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THE NEWPORT INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW *NEWPORT FOR NEW* PRODUCTS PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS

Application Process Opens for 2019 Award Program

Newport, R.I. – Newport Exhibition Group, owners and producers of the Newport International Boat Show, is accepting applications for its 2019 Newport For New Products (NFNP) Awards Program.

In its fourteenth year and in partnership with leading national marine publications, NFNP is a highlight of the industry, helping to publicize what's new and exciting for boaters. The program is open to domestic and foreign products launched after April 1, 2019 that will make their official boat show debut at Newport. Foreign boats and products that have been shown and sold outside the U.S. are still eligible.

“Over the years, the Newport for New Products program has attracted some truly revolutionary entries that made their debut at the Newport International Boat Show,” said Nancy Piffard, Show Director of Newport Exhibition Group. “The judges spend hours meticulously deliberating on each one and it’s challenging for them to pick a winner as all the entries are popular with attendees. We are excited to see what incredible new boats and products will be submitted this year.”

Judged by a team of marine-industry experts on the basis of value to the consumer, design and innovation, NFNP winners will be selected for best new powerboat, sailboat and multihull; best new navigation product; and best new product for boat operation, maintenance, and safety. All products accepted into the NFNP program will be eligible for the “Green” award. One winner will be chosen for “Best Green Boat” and one for “Best Green Product” based on the environmental benefits and features of the entry. For 2019, the show has also added a new field to the ‘new product’ category. Applications will be accepted for Weather Gear (wearable). This includes apparel and gear intended for racing, cruising and offshore sailing. For example: jackets, bibs, base layers, survival suits, gloves, boots and hats.

“After much discussion with our judges, we’ve decided to add the category of wearable weather gear for 2019,” continued Piffard. “Given recent innovations in boating outerwear

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and the types of attendees and exhibitors we attract, we've decided to break out this important subset. Boating products can range from fenders to furlers and to try to judge them alongside the most advanced fishing boat on the planet, would be complex. We look forward to seeing how this addition sparks increased participation."

Winners will be announced on Friday morning, September 13th at the Exhibitor Awards/Press Breakfast. In addition, attendees present on opening day will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite new boat as part of the 'People's Choice Award'. One voter will be selected randomly and receive a \$250 American Express Gift Card.

All submissions for NFNP must be received by June 15, 2019. Full instructions and applications are available on the Exhibitor Portal, or by emailing:
npiffard@newportexhibition.com.

The Newport International Boat Show will take place September 12-15, 2019 on the Newport Waterfront along America's Cup Avenue in Newport, Rhode Island. One of the largest in-water shows in the country and the kick-off to the boat show season, the event will host exhibitors from around the world with an exceptional assortment of boats of every type and style, plus a variety of accessories, equipment, electronics, gear and services for boaters. For more information on the 49th Annual Newport International Boat Show and to purchase advance tickets, please visit www.newportboatshow.com.

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About Newport Exhibition Group:

Based in Newport, Rhode Island, Newport Exhibition Group has produced the highest quality consumer/trade shows for almost 50 years. A subsidiary of Newport Harbor Corporation, the organization owns and produces the annual Newport International Boat Show.

Show Dates & Hours:

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, September 12th, 13th, and 14th: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, September 15th: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Advancetickets will go on sale in June.

For more information, visit: www.newportboatshow.com

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