

Providence Cyclo-cross Festival



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PROVIDENCE, R.I. (March 1, 2011) - Based on overwhelming success, the Providence Cyclo-cross Festival returns Columbus Day weekend, October 7-9, 2011. This year's race has been granted the highest race category in the United States (UCI Cat 1) after scoring one of only 2 perfect reviews from the world governing body.

Attendees at the Second Annual Providence Cyclo-cross Festival Presented by Interbike basked in glorious autumn sun and witnessed fantastic racing last Columbus Day weekend. Held in Roger Williams Park, the festival featured the world's greatest cyclo-cross venue and drew more than 1,300 entrants and 6,000 spectators.

Providence Cyclo-cross Festival--The fourth annual Providence Cyclo-cross Festival is set for October 7-9, 2011. Held each year in Roger Williams Park, the festival is firmly fixed at the center of the richest cylo-cross market in America. For more information see www.providencecrossfest.com.

About Roger Williams Park--The park is not simply named for Williams; this park is the last parcel of the land granted to him by Canonicus, chief of the Narragansett nation, when he arrived in 1638. Williams' great-great-great granddaughter Betsey Williams bequeathed the land to the people of Providence in 1871.

The city commissioned landscape architect Horace Cleveland, to design the park. After 18 years of work, Cleveland finished "The Jewel of Providence" in 1896.

The award-winning 427-acre park attracts more than 2 million visitors per year and has been cited by the national trust for Historic Preservation as one of America's premier historic urban parks. The centerpiece of the race venue is the Temple to Music. Made of Vermont marble, the temple was dedicated in 1924 and was a gift from a local olive oil merchant.