



For Immediate Release:

September 27, 2017

TICKETS GO ON SALE NOVEMBER 6 FOR NOLA CHRISTMASFEST 2017

Holiday Activities Expand at New Orleans Convention Center Celebration

(NEW ORLEANS) – The New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center today announced that individual and group tickets for one of the largest and fastest growing family holiday events on the Gulf Coast – the **2017 NOLA ChristmasFest** – will go on sale at www.nolachristmasfest.com beginning **Monday, November 6**. The Fifth Annual NOLA ChristmasFest kicks off Thursday, December 21 and continues through Sunday, December 31.

The popular family holiday extravaganza will feature the only indoor ice skating rink in New Orleans as well as two captivating, 120-foot real ice slides. Along with an expanded Gingerbread House Exhibit, there will be a 10-foot, walk-through gingerbread house for photos and visits with lovable characters.

For 11 fun-filled days, people of all ages will experience the magic of the season amidst scores of decorated Christmas trees and thousands of dazzling lights inside the, weather-controlled festival. More than a half dozen themed inflatables and carnival rides will enhance the experience, including the Kringle Carousel, Winter Whirl, Blitzen Flyer, Polar Express and Snowy Summit Climbing Wall. The Snowball Fight Zone, Children’s Craft Area, holiday characters, life-size maze and

themed-movies will also be returning to the indoor celebration, together with some soon-to-be-announced special events. Back by popular demand, 30-minute, private ice skating lessons will be provided by Ice Ambassadors before opening daily.

To commemorate the city's Tricentennial, a "One Time in New Orleans" interactive center will be open on selected days to allow NOLA ChristmasFest participants to share their best New Orleans memories on video for the world to see.

NOLA ChristmasFest visitors will also have the opportunity to take photos with Santa and several of his North Pole friends. The Christmas festival will take place inside **Hall I** at the **New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center** and will be open from **11 a.m. to 9 p.m.** each day. Special hours on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Christmas Day from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Pay One Price tickets are \$20 per person for admission and will include skating, skate rentals, admission to all rides and attractions. Skating lessons, photos with Santa, face painting and cookie decorating will be at an additional charge. Group tickets are available for only \$15 each when 50 or more tickets are purchased in advance. Convenient parking will be provided directly across from the NOLA ChristmasFest entrance at Hall I for only \$10.

Convention Center Boulevard will once again be decked in holiday décor and mesmerizing lights synced to traditional and contemporary Christmas music. This year's display will extend for nearly two miles, lighting the way to NOLA ChristmasFest from Poydras to Henderson Streets connecting with the stretch of holiday lights along Canal Street.

Businesses can host their corporate holiday parties and events at NOLA ChristmasFest by emailing info@nolachristmasfest.com.

About the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

With 1.1 million square feet of contiguous exhibit space, an award winning staff and first class amenities, the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

(MCCNO) is the sixth largest convention center in the nation, a consistent Top 10 host of the largest number of conventions and tradeshow annually, and one of the city's "Top Workplaces." A leading rainmaker of the city's hospitality industry, MCCNO event activity has produced \$53.7 billion in economic impact since its 1985 opening, including \$3.4 billion in new tax revenue for state and local governments.

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MEDIA CONTACTS

Diane Lyons | 504.524.1227 | dlyons@accent-dmc.com

Steve Schulken | 504.401.6990 | steve@schulken.com
