

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 30, 2009

Central Oklahoma Transportation & Parking Authority

300 SW 7th | Oklahoma City, OK 73109 | gometro.org

Media Contact: Michael Scroggins, Public Information Manager

Office: (405) 297-2107 michael.scroggins@okc.gov

2009 Season Launches with More Cruise Options

Tickets Now Available Online for Advance Purchase

Oklahoma River Cruises announces the launch of its 2009 season beginning Wednesday, April 1. In its second year, the Oklahoma River Cruises has expanded its offerings to include more unique cruise experiences for guests of all ages—and for the first time, tickets are now available for advance purchase online at okrivercruises.com.

"We're anticipating a great year and fully expect to double the number of public patrons we serve," said Stephen P.J. Stanionis a.k.a. Captain Steve, general manager of Hornblower Marine Services-Oklahoma Inc. "We're offering Sunset Cruises every Friday and Saturday along with several new themed cruises. As we go forward, we genuinely hope everyone sees the River Cruises as downtown Oklahoma City's newest jewel."

Public Cruises

Since its launch in April 2008, Oklahoma River Cruises has been carrying passengers along its scenic seven-mile route on the Oklahoma River between Meridian Landing at SW 15th and Meridian and Regatta Park Landing at SW 7th and Byers.

Cruises depart Wednesday through Sunday and last approximately one hour and fifteen minutes one-way. Boarding is 10 minutes prior to departure. For guests of Oklahoma River Cruises, each paid river fare includes day pass privileges on the Trolleys. The Trolleys travel between Regatta Park and Meridian Landing, as well as in Bricktown, Downtown, Stockyards City and the Meridian Corridor.

Themed Cruises

From daytime educational excursions to evening celebrations, themed cruises offer a special twist to your cruise experience.

Sunset Cruises

Every Friday and Saturday night from 7:30 to 9 p.m., guests can wind down the day with a Sunset Cruise featuring refreshing beverages and delicious hors' de oeuvres from local favorite, Nonna's Euro-American Ristorante and Bar.

History Comes Alive

The Oklahoma History Center makes time travel possible with live reenactments of historical characters including Wiley Post, a Land Run Settler, Cattle Drive Cowboy and an Oilfield Roughneck. Cruises will run every second and fourth Saturday of the month from May 9 to August 22. Departure times are 1 p.m. from Regatta Park landing and 2:30 p.m. from Meridian landing.

Saturday Morning Children's Cartoon Series

Venture back to the good 'ole days and watch Bugs Bunny, Popeye and Wile E. Coyote chasing the Road Runner on our flat-screen TV's. These classic cartoons are sure to bring back memories for some and help create new ones. Cruises will run every Saturday from April 25 to September 26. Departure times are 10 a.m. from Regatta Park landing and 11:30 a.m. from Meridian Landing.

Sunday Sensation LIVE

Enjoy a sweet melody or a magical surprise during the Sunday Sensation cruise featuring local talent including solo musicians, vocalists and magicians. Cruises will run every Sunday from May 10 to October 25. Departure times are 4 p.m. from Meridian Landing and 5:30 p.m. from Regatta Park Landing. An additional \$5 per ticket will be applied to the public cruise rates.

Private Cruises

The Oklahoma River Cruisers continues to offer an unforgettable venue for special events or professional meetings. From weddings, anniversaries and reunions to birthdays, award presentations and holiday celebrations, the River Cruises accommodate up to 35 guests with catering, entertainment and audio/visual equipment available.

Be sure to check the Oklahoma River Cruisers calendar weekly at www.okrivercruises.com for the latest information on public cruises and upcoming themed cruises. Tickets are sold online in advance with remaining available seats sold onboard and at the Regatta Park Landing ticket booth. Seating is limited, early reservations are recommended. For reservations, book online at okrivercurises.com or call (405) 702-7755 or (866) 825-6363.

###