

Arrival Of New Orleans' Newest Cruise Ship, Carnival Triumph, Celebrated With Fun Charity Event On Board Benefiting Four Local Music Organizations

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Latest Capacity Increase Will Result in 450,000 Carnival Cruise Passengers Annually From New Orleans - Most of Any Cruise Operator

MIAMI, April 4, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- To celebrate the arrival of New Orleans' newest cruise ship, Carnival Triumph, Carnival Cruise Line and the Port of New Orleans today hosted an entertaining charity event with representatives from four local music organizations competing for \$35,000 in donations to music charities.

Trumpeter/vocalist Shamarr Allen, competing on behalf of the Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong Jazz C singer Robin Barnes, competing for the Tipitina's Foundation; saxophonist Derek Douget, representing The New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival and Foundation; and Rebirth Brass Band Drummer and Roots of Music Co-Founder Derrick Tabb participated in a series of hilarious "minute-to-win it" games with Tipitina's Foundation taking home first prize of \$15,000. The other groups split \$20,000 in runner-up contributions toward the charities each were representing.

Officials from Carnival Cruise Line, including Carnival Triumph Captain Alessandro Iemmi, Vice President of Commercial Port Operations Carlos Torres de Navarra and Vice President of Field Sales Mike Julius, along with Port of New Orleans President and CEO Gary LaGrange hosted a traditional maritime plaque exchange to commemorate the ship's arrival at the port.

Carnival Triumph represents a 34 percent capacity increase on the line's four- and five-day cruise program from New Orleans. Together with Carnival Dream, which operates year-round seven-day voyages, Carnival is expected to carry 450,000 passengers annually from the renovated Erato Street Terminal, representing the largest ever capacity commitment by a cruise line in New Orleans. Carnival is the only cruise line to operate year-round from New Orleans and offers the widest variety of cruise durations and itinerary choices from the Big Easy, visiting tropical destinations in Mexico, the Caribbean and The Bahamas.

"New Orleans has been a valued partner for more than 20 years and today's event was a wonderfully fun and unique way to celebrate the arrival of Carnival Triumph and support some of the city's most treasured music organizations," said Torres de Navarra. "We would like to thank our friends at the Port of New Orleans, the local community and our incredible travel agent partners for their continued support which has enabled Carnival to become the Crescent City's number one cruise operator," he added.

"Carnival Triumph's arrival demonstrates Carnival Cruise Line's continued commitment to Louisiana and the Port of New Orleans to grow its business here and offer guests a new and expanded option on its four- and five-day cruise program," said LaGrange. "We are elated to welcome this exciting ship which features a number of Carnival's most popular new enhancements to New Orleans and look forward to continuing our long-standing partnership with Carnival."

Carnival Triumph kicked off its New Orleans-based program today with a four-day cruise to Cozumel, Mexico. On this route, four-day "long weekend" cruises depart Thursdays and call at Cozumel while five-day sailings depart Mondays and Saturdays and visit Cozumel and Progreso. Carnival Triumph will also offer a special three-day cruise round-trip from New Orleans April 8-11, 2016.

Carnival Triumph has undergone an extensive enhancement program that added a number of innovations, including Guy's Burger Joint, developed in tandem with Food Network star Guy Fieri, poolside watering holes Bluelguana Tequila Bar and RedFrog Rum Bar, the Bluelguana Cantina Mexican eatery, cocktail pharmacy-themed Alchemy Bar, and Cherry On Top, a "candy and more" store. Carnival Triumph also features more than 500 staterooms and suites with private balconies -- highly desirable accommodation categories not generally available on other short cruises.

For additional information and reservations for Carnival Triumph or any other of the line's "Fun Ships," contact any travel agent, call 1-800-CARNIVAL or visit <u>carnival.com</u>. Carnival can also be found on:

Twitter: www.twitter.com/carnivalcruise Facebook Fan Page: www.facebook.com/carnival YouTube: www.youtube.com/carnival Instagram: www.instagram.com/carnival

Journalists also can visit Carnival's media site, www.carnival-news.com or follow the line's PR department on Twitter at www.twitter.com/CarnivalPR.

About Carnival Cruise Line

Carnival, a unit of Carnival Corporation & plc (NYSE/LSE: CCL; NYSE: CUK), is "The World's Most Popular Cruise Line®" with 24 ships operating three- to 16-day voyages to The Bahamas, Caribbean, Mexican Riviera, Alaska, Hawaii, Canada, New England, Bermuda, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. The company currently has two new 133,500-ton ships on order--Carnival Vista, set to debut in May 2016, and an as-yet-unnamed vessel scheduled to enter service in 2018.

To view the original version on PR Newswire, visit: http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/arrival-of-new-orleans-newest-cruise-ship-carnivaltriumph-celebrated-with-fun-charity-event-on-board-benefiting-four-local-music-organizations-300245745.html MEDIA CONTACTS: For Carnival Cruise Line, Vance Gulliksen/Jennifer de la Cruz, 305-406-5464, media@carnival.com; For Port of New Orleans, Matt Gresham, 504-528-3255, greshamm@portno.com