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Winter Blues? Philadelphia International Airport Has a Cure

Entertainment, giveaways and summer-themed oasis give travelers a warm experience

PHILADELPHIA – If you're bothered by the winter time blahs – shorter days, frigid weather and cabin fever – and you're planning to travel through Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) in the next several weeks, the Airport has an antidote for your condition.

Oh, Say It Ain't Snow!! Weather the Winter Blues at PHL is helping to lift travelers' spirits with a variety of fun activities including live music, free popcorn and other giveaways, artists' demonstrations and a summer-themed oasis that will generate warm thoughts about summer.

The program kicks off today with a performance by guitarist Freddie Mac. On Friday, February 13, Airport staff will be handing out red and pink carnations to travelers between 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

The Liberty USO, located in Terminal A-East, is promoting Hug-a-hero week next week. USO volunteers will staff a table across from the B/C Food Court and invite visitors to send cards to U.S. troops on Feb. 8, 10 and 13 (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) and Feb. 9 (4 – 7 p.m.).

The summer oasis spots will be set up by Sahara Sam's Oasis, a New Jersey based water park, in three locations in the Airport for ticketed passengers beginning February 19 and lasting through the end of March. They'll feature red oversized Adirondack chairs that can seat 2 and colorful beach umbrellas. Sahara Sam's Oasis representatives will be on site periodically to hand out discounted tickets to the water park to travelers.

"Winter can be a tough time for many reasons, and we want to try to bring some fun and cheer to travelers coming through PHL," said Airport CEO Mark Gale. "Our focus is on creating a pleasant and positive Airport experience for visitors of all ages, and we are pleased to offer programs and activities that leave travelers feeling good once they leave here to board their flight."

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$14.4 billion in spending to the regional economy and accounting for more than 141,000 jobs.