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## PRESS RELEASE

### A WINTER FULL OF GREAT EVENTS AT BLUE CROSS RIVERRINK WINTERFEST

*The winter season begins at the rink with Star Wars, robots, face painting, screen printing and more*

PHILADELPHIA, PA (November 17, 2015): Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest is home to Philly's largest outdoor ice skating rink, a full food and beverage program by Garces Group and Franklin Fountain, and a beautiful winter garden complete with cottages, lighting, and fire pits. **It's also the site of tons of great activities throughout the winter, many of them completely free and open to the public.**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest officially opens to the public with three full days of activities for the entire family including a tribute to Star Wars on Opening Day, featuring the 501<sup>st</sup> Legion Garrison Carida. In addition to ice skating, families can enjoy make and take crafts with 7 Textures LLC and Arden Theater Company, face painting and balloon art, legos, Franklin the Sixers mascot appearances, silk screening with Little Chair Printing and live DJs on Friday and Saturday nights. The complete schedule is at the [Blue Cross RiverRink Website](#), and more details about each activity can be found below.



**[501<sup>st</sup> Legion Garrison Carida](#)** (Nov 27, 11AM-3PM)

Since 1997, the 501st Legion has been dedicated to re-creating film-quality costumes of the “villainous” characters of the *Star Wars* galaxy and entertaining *Star Wars* fans with public appearances. Over the past sixteen years, the 501st has become a leading force in fan-based charity events around the world. Members of the Legion have heightened awareness at promotional events, helped to raise millions of dollars for charity, and spread the magic of *Star Wars* to fans of all ages.

**[Arden Theater Company](#) (Nov 27, 12-5PM; Nov 28, 12-5PM)**

Founded in 1988, Arden Theatre Company is dedicated to bringing to life great stories by great storytellers—on the stage, in the classroom, and in the community. For their work on the stage and through their extensive educational programming, the Arden has received numerous honors including 62 awards and 307 nominations from the Barrymore Awards for Excellence in Theatre, four “Theatre Company of the Year” designations (Philadelphia Inquirer), six Philadelphia Magazine “Best of Philly” awards (including the 2015 “Best Children’s Theatre” Award) and three “Best of Philly Kids” awards, the City Paper’s Reader’s Choice Award, and the prestigious “Great Friend to Kids Award” from the Please Touch Museum. **The Arden is proud to partner with the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation this winter surrounding their production of Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates.** As part of this partnership, the Arden will be creating ice skating themed Christmas ornaments and crafts as part of the Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest Opening Weekend. Additionally, anyone with a Riverrink pass will be able to get \$10 off tickets to Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates, and anyone with an Arden ticket to the show will get \$3 off a skating session at the Riverrink.

**[Fear No Ice](#) (Nov 27)**

Fear No Ice is the world’s premiere ice sculpting company. Fear No Ice uses a combination of action adventure, slapstick, drama and audience participation, to offer unique wintertime experiences. Come out on Opening Day to see them create a giant ice skate sculpture and an ice slide.

**[Little Chair Printing](#) (Nov 27, 4-6PM; Nov 28, 4-6PM; Nov 29, 4-6PM)**

Little Chair Printing is run by Hope Rovelto, a Philadelphia- based ceramic artist and screen printer. Little Chair Printing is wholesale, retail, and community screen printing shop with class for all ages and a mobile Bicycle Screen Printing Shop to pop-up at different events. She will be on-site printing FREE Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest t-shirts all weekend long while supplies last.

**[7Textures](#) (Nov 27, 1-5PM)**

7textures is a boutique creative styling group that designs and crafts experiences and celebrations. 7textures is passionate about sharing Community Arts projects, and will be teaching crafts at two FREE workshops at Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest: Winter Crown Making and Wood & Fiber Ornaments

**[Pumpkin Genie](#) (Nov 28, 12-3PM; Nov 29, 12-3PM)**

Pumpkin Genie provides custom carved pumpkins for home décor and take away crafts. Designers will be on-site carving Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest-specific designs for visitors to take home while supplies last.

**[Wondergy](#) (Nov 27, 1-3PM; Nov 28, 1-3PM; Nov 29, 1-3PM)**

Wondergy shows are interactive, engaging, and full of truly exciting science. From custom laser light shows to liquid nitrogen ice cream, from skateboarding to music, Wondergy shows invite audiences to explore the science of how awesome stuff works. Founded 12 years ago with science birthday parties and special events, Wondergy now visits over a quarter of a million children, teens, and adults each year. Wondergy will be demonstrating robot building and liquid nitrogen ice cream making at Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest.

**[ColonialLUG](#) (Nov 28, 12-4PM)**

Come help build a big ice skating LEGO® sculpture with ColonialLUG, a LEGO® User's Group for enthusiastic teen builders located in Southeastern Pennsylvania. ColonialLUG builds My Own Creations, or MOCs, out of LEGO® bricks and display them at public events, conventions, club meetings, and online. Kids are encouraged to join in by building their own LEGO® sculptures during Opening Weekend.

### **Philly Circus (Nov 27, 2-4PM)**

The Philadelphia School of Circus Arts offers recreational instruction for adults and children in aerial artistry, juggling, and tightwire. Classes are always tailored to ability and easily accessed in our Germantown location. Learn basic circus acts at Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest on Opening Day.

### **[BodyPaint. ME](#) (Nov 27, 12-4PM; Nov 28, 12-4PM; Nov 29, 12-4PM)**

Bodypaint.Me is a group of artists, models, photographers and performers that work together to explore the awesome world of bodypainting. The team will be at the rink all weekend long to provide free face painting for all visitors.

### **[Black Cat Balloon](#) (Nov 27, 1-5PM; Nov 28, 1-5PM; Nov 29, 1-5PM)**

Based in Bucks County, Black Cat Balloon Company provides innovative, family-friendly balloon art entertainment in the Philadelphia area. During Opening Day Weekend, expect lots of balloon ice skates, penguins, crowns, and any other balloon sculpture that you can imagine. All free while supplies last.

### **WHAT:**

#### **Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest Opening Weekend**

Celebrate the opening of Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest with FREE events all weekend long. Join thousands of visitors to see the site's new features including food and drinks by the Garces Group and Franklin Fountain, the city's largest live Christmas tree, the new outdoor cottages and a reconfigured Lodge.

### **WHERE:**

Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest, 101 S. Columbus Boulevard on the Delaware River.

### **WHEN:**

Friday, November 27, 11AM – 1AM

Saturday, November 28, 11AM – 1AM

Sunday, November 29, 11AM – 11PM

Full season: Friday, November 27, 2015 – Sunday, February 28, 2016

### **CONTACT INFO:**

Phone: 215-925-RINK

Email: [riverrink@drwc.org](mailto:riverrink@drwc.org)

Website: [www.riverrink.com](http://www.riverrink.com)

Social Media:

Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#))

Penn's Landing ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#))

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Public Transportation:

Bus Routes 25, 21, 42, 17, 33, 48 and 12 all stop within walking distance of Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest.

SEPTA Market-Frankford Line stops at Second and Market, which is a five minute walk from Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest  
Bike parking on-site. [Ride Indego](#) stations located at Columbus Boulevard at Spruce Street and at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street at Market Street  
Parking: Parking lots located at Market Street and Walnut Street at Columbus Blvd

## PHOTOS

All photos can be found in our press room: <http://www.delawareriverwaterfront.com/footer/hi-res-photos/2015/10/22/blue-cross-riverrink-winterfest-2014-2015> (password is aidemdrwc)

### *Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest Sponsors*

Winter Programming sponsored by [Independence Blue Cross](#), [Coca Cola Refreshments-Philadelphia](#), [Dunkin' Donuts](#), [PNC Bank](#), [Visit Philadelphia](#), and [Philadelphia Magazine](#).

### **About Independence Blue Cross**

[Independence Blue Cross](#) is the leading health insurance organization in southeastern Pennsylvania. With our affiliates, we serve nearly 10 million people in 24 states and the District of Columbia, including 2.5 million in the region. For nearly 80 years, we have been enhancing the health and wellness of the people and communities we serve by delivering innovative and competitively priced health care products and services; pioneering new ways to reward doctors, hospitals, and other health care professionals for coordinated, quality care; and supporting programs and events that promote wellness. To learn more, visit [www.ibx.com](http://www.ibx.com). Connect with us on Facebook at [ibx.com/facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ibx.com/facebook) and on Twitter at [@ibx](https://twitter.com/ibx). Independence Blue Cross is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

### **About the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation**

[DRWC](#) is a 501(c)(3) created in January 2009, exclusively for the benefit of the City of Philadelphia and its citizens. The fundamental purpose of DRWC is to design, develop, program and maintain public amenities such as permanent and seasonal parks, trails, and streetscape improvements to transform the waterfront into a vibrant destination for recreational, cultural, and commercial activities for the residents and visitors of Philadelphia as is consistent with the goals of the Master Plan for the Central Delaware. Daily programming throughout the entire year is changing the way Philadelphians see and converse about the waterfront, and is helping to create spaces and communities that connect residents and visitors to the waterfront.

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