

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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13TH ANNUAL ARVEST WINTERFEST PRESENTED WITH COMMUNITY CARE RETURNS TO DOWNTOWN TULSA FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

ASM'S 'VENUESHIELD' ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AND OPERATIONAL PROTOCOL TO BE IN EFFECT

WHAT: Arvest Winterfest Presented with CommunityCare
WHERE: Inside of BOK Center
WHEN: Saturday, November 21 - Sunday, January 3
ON SALE: Monday, November 16 at 10AM
TICKETS: Ice Skating / \$12 (includes skate rental)

TICKET INFO: Advance ticket purchase for ice skating is **REQUIRED** this year. All tickets must be reserved online at www.tulsawinterfest.com.

(Tulsa, Okla.) November 9, 2020 – The time has come to bundle up and enjoy the magical spirit of the holidays as Tulsa's favorite winter festival returns to downtown Tulsa. The 13th Annual Arvest Winterfest presented with CommunityCare will kick off another season of holiday fun later this month. Named by *People Magazine* as the top holiday destination in Oklahoma, Arvest Winterfest presented with CommunityCare will be open from Saturday, November 21 through Sunday, January 3.

This year, ice skating will take place on the ice rink inside of BOK Center instead of outside on Third Street. While this might seem counter-intuitive, the event organizers have placed a heavy focus on the health and safety of its guests so they'll be able to safely experience the magic of the holiday season! In fact, the venue's ice capacity will be over 8,000 square feet larger than the ice capacity on Third Street. This social distancing advantage is just one of many that the event organizers deemed imperative to keep Winterfest guests safe.

Additionally, Winterfest will feature a multitude of preventative measures as advised by the Tulsa Health Department and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). ASM Global's "VenueShield" is an advanced environmental hygiene and operational protocol that has been developed for more than 325 ASM facilities around the world, and has been effectively implemented for multiple indoor events. All protocols are aligned with public health authorities, medical and industry experts. VenueShield reduces physical touch points, increases venue sanitation and cleanliness, and provides health monitoring guidelines and services. ASM Global's "VenueShield" protocols for live events include, but are not limited to:

- An online ticket reservation system, which will be used to help with social distancing. Guests will need to go online to www.tulsawinterfest.com to reserve a date/time to skate. Each reservation allows the skater 75 minutes of ice time once their ticket is scanned.
- BOK Center's public capacity will be drastically capped at a socially responsible percentage in line with the Tulsa Health Department and Center for Disease Control's recommendations.
- No cash or checks will be accepted this season.

- Everyone (10 & older) is required to wear a face covering at all times while inside the venue, which mirrors Tulsa's citywide mandate.
- All staff members will be temperature screened prior to entering BOK Center.
- All staff members will be required to wear face masks inside BOK Center, along with any other personal protective equipment necessary dependent upon job function.
- Social distancing is promoted to the best extent possible in all areas. When social distancing cannot be achieved, steps will be taken to install physical barriers.
- Ample hand sanitizing stations are placed throughout the facility. High touch point areas (such as door handles, elevator buttons, toilets and sinks) are treated with continuous and enhanced cleaning along with all occupied spaces.
- ASM Tulsa staff has been trained and will be actively utilizing new methods of sanitation, wiping down surfaces after use, frequent hand washing, changing out masks regularly, etc.
- Throughout the venue, signage related to physical distancing, avoiding touching one's face, wearing a face covering and signage encouraging frequently sanitizing and washing hands can be found.
- Safety barriers at all food & beverage points of sale inside the venue.

Guests who do not wish to skate can still enter Winterfest for free, as long as the venue's capacity restrictions allow. Tickets go on sale Monday, November 16 at 10AM.

The season opens at 5PM on Saturday, November 21 and the party continues that night with festive lights and sounds from 5-8PM at the **Share the Light** opening ceremony presented by PSO. Local performers will help ring in another holiday season as the festival comes to life with the lighting of the iconic Winterfest tree.

Walk through color-changing LED lights as you approach **Oklahoma's tallest Christmas tree**. The Arvest Winterfest tree soars 44-feet into the air, features 36,700 glowing lights, 109,534 individual tips and a base diameter of nearly 30 feet. The beautiful lights provide an ideal backdrop for perfect holiday photographs under the Tulsa skyline. Guests can also take rides in horse-drawn carriages for an additional fee every Friday and Saturday from 7-10PM.

Need a little help on the ice? **Skating Guides** are available to help you glide in style. The lightweight helpers, courtesy of Chick-fil-A Tulsa Hills, can assist skaters of all ages to be more confident on the ice and off of the rails.

Enjoy free entertainment every Saturday until Christmas Eve directly inside BOK Center from 4-7PM. Listen to the joyful music performed by children from area churches, schools, nonprofit organizations and choral groups.

The **Winterfest Express train fueled by Fox 23** has rolled in once again from the North Pole. It is free and open to all ages. Hop on the train every Saturday from 12-3PM.

The big man himself returns during **Sundays with Santa**. Get your socially distanced photo taken with Santa Claus every Sunday in December before Christmas from 2-4PM.

Come grab a delicious meal with the whole family at **Breakfast with Santa** on Saturday, December 12 in the brand new Grand Gallery at Cox Business Convention Center. Mr. Claus will be on-site for socially distanced pictures and to hear any last minute gift requests.

Admission is \$15 per person and reservations are required. Please visit www.tulsawinterfest.com to save a spot. Tickets go on sale for this event on Thursday, November 12 at 10AM. Breakfast with Santa is presented by Quantus Creative.

A variety of weekly discounts will be offered at the festival. Courtesy of Arvest, patrons receive half-price admission for skating on Mondays with the donation of a non-perishable can of food benefiting the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. Visitors receive half-price skating on Warmth Wednesdays with the donation of a new or gently used coat, blanket, scarf or pair of gloves benefiting Night Light Tulsa. Arvest customers will receive half-price general admission any day of the festival by showing their Arvest card or checkbook. Advance online tickets are required and skaters must show proof of discount at the Winterfest check-in desk when they arrive to skate.

Over the last 12 years, attendance for this event has soared from 35,000 visitors in 2008 to more than 150,000. And while the event's allowable capacity may be reduced this year, the annual holiday celebration will be open for 38 days, giving as many Tulsans possible a chance to enjoy skating inside BOK Center while watching free entertainment from the indoor stage and taking in beautiful, gleaming holiday lights.

Winterfest 2020 is presented by ARVEST Bank along with CommunityCare. Additional sponsors include PSO, River Spirt Casino, Ascension St. John, T-Mobile and Quantus Creativve. The official radio partner is Cox Radio, Inc. and TV partner is Fox23.

A full Arvest Winterfest calendar with prices, a list of safety precautions and daily hours of operation is available online at www.tulsawinterfest.com.

For more information, please contact specialevents@asmtulsa.com.

For group ice skating rates or information on private rink rentals, please contact Connie Lytle, Group Sales Coordinator at (918) 894-4264 or clytle@asmtulsa.com.



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About BOK Center

BOK Center is Tulsa's state-of-the-art sports and entertainment venue that opened in fall 2008. The 19,199-seat arena is home to the ECHL Tulsa Oilers. BOK Center was designed to host major concerts, family shows, ice shows, and other world class entertainment. Owned by the City Of Tulsa, BOK Center is part of Vision 2025, a project to grow economic and community infrastructure for future generations. . In 2016 and 2018, BOK Center was named Arena of the Year by the International

Entertainment Buyers Association (IEBA). The facility won the 2018 Venue Excellence Award from the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM).

About ASM Global

ASM Global was formed from the merger of AEG Facilities and SMG in October 2019 creating a venue management powerhouse that spans five continents, 14 countries and more than 300 of the world's most prestigious arenas, stadiums, convention and exhibit centers, and performing arts venues. To learn more about ASM Global and the exciting new ways we can serve you, click here to visit our website. www.asmglobal.com