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Old North Church Celebrates its 300th Birthday with Free Day of Programming
Old North Church & Historic Site Launches New Audio Tour in English and Spanish
Saturday, April 15

WHAT: On Saturday, April 15, Old North Church & Historic Site will celebrate the 300th anniversary of the laying of the church's cornerstone with a day of special programming. Admission to Boston's oldest surviving church will be free for all children and teens under the age of 18. A new audio tour with 40 minutes of history in both English and Spanish will launch with a \$3.00 fee. All who are walking the famous Freedom Trail and pass by Old North between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. will enjoy an interactive experience with public historian **Adam Hodges-LeClaire** who answers the age-old question: Are you a pirate? This presentation will use 18th-century sailors' clothing as a case-study in separating fact from fiction regarding the history of pirates.

Old North's free day of programming kicks off a week-long celebration, including services with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on April 16, Patriot's Day festivities on April 17 and the historic site's Lanterns and Luminaries on April 20, which will include a re-enactment of the famous signal that lit the way for the American Revolution and a keynote address from Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Annette Gordon-Reed.

WHO: **Nikki Stewart**, Executive Director of Old North Illuminated, will be on site for interviews and can speak to Old North Church's place in American history and the role of active citizenship in the ongoing struggle for justice and equity.

WHEN: Saturday, April 15, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHY: Known for "One if by land, and two if by sea" and the midnight ride of Paul Revere, the Old North Church & Historic Site is maintained and operated by Old North Illuminated.

To mark the 300th anniversary of the church's founding in 1723 and connect Old North's legacy to contemporary issues, Old North Illuminated is developing new programming that explores the complexity of the church's identity as a beacon of liberty and independence alongside its deep and complex connections to colonialism and enslavement. Old North Illuminated believes that by presenting, questioning, and learning from the full and complicated span of Old North's 300-year history, we can engage audiences in contemporary questions of equity and representation, courage for the common good, and what it means to be an informed and compassionate active citizen. For more information, visit: www.oldnorth.com.

WHERE: Old North Church & Historic Site, 193 Salem St, Boston, MA 02113

SOCIAL: Old North Illuminated on social media: Facebook ([@oldnorth1723](https://www.facebook.com/oldnorth1723)); Twitter ([@OldNorth1723](https://twitter.com/OldNorth1723)); Instagram ([@oldnorth1723](https://www.instagram.com/oldnorth1723)); and YouTube ([Old North Church & Historic Site](https://www.youtube.com/OldNorthChurch&HistoricSite)).

HOW: For advance and onsite interview, photo and filming opportunities, call Nina Ng at 814-490-6336 or email nina@teakmedia.com. **ONSITE MEDIA CONTACT: Nikki Stewart, 617-510-4417.**

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