



The Lost Colony, 1409 National Park Drive, Manteo, NC 27954 www.thelostcolony.org

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**THE LOST COLONY TO PARTICIPATE
IN SAIL VIRGINIA 2007**

*-- One million visitors expected to attend tall ships festival that is a
Jamestown 2007 signature event --*

(Manteo, N.C., April 24, 2007) – Tall ships sailing to Norfolk for *Sail Virginia 2007* in June will receive a royal welcome. Actors portraying Queen Elizabeth I, Sir Walter Raleigh, Capt. Simon Fernando and Eleanor Dare from *The Lost Colony* will greet visitors of this signature event that will commemorate the 400th anniversary of Jamestown.

“*The Lost Colony* is delighted to be a part of *Sail Virginia*,” said Carl Curnutte, the outdoor drama’s executive director and producer. “Roanoke Island, N.C., marked its quadricentennial in 1984, and we wish our Virginia neighbors well as they commemorate this historic moment in time.”

First staged in 1937, *The Lost Colony* outdoor drama tells the real-life story of America’s “lost colony” of men, women and children who sailed from Plymouth, England, in 1587 to establish an English colony on Roanoke Island. Predating Jamestown by 22 years and Plymouth, Mass., by 35 years, the settlement disappeared with hardly a trace, leaving historians and archaeologists with a mystery that has never been solved. But the groundwork for exploration established by Queen Elizabeth and her courtier, Sir Walter Raleigh, laid the foundation for permanent settlements in the New World.

More than 50 tall ships from around the world are expected to anchor in Norfolk for *Sail Virginia 2007*, June 7-12, including a fleet representing America’s original 13 colonies. Event-goers will be able to board the ships for public visits and tours, as well

as witness military parades and ceremonies, historical re-enactments and special performances.

Dressed in costumes designed by Tony Award-winning costume designer William Ivey Long (the outdoor drama's production designer), *The Lost Colony* actors will take part on June 10 in a lively array of shore-side events to include music, dancing and theatre of early Colonial days. A colonial tavern will welcome visitors, as musicians, sailors and artisans circulate among the visitors.

The city of Norfolk and Norfolk Festevents, Ltd., are hosting *Sail Virginia 2007*, which will coincide with the city's annual Harborfest celebration on the downtown waterfront. Event organizers say they expect one million visitors and ships' crews to attend.

About The Lost Colony

Written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Paul Green, *The Lost Colony's* 70th anniversary season opens June 1 and plays nightly except Sunday through Aug. 20, 2007 at Manteo's Waterside Theatre, on North Carolina's Outer Banks. It is the nation's premier and longest-running symphonic drama. During the summer, *The Lost Colony* produces other shows and special events as well. This year's lineup includes *Cinderella*, *South Pacific*, Shakespeare Under the Stars, "Tea with the Queen," backstage tours and more. For tickets and information, go to www.thelostcolony.org or call (252) 473-2127 or (252) 473-3414 (May through August).

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