



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **San Diego Bay Parade of Lights “Arrgh! A Pirate’s Christmas” on the Bayfront December 10 and 17**

**SAN DIEGO**— Continuing its long-standing San Diego tradition, the 46<sup>th</sup> annual San Diego Bay Parade of Lights promises to dazzle and entertain bayfront crowds during the evenings of December 10 and 17, 2017. Participants in this year’s highly anticipated holiday boat parade will decorate their boats to fit this year’s theme, “Arrgh! A Pirate’s Christmas.”

Presented by the [Port of San Diego](#), the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights brings more than 100,000 San Diego residents and visitors to the shores of San Diego Bay each year. The procession of approximately 80 lavishly decorated boats has become one of the most iconic events in the region.

Beginning at 5 p.m. each night, the parade starts at Shelter Island and proceeds to Harbor Island, the Embarcadero, Seaport Village, the Pier at Cesar Chavez Park, and ends at the Ferry Landing in Coronado. The parade takes about an hour to pass any given point and there are many comfortable waterfront viewpoints along the route. A [map](#) of the route is available on the San Diego Bay Parade of Light’s website. Due to increased traffic and parking demand, observers are encouraged to plan ahead or take the trolley.

For added insight into the participating boats, viewers can watch the parade from near the announcers’ areas. Announcers will be located at the Maritime Museum on the Embarcadero and at Coronado Landing. As each boat passes these viewing points, the announcers offer a brief history and description of the participating vessels.

This year there will be judges at two points along the parade route, the Maritime Museum and the docks at Poehle’s Restaurant in Coronado. Participating boats must pass both sets of judges to be eligible for prizes. This year’s judges include individuals from:

- Miramar Museum Curator
- LGBT Board
- Retired Military
- San Diego Police Department
- Retired Travel Agent
- Notary Republic
- Southwestern Yacht Club Member
- Towboat US San Diego
- United Airlines – Retired
- San Diego Yacht Club Member
- Coronado Yacht Club Member

Awards are presented to the best decorated boats and those that truly capture the event’s theme. All participants receive a participant plaque and are invited to the awards dinner, held Thursday, January 11, 2018 at Tom Ham’s Lighthouse, where a wide variety of prizes will be raffled off.

Everyone who participates in both nights of the parade and passes both sets of judges will be eligible to win the above prizes.

Boat owners interested in participating in this year's San Diego Bay Parade of Lights are strongly urged to submit the registration form and the \$50 entry fee online at [www.sdparadeoflights.org](http://www.sdparadeoflights.org). If participants cannot submit the entry form and payment online, registration forms can be downloaded and submitted to the Bali Hai Restaurant at 2230 Shelter Island Drive. The fee covers both evenings, and watercrafts of all sizes are encouraged to participate. For more information, call 619-224-2240 or email [questions@sdparadeoflights.org](mailto:questions@sdparadeoflights.org).

If interested in sponsoring the San Diego Bay Parade of Lights, please contact Joni Geis at 619-823-5220 or via email at [joni@boatlenderusa.com](mailto:joni@boatlenderusa.com), or Kat Ohlmann at 858-488-4091 or via email at [kato4boats@yahoo.com](mailto:kato4boats@yahoo.com).

San Diego Bay Parade of Lights is sponsored by the Port of San Diego's Tidelands Activation Program, designed to bring our dynamic waterfront alive with events that engage the community and inspire visitors to enjoy San Diego Bay.

### **San Diego Bay Parade of Lights**

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights is a time-honored tradition brought to the San Diego Bay by the boating community. Each year, more than 80 lavishly decorated boats proceed around the San Diego Bay on two consecutive Sundays in December. For more information, please visit [www.sdparadeoflights.org](http://www.sdparadeoflights.org).

### **About the Port of San Diego's Tidelands Activation Program:**

Port of San Diego Experiences includes the Tidelands Activation Program (TAP). TAP awards grant funds and waives service fees to community organizations for public events along the waterfront that connect visitors and residents to new cultures and vibrant activities. Artistic and cultural exhibitions, along with exclusive interactive installations inspire visitors and residents to push the boundaries of creativity. Additionally, Port Experiences sponsors and hosts events across San Diego Bay, including organized runs, parades, cultural festivals, concerts and more.

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