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Mariners' Craft Beer Festival features 40 craft beers

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. – The Mariners' Museum will host its second annual Craft Beer Festival on May 3, 2014, from Noon to 5 p.m. The event follows the success of this past year's festival, which drew more than 1,500 people.

“What sets our festival apart is that – not only will we have a wide selection of beers – we will have representatives from 15 of those breweries on site, as well,” said Nancy Newman, The Mariners' Museum's Director of Special Events.

This year's event features several changes, including expanded space, additional food options and more breweries. There will be 40 craft beers offered, and representatives will be at each tasting tent to answer questions. The brewing companies will give “beer talks” at intervals throughout the day, and there will be live music provided by two bands. The event is held primarily in the Museum's spacious East Courtyard.

Advance-purchase tickets are only \$30 for Members and \$35 for non-members, and \$45 for everyone at the door. Non-drinker tickets are available for \$15.

The ticket price includes a wristband good for 20 4-ounce tastings, a commemorative beer glass, live music, the beer talks and admission to all exhibitions in the Museum for the day.

The breweries in attendance will include: Alewerks, Anheuser-Busch, Bold Rock, Devils Backbone, Goose Island, Heavy Seas, Legends, Lonerider: Ales for Outlaws, New Belgium, O'Connors, Smart Mouth, St. George, Starr Hill, Sunken City and SweetWater.

The Mariners' Museum, an educational, non-profit institution accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is home to the USS *Monitor* Center, and is surrounded by the 550-acre Mariners' Museum Park, the largest privately maintained park open to the public in North America. The Mariners' Museum Library, housed at Christopher Newport University, is the largest maritime library in the Western Hemisphere. For more information, visit www.MarinersMuseum.org.