FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ANNOUNCING 35TH ANNUAL TALL SHIPS & OCEAN FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 6 – 8, 2019

A Cultural Event Bringing Maritime History to Life
with Cannon Battles, Concerts, Food, and Entertainment

DANA POINT, Calif. (July 23, 2019) – In celebration of California’s rich maritime history, the Ocean Institute will host a fleet of historic tall ships in Dana Point Harbor for their annual festival and reveal their newly restored Maritime History Center.

After 35 successful years, Ocean Institute’s 2019 Tall Ships Festival returns to the Dana Point Harbor for 3 spectacular days - September 6th, 7th, and 8th. History comes alive, as crews from each ship, along with historical re-enactors, engage the public in cannon battles, pirate adventures, mermaid encounters, ship tours, live music and much more. Participating ships this year include: The Brig Pilgrim, Spirit of Dana Point, America, Bill of Rights, and Curlew. Full event schedule and ticket information below.

Special events this year include Friday and Saturday evening Sales ‘N Ales, featuring beer from Sierra Nevada, plus wine from Baja United and beer tastings from: Lost Winds Brewing, Bottle Logic Brewing, Docent Brewing, Four Sons, Firestone Walker, and Bravus Brewing. Evening Music curated by Music Preserves Foundation; Friday night by Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers. Saturday night by Billy Sherman & Friends with Surf Reggae.

Special headlining band for Saturday afternoon is the local band legend, Tijuana Dogs. Plus, Sierra Nevada will continue to host the Beer Garden. Food trucks and pop-up shops will be found throughout the festival. Entertainment for the whole family includes a range of activities, including ship tours, gold panning, mermaid swim shows, long boat rowing, cannon battles, bounce houses and more!

“We appreciate the support that the Dana Point community has shown towards the Tall Ships Festival,” states Dan Pingaro, CEO and President of the Ocean Institute. “Dana Point is known as the town for music, and we’re excited to add more emphasis on music this year along with the other festivities!”

Festival corporate sponsor of 20+ years, Toshiba, is making a big impact on the technology present for 2019. In addition to contributing $50,000 to Ocean Institute, the company is donating two digital wayfinding devices called Virtuoso, which provide an interactive solution for high-use environments and allow you to inform, educate, entertain or influence all via the power of touch. Other sponsors include Charles Schwab and CIBC.

Ocean Institute will have the Grand Opening of the updated Maritime History Center on Saturday, September 7, 2019. Located in the Chilcote Family Custom House directly across from the brig Pilgrim, the Maritime History Center brings to life the history of Alta California from the 1840s through the present day. Step in to 1840’s California to learn the ropes of a sailor aboard a trade ship, study the impact of Richard Henry Dana Jr. on American maritime laws, and share your own memories of your time aboard the replica brig Pilgrim. The Maritime History Center is open to the public for free Monday – Sunday 10:00am to 2:00pm trying your hand at panning for gold for $5.00 per person.

(more)
2019 Daily Festival Schedule
(In Progress)

Friday, September 6
4:30pm Cannon Battles
6:00pm Sails ‘n Ales Night One
6:00pm Interview & Live Music, presented by Music Preserves

Saturday, September 7
9:00am Breakfast with a Mermaid
10:00am – 5:00pm Festival
2:00pm Tijuana Dogs Concert
4:30pm Cannon Battles
6:00pm Sails ‘n Ales Night Two
6:00pm Interview & Live Music, presented by Music Preserves

Sunday, September 8
9:00am Breakfast with a Mermaid
10:00am – 5:00pm Festival
4:30pm Cannon Battles

Ticket pricing is as follows:
Adult Festival Pass: $15
Child Festival Pass: $12.50
Children under 2 years old are free.

Please visit https://www.ocean-institute.org/tall-ships-festival to purchase tickets and learn more information.

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About Ocean Institute
Ocean Institute is a highly respected ocean science, maritime history and experiential education nonprofit located in Dana Point Harbor, California. Its modern campus is adjacent to the Dana Point State Marine Conservation Area, and encompasses 33,000 square feet of hands-on exhibits, science labs and an aquarium collection of 1,100 live specimens of local marine life. Ocean Institute serves over 100,000 students, teachers and families each year with a hands-on approach to ocean-related science, research and conservation. Ocean Institute’s diverse elementary, middle and high school program inventory is STEM-focused and aligned with California Common Core Standards. To learn more about Ocean Institute, please visit www.oceaninstitute.org.

About Music Preserves Foundation
Music Preserves Foundation inspires and educates our community through the preservation and presentation of music. We provide cultural enrichment opportunities for the community and educational music and arts programs to students in Orange County and throughout Southern California. To learn more, please visit: www.musicpreserves.org