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History and Theatre On Board the Oklahoma River Cruises Themed Cruises Provide Passengers a Peek at the Past

Cruising the Oklahoma River is a front seat to the transformation of the area – a glimpse of the future through some of the many remarkable developments underway in the city. This summer as passengers cruise the Oklahoma River, they can envision the prospects and simultaneously experience the past. Two themed cruises on the panorama of the river provide natives and visitors to the state a novel way to encounter history and explore their inner actor.

The History Comes Alive Cruises feature colorful Oklahoma characters that reenact history through the eyes of those who created it. This season's characters include Rosie the Riveter, an 1890s US Territorial Marshal, a 1870s Cowboy, a Suffragist, participants of the Land Run and the Civic War as well as Anna Overholser from 1910's Society.

The themed cruise is a partnership with the Oklahoma History Center. The Center's Director of Education, Jason Harris, said the Oklahoma River Cruises provide a chance for staff and volunteers to work with the public in a new and exciting venue. "Our mission is to collect, preserve and share Oklahoma history and one way we share is through living history," said Harris.

Harris also noted the river boats offer a way to share Oklahoma's unique history with people from outside the metro area and outside the state.

The History Comes Alive performances are every Saturday through August 20th. The cruises depart at noon from Regatta Park and at 12:45 from the Exchange Landing.

Another themed cruise that offers a peek into the past is Shakespeare on the River. William Shakespeare is the guide for the passengers on this cruise. He tells about his relationship with his river the Thames, and his theatre, The Globe, in London of the 1500s-1600s. Passengers can release their inner actor as they are quizzed on Shakespeare's works and enjoy poetry from the Bard.

Shakespeare on the River is a partnership between Oklahoma River Cruises and Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park. The cruises are Sunday at noon departing from Regatta Park and 12:45 from the Exchange Landing. Shakespeare on the River cruises are available through September 4.

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Tickets are \$12 for the round trip, \$6 for seniors and children 6-12 years old. Tickets can be purchased online at okrivercruises.com, by calling (405) 702-7755, and directly on board.

For more information about departure locations and parking, visit okrivercruises.com.

About Oklahoma River Cruises

The Oklahoma River Cruises are METRO Transit's newest service line. METRO Transit, a division of the Central Oklahoma Transportation and Parking Authority (COTPA), serves as Central Oklahoma's public transportation agency. COTPA, a public trust administered by the City of Oklahoma City, is responsible for providing downtown parking alternatives and safe, efficient and convenient public transportation to the citizens of the greater Oklahoma City metropolitan area.

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