FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Second Annual Adventuress Cup to be held September 18th

SEATTLE, WA – On Saturday, September 18, 2021, the nonprofit Sound Experience will hold the second annual Adventuress Cup – A Race for the Salish Sea in Seattle. The inclusive on-the-water event for sailboats and powerboats will be held in Shilshole Bay and will commence with a festive boat parade to celebrate the ecology of the region’s waterways. The race is a celebration of the marine environment and aims to raise critical program funds for the nonprofit Sound Experience which owns and operates the iconic tall ship, Adventuress.

As with many nonprofit youth serving organizations, the Covid pandemic has brought innumerable challenges. Sound Experience spent most of last year deepening its partnerships with community-based organizations. As a result, it created two new programs Everett at Sea and Duwamish at Sea with partners to get teens aboard for week-long day programs who otherwise may not have the opportunity to get on boats. These, and other Sound Experience programs, teach seamanship, environmental awareness and stewardship, and give young people on-the-water opportunities that help them grow and thrive.

Race participants can join the fun on the water or virtually. Each participant may be a part of a real or virtual crew. Crew members are encouraged to participate in peer-to-peer fundraising and environmental/education pre-race challenges to improve their boat’s handicap (or score). Rusty Lhamon, Sound Experience Board Member and Race Chair, says, “COVID-19 has changed many of our paradigms and helped us discover this great new way to connect with supporters of Adventuress, in an exciting and meaningful way for all participants, those who sail in person and those who participate from miles away.” The event replaces the organization’s fall gala which in recent years has raised more than $150,000 to provide critical support for youth education aboard Adventuress, including its popular Girls at the Helm program.

“At Sound Experience, we believe that we are all shipmates,” shares Catherine Collins, Executive Director. “The one thing we hear most from kids at the end of a program is, ‘I would never have been friends with [her/him/them] if we hadn’t sailed together.’” Whether it is experiencing the marine environment for the first time, taking the helm of a tall ship, or learning what it means to be a
shipmate, programs aboard *Adventuress* have been changing perspectives and lives for decades in the Puget Sound region.

All activities will follow safety guidelines and procedures from the CDC, USCG, and WA State Department of Health and will not include land-based events. All participating boats must meet safety and other requirements outlined in the official Notice of Race which will be posted on the event website.

To learn more and to sign up for pre-registration information, visit www.soundexp.org/AdventuressCup

Sound Experience owns and operates *Adventuress* to serve the education needs of young people in Washington State and is Puget Sound’s official Environmental Tall ship. Serving youth throughout the region from schools, community partners and the public, *Adventuress* sails “not for one, but for all.”

To learn more about the mission of Sound Experience, visit www.soundexp.org or call 360-379-0438.

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