The Foss Waterway Seaport is at the center of the festivities, and will feature activities for all ages. The Festival of Sail is a ticketed event and tickets can be purchased at: [ticketfly.com](http://ticketfly.com), [festofsailtacoma.com](http://festofsailtacoma.com), or by calling 1-877-4FLY-TIX. Parking is not included with event ticket purchase. Please plan your transportation in advance due to expected traffic volumes and limited parking adjacent to the Festival. Dock Street will be limited to north bound traffic only. Destiny Harbor Tours will be offering a water taxi service running the length of The Foss Waterway with picks ups at the Museum of Glass in the south and Theas Park in the north end during the Festival.

**Hours of the Festival are: Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>: 11am-7pm, Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>: 9am-5pm**

### **Program highlights include:**

**Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>: Commencement Bank Day with museum hours 11 am to 7 pm**

- **11 am: Parade of Sail**
- **2 pm: Opening Ceremonies**
  - Seaport museum activities.
  - Dockside tours and viewing, day sails and on-board tours, food, beverage and entertainment until 5pm.
  - Parade of Sail start time is subject to the ships individual travel speeds; we cannot publish an exact time. There are no on-board Tours on Thursday.

**Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>: Umpqua Bank Day with museum hours 9 am to 5 pm**

- Seaport museum activities.
- Dockside tours and viewing, day sails and on-board tours, food, beverage and entertainment until 5pm.

**Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>: Key Bank Day with museum hours 9 am to 5 pm**

- Seaport museum activities.
- Dockside tours and viewing, day sails and on-board tours, food, beverage and entertainment until 5pm.

**Sunday, June 18<sup>th</sup>: Key Bank Day with museum hours 9 am to 5 pm**

- Seaport museum activities.
- Dockside tours and viewing, day sails and on-board tours, food, beverage and entertainment until 5pm.

Free admission to the Foss Waterway Seaport Museum during the festival is made possible by our lead sponsor, Titus Will, along with our daily sponsors, Commencement Bank, Umpqua Bank, and Key Bank.

Activities at the Foss Waterway Seaport will include:

- A **Children's Play Zone** featuring a band of **Roving Pirates**, **Pirate Ship Bounce House**, mermaid storytelling, and face painting.
- A **Children's Education Zone** with a variety of educational activities including arts & crafts.
- An exclusive exhibit created for Festival of Sail detailing the history of **Rum Running in Puget Sound**.
- Tours of the **Edward** by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.
- A maritime themed **art show**.
- The **Dead End Shanty Singers** will be performing during the festival

Additional Festival highlights include a free performance at Thea's Park on Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> by **Symphony Tacoma** with Sarah Ioannides directing, and the world's largest rubber duck swimming in the Foss Waterway.

Wesley Wenhardt, Executive Director of the Foss Waterway Seaport, says, "We are delighted to welcome the Festival of Sail and invite the public to come down to the historic Thea Foss Waterway, visit the Seaport Museum, and participate in the ship tours, presentations and sailings to celebrate the rich maritime heritage of Puget Sound."

The theme for the 2017 summer season, **Tacoma: This is Your Waterfront**, highlights the many historic maritime treasures in the Seaport's collection. Throughout the summer, themed programs and weekend activities will use those artifacts as touchstones to connect visitors to their shared past, present, and future, along with enabling visitors to connect to the sailors, ships, rail yards, workers, and The Port of Tacoma which helped shape Puget Sound into the region that it is today.



**Get out on the water** with these lessons and activities: **Paddle Boarding**, July 29; **Sailing**, July 8 and 22; **Kayaking**, July 15; **SeaCamp for Kids** July 24-28 and **The Other Country**, a theatrical play about Thea and Andrew Foss, Aug 10 -13. While you're at the Seaport, don't miss the working heritage boat shop, check out the exploration tanks; explore the fishing exhibit; and more.

The Museum is open Wednesday through Saturday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, and Sunday, Noon – 4:00 PM. Open until 8:00 PM every Third Thursday. Admission is **free for Seaport members**, \$10 for adults, \$8 for children (Age 5+), students, members of the military and seniors (Age 62+), and \$25 for a Family Pass (2

adults and 4 children). The Seaport is also a participating member of the North American Reciprocal Museum Association. Purchasing a NARM family membership allows free or discounted admission to over 800 museums across North America. Parking and public side-tie moorage are available adjacent to the museum. Up to four hours of moorage is free and utilities are available. Moorage is within walking distance of restaurants, museums, and the downtown core.

For more information, please visit: [fosswaterwayseaport.org](http://fosswaterwayseaport.org)