



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Philadelphia's Tall Ship "Gazela" Sets Sail for America250 and Her 125th Anniversary

Philadelphia, PA — The Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild (PSPG) proudly announces the upcoming America250 / Gazela125 celebration, a historic voyage marking 125 years of the tall ship *Gazela Primeiro* and the 250th anniversary of the United States of America in 2026.

As the City of Philadelphia's official tall ship and a national maritime icon, *Gazela* will embark on a commemorative sail through the Chesapeake Bay, joining the country-wide America250 festivities. This month-and-a-half-long journey will welcome tens of thousands of visitors aboard, offering the public a chance to experience living maritime history.

"Gazela is more than a vessel, she's a symbol of craftsmanship, community, and the spirit of perseverance that defines Philadelphia," said Gina Pickton, Executive Director of PSPG. "We're inviting partners, sponsors, and the community to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime celebration."

A Living Legacy

PSPG is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to maintaining and operating the tall ship *Gazela Primeiro*, *Tugboat Jupiter*, and *Barge Poplar*.

For over half a century, PSPG has preserved historic vessels and fostered maritime education, workforce development, and community connection through programs such as internships, pre-apprenticeships, summer camps, and field trips. PSPG's mission bridges Philadelphia's shipbuilding past with its waterfront future, empowering all to learn, explore, and celebrate maritime heritage.

We're preserving craft, cultivating next-generation skills, and reconnecting Philadelphia's waterfront heritage with its future.

Opportunities for Partnership

PSPG is offering tailored sponsorship and collaboration opportunities that combine visibility, education, and community impact. Brands can engage with visitors from all over the United States, and beyond, during *Gazela's* America250 tour.

- **Brand Visibility:** Logos on ship signage, crew uniforms, and event materials
- **Media Exposure:** Local and national coverage through festivals and digital channels
- **Exclusive Access:** Host private events, leadership workshops, or team-building sails aboard *Gazela*
- **Community Engagement:** Support maritime education, preservation, and waterfront access initiatives

"In-kind contributions are just as valuable as financial sponsorships," added Pickton. "Every partnership helps us preserve history while inspiring the next generation of maritime leaders."

Join Us Under Full Sail

The Guild invites local businesses, cultural institutions, and supporters to come aboard and help make America250/*Gazela*125 a defining moment for Philadelphia's waterfront.

For more information: <https://www.philashipguild.org/america250-gazela125>