









# For Immediate Release

Media contact:
Kaitlyn Haney on behalf of DRWC
Khaney@signature57.com

# Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Waterfront & Mummers Parade, Celebrating 125 years of Mummers Tradition, Set the Stage for Spectacular Start to 2026

Philadelphia to welcome Nation's Semiquincentennial with bigger, brighter, and more accessible fireworks cued by sibling of the Liberty Bell, paired with Mummers parade to remember

PHILADELPHIA (November 6, 2025) — The <u>Delaware River Waterfront Corporation</u> (DRWC), producer of Philadelphia's iconic Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Waterfront, and organizers of the city's beloved <u>Mummers Parade</u>, came together today to announce their plans to ring in the new year, as the nation prepares to celebrate its 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2026.

DRWC announced the return of **Visit PA** as the presenting sponsor of the Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks at 6 PM and midnight, promising bigger and brighter fireworks than ever before. This year, **three firework barges** will be strategically positioned along the Waterfront for both shows, providing spectacular, free viewing opportunities from multiple vantage points across the city. Additional ticketed festivities will further the fun at **Cherry Street Pier** and **Independence Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest**. To cue the fireworks, the **National Liberty Museum** will bring the **younger "sibling" to the Liberty Bell** – a fully operational replica cast from the same mold and foundry – to **ring in the New Year**.

On New Year's Day, the celebration will continue when the **Mummers Parade**, celebrating **125 years of Mummers tradition**, welcomes the United States' Semiquincentennial. While the parade is free, the **Philadelphia Visitor Center** offers tickets to the Mummers Parade City Hall Viewing Areas. Tickets are available online and in-person at the Visitor Center's four locations (Independence Visitor Center, City Hall Visitor Center, LOVE Park Visitor Center, Parkway Visitor Center). For the first time this year, tickets are available for purchase and pick up at the Mummers Museum.

"Philadelphia has long set the stage for history, and as we welcome 2026, the Waterfront will show our Philly pride as we light up the sky with our Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks," said **Joseph A. Forkin, President & CEO, DRWC.** "We invite everyone to come together at the Waterfront to celebrate our nation – and Philadelphia, the city where America was born – and kick off this once-in-a-generational year with us."











"2026 is Pennsylvania's moment, and we're ready to deliver, beginning with an unbelievable fireworks show to celebrate the United States' 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday," said **Anne Ryan, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Deputy Secretary of Tourism**. "Visit PA is proud to help make the New Year's Eve Fireworks bolder and brighter than ever before, inviting more visitors to experience all that Pennsylvania has to offer. Whether you're a lifelong resident or first-time visitor, Pennsylvania in 2026 is where you want to be, and it starts with New Year's in Philadelphia."

"As America approaches its 250th anniversary, the National Liberty Museum is proud to mark this milestone with the sound of liberty itself," said **Alaine Arnott, President and CEO of the National Liberty Museum**. "As the Liberty Bell's younger sibling —made in the same foundry from the same mold—we hope that the ringing of our bell in 2026 can be a uniting force, reminding Americans of all backgrounds and ideologies that despite our differences, liberty is enduring, so long as we protect it together."

"What an honor it is to be able to speak on behalf of the Mummers Parade at such a momentous, historic double milestone—the 250th anniversary of our beloved nation, and the celebration of 125 years of the Mummers tradition," said **Sam Regalbuto, President, Philadelphia Mummers String Band Association.** "We aim to play a meaningful role in Philadelphia's celebration of this commemorative occasion, proudly showcasing our unique culture to fans across the globe."

"There is simply no better place to celebrate 2026 than right here on the Delaware River, in Philadelphia's Historic District, where America began," said **Kathryn Ott Lovell, President & CEO, Philadelphia Visitor Center**. "Traditions like the Mummers Parade and New Year's Eve fireworks at Penn's Landing give visitors the chance to explore Philly's history while looking ahead to an epic year for our city, state, and nation."

\*\*Photos from the announcement festivities: <u>LINKED HERE</u> \*\*

Photos courtesy of the Austin Marsdale, Delaware River Waterfront Corporation.

# Overview of Events & New Year's Happenings: New Year's Eve Festivities at the Delaware River Waterfront December 31, 2025

Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Waterfront | Two Shows: 6 PM & midnight Overlooking Philadelphia's Central Delaware River Waterfront, the New Year's Eve Fireworks are back and bigger than ever providing spectacular, free viewing opportunities from multiple vantage points across the city.











While the National Liberty Museum's replica Liberty Bell is onsite to play the important role of "ringing in" the fireworks, the Bell will also be there for visitors and guests to touch, take photos, and interact with in honor of the United States' 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The fireworks are made possible by Visit PA, with additional support from the City of Philadelphia, Visit Philadelphia, NBC 10/ Telemundo 62, and KYW Newsradio. Those unable to make the festivities in person can tune into KYW Newsradio 1060 AM or 103.9 FM to hear the fireworks soundtracks timed with the fireworks at 6 pm and Midnight to join the fun at home.

Guests can also purchase tickets to timed celebrations at Cherry Street Pier and Independence Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest, by visiting: <u>RiverRink.com</u> or <u>CherryStreetPier.com</u>.

# Cherry Street Pier

121 N. Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19106

 New Year's Eve Kids Countdown with PopUpPlay, 5 PM – 7 PM Tickets:

\$23 per person \*Advanced pricing through Dec.15 \$27 per person \*Pricing after Dec.15 Free admission for children 2 and under

Celebrate New Year's Eve early with family fun, hands-on activities, and front-row views of the Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Waterfront at 6 PM. With a balloon drop and exclusive fireworks viewing from the Pier, the event also offers music, activities, crafts, and warming stations. A cash bar is available for guests 21+

New Year's Eve on the Pier, 10 PM – 1 AM
 \*Must be 21+

Tickets:

\$28 per person \* Advanced pricing through Dec.15 \$32 per person \*Pricing after Dec.15

Ring in 2026 on the Waterfront with live music and performances, dancing, and unbeatable front-row views of the Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks at midnight. Cash bar onsite, and giveaways while supplies last.

- Independence Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest
  - 101 South Columbus Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA
    - New Year's Eve Parties on Ice, 5 PM 8 PM & 10 PM 1 AM











Tickets:

Skater: \$57 | Spectator: \$47 \*Advanced pricing through Dec. 15

Skater: \$63 | Spectator: \$53 \*Pricing after Dec. 15

Ring in 2026 in style with Parties on Ice, featuring two festive sessions, live entertainment, and the best views of the Visit PA New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Waterfront. With ice skating, prime fireworks views from the Rink, interactive activities including a complimentary ride on the Ferris wheel. Light bites including soft drinks and water will be offered while supplies last, with concessionaires open for additional items for purchase, including a cash bar for those 21+.

#### **NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES & FIREWORKS HIGH-RES IMAGES**

Use password: aidemdrwc

• Fireworks and New Year's Eve on Ice: <u>linked here</u>

• New Year's at Cherry Street Pier: <u>linked here</u>

#### NATIONAL LIBERTY MUSEUM BELL IMAGES: <u>linked here</u>

Courtesy of the National Liberty Museum

# The Mummers Parade – Celebrating 125 Years of Mummer's Tradition in Philadelphia

January 1, 2026, 9 AM

\*Fancy Brigade Finale Shows, 11:30 AM & 5 PM

Since 1901, Philadelphia has rung in the New Year with the **Mummers Parade**, featuring more than 10,000 participants in vibrant, hand-crafted costumes strutting down Broad Street. The Parade includes over 40 organized clubs across five divisions – Comics, Wench Brigades, Fancies, String Bands, and Fancy Brigades – each performing and competing for top honors.

The final pick up for tickets will be 3 pm on December 31, 2025 at the Independence Visitor Center (599 Market Street) or the Mummers Museum (1100 S 2nd Street).











#### **2026 PARADE DETAILS**

#### ROUTE

The 2026 Mummers Parade begins at City Hall, starting at 9 AM and will continue South to Washington Avenue until 7 PM. The judging will take place on the West side of City Hall and Dilworth Plaza. Seats in this area are available for purchase. Entertainers will perform during the parade route with special viewing areas at 17th & Market Streets, and along Broad Street at Samson, Pine, and Carpenter Streets.

### LINEUP

This year's parade will include 1 Fancy club, 10 Wench Brigades, 3 Comic clubs, and 14 String Bands. Each division will be ready to perform elaborate Broadway-style productions for their fans. In addition to these performances, there will be appearances from Mummers personalities and parade sponsors throughout the Mummers march down Broad Street.

### • STAGING AREAS

Beginning at 11 AM, fans are invited to visit the String Bands in their respective staging areas along Market Street and JFK Boulevard as they put the finishing touches on their 2026 routines before they perform live in front of City Hall. Each String Band will be staged on Market St from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> streets and along JFK Boulevard from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> streets.

### TUNE IN

For those who are unable to attend the parade in person, the Mummers Parade will be broadcast live on WDPN-TV (MeTV2), <u>WFMZ.com</u>, and the WFMZ+ mobile app.

MUMMERS PARADE HIGH-RES IMAGES: <u>DropBox Link Here</u>

Photo Credit: Bobb Watts

For more information about DRWC's New Year's Eve festivities, please visit <u>delawareriverwaterfront.com</u>. For tickets to the Mummers Parade, please visit <u>https://www.phlvisitorcenter.com/mummers-ticket</u>.

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

The Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC) is the nonprofit responsible for planning, developing, and maintaining public spaces along Philadelphia's Central Delaware River Waterfront. With a mission to create a welcoming and connected Waterfront for all, DRWC blends design, culture, and community to transform formerly industrial land into beloved public destinations. DRWC's year-round programming, parks, and trails—including











Spruce Street Harbor Park, Cherry Street Pier, Race Street Pier, and the Delaware River Trail—welcome hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. Through thoughtful placemaking and strategic investment, DRWC continues to shape a vibrant waterfront that reflects the spirit of Philadelphia and strengthens its future. Learn more at delawareriverwaterfront.com.

### **About the Mummers Parade:**

For over 120 years, Philadelphia has rung in the new year with a festive celebration, The Mummers Parade. More than 10,000 men, women, and children in lavish, glittering costumes do the "Mummers Strut" down Broad Street, stopping to perform at three performance areas along the way as part of a fierce competition. The Mummers are comprised of 40+ organized clubs, categorized into five divisions that each have their own performance specialty, and compete against each other for bragging rights, the Comics, Wench Brigades, Fancies, String Bands, and Fancy Brigades.

mummerssales.com.

#### **About Visit PA:**

The Great American Getaway isn't a single pin on a map — it's all of Pennsylvania. With nearly 72 million people living within a four-hour drive, thousands of unique experiences are just a weekend away. Stay in-the-know on everything happening in Pennsylvania at <a href="https://www.visitpa.com">visitpa.com</a>

### **About the Philadelphia Visitor Center:**

The Philadelphia Visitor Center (PVC) connects visitors to memorable, authentic, and fun Philly experiences at our four visitor center locations: 6th and Market, City Hall, Love Park, and the Parkway. It facilitates the operation of the Independence Visitor Center, the primary point of orientation for Independence National Historical Park and the official visitor center of the Philadelphia region, including Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties. PVCC also operates the Philly PHLASH seasonal public transit service, and The Liberty View, a private event space at The Independence Visitor Center overlooking the Liberty Bell and Independence Mall. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.phlvisitorcenter.com">www.phlvisitorcenter.com</a>.

# **About NLM:**

At the <u>National Liberty Museum</u>, we stand as proof that the exploration of liberty is not just a passive experience – we take you on an active journey that engages, informs, and inspires. Our diverse array of programs and events invite visitors of all ages to delve deeper into the values of freedom and democracy that are foundational to our society. From thought-provoking panel discussions and immersive tours to hands-on artist-led workshops and unique after-hours gatherings, we offer a vibrant calendar of things to do in Old City Philadelphia.









