



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contacts:**

Jon Kaplan  
(312) 595-5136  
[jkaplan@navypier.com](mailto:jkaplan@navypier.com)

Payal Patel  
(312) 595-5073  
[ppatel@navypier.com](mailto:ppatel@navypier.com)

**NAVY PIER TO AWARD 100 CHICAGOLAND NONPROFITS  
WITH 100 RIDES ON THE NEW *CENTENNIAL WHEEL***

*Application Period for Eligible 501(c)(3) Organizations Open June 1 to June 24*

**CHICAGO** – Following its grand opening celebration over Memorial Day weekend, Navy Pier has unveiled a new community initiative for the *Centennial Wheel*. In honor of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Navy Pier will partner with 100 Chicagoland nonprofits, awarding each a special package to experience the reimagined Pier, including up to 100 free rides on the *Centennial Wheel* to share with the communities they serve.

“We are incredibly proud to celebrate Navy Pier’s 100<sup>th</sup> year with a program that affirms our commitment to the people of Chicago and to join the amazing array of nonprofit organizations that support our communities,” said Marilyn Kelly Gardner, President and CEO of Navy Pier, Inc., the nonprofit organization established to maintain and oversee the redevelopment of Navy Pier. “As we step into the next century, we plan to continue elevating this living landmark with programs and events that support and delight Chicagoans.”

Applications are currently being accepted, and eligible nonprofits are invited to complete Navy Pier’s [online application](#) by June 24, 2016, to be considered for the program. Eligible organizations include Chicagoland 501(c)(3) nonprofits in good standing, with primary

constituency located in Cook, Dekalb, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Kenosha (WI), Lake, Lake (IN), McHenry, Porter (IN), and/or Will counties.

Winning nonprofits will be announced on July 15, 2016 as part of the ongoing Fifth Third Bank Centennial Celebration®. All complimentary *Centennial Wheel* tickets will be valid for use between September 7, 2016 and May 17, 2017. Eligible organizations may also apply for a transportation stipend to be provided by Navy Pier. For additional details on the program or to fill out an application for your organization, visit [navypier.com](http://navypier.com).

### **About Navy Pier**

Located on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is the top-attended leisure destination in the Midwest, stretching more than six city blocks and welcoming more than 8 million guests annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, this Chicago landmark showcases more than 50 acres of parks, restaurants, attractions, retail shops, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exposition facilities and more. In 2016, Navy Pier celebrates its 100th anniversary with a series of special events and programming, the grand opening of its new *Centennial Wheel* and ongoing pier-wide redevelopment efforts as part of the Centennial Vision. Navy Pier, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization, maintains and oversees Navy Pier and its redevelopment into a bolder, greener and more contemporary urban space. For more information, visit our website at [www.navypier.com](http://www.navypier.com).

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