**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ANTIQUE BOAT MUSEUM OPENS FOR 2023 SEASON**

CLAYTON, New York (April 19, 2023) – The Antique Boat Museum (ABM), North America’s premier freshwater boating museum based in Clayton, NY, opens for the 2023 season on Saturday, May 6th and will remain open seven days a week, 10am – 5pm, through Columbus Day. After Columbus Day, the Museum will be open weekends, 10am – 5pm, through October 29th. The Museum Store will also open Saturday, May 6 and admission is not required to shop the Store.

Ride the River boat rides will begin Memorial Day Weekend, providing visitors with the opportunity to take a 45-minute boat ride through the 1000 Islands in the ABM’s triple cockpit runabout. Ride the River bookings are highly encouraged to be made prior to the day of visitation due to limited seating for each ride time. Guided walking tours of the historic houseboat, *La Duchesse,* will also begin Memorial Day Weekend and require sign-up at Admissions. Skiff rowing will be available to visitors starting in the month of June. The Free Community Sailing and Rowing program will run in July and August. Detailed listings of ABM special events and educational courses are available at abm.org.

**2023 Admission Rates**

ABM visitors continue to have a choice of four admission packages: General Admission; Tour of *La Duchesse* & General Admission; Ride the River & General Admission; and Ride the River, Tour of *La Duchesse* & General Admission. Complete package pricing is available on the Museum website, abm.org. Discount admission is available for seniors, youth and children, families of four, and for all holders of a valid military ID: active duty, retired, reserve, and dependent.

**New Exhibits**

Two new exhibits debut at the Museum this year: *The St. Lawrence Skiff: Our Indigenous Watercraft* in the Miller S. and Adelaide S. Gaffney Gallery, part of the Small Craft Building, and *Outboards! The Motor that Changed Pleasure Boating* on the mezzanine of the Cleveland E. Dodge Memorial Launch Building. *The St. Lawrence Skiff* exhibition explores the St. Lawrence skiff and its many variants while visitors to *Outboards!* can take a deeper dive into outboard motors through audio and video footage. *The St. Lawrence Skiff* is made possible through a generous gift of the Miller S. and Adelaide S. Gaffney Foundation. Outboard expert Peter Hunn co-curated *Outboards!* with ABM’s Curator/Collections Manager Matt Macvittie. We invite you to come and experience your favorite boating history as it comes to life.

**2023 ABM Special Event Schedule**

May 20: Volunteer Welcome Back Brunch *catered by Clipper Inn; RSVP required*

May 26: *Outboards!* Exhibit Opening Reception *Free*

June 3: 1000 Islands Family Free Day *FREE admission for everyone*

June 3-9: Steamboats Visit the ABM

June 24: 1000 Islands Concours d’Elegance *Celebrating Golden Age of Sports Cars*

July 14: Members Annual Meeting & *La Duchesse’s* 120th Birthday Party

August 4-6: 59th Annual Antique Boat Show & Auction *Featuring Old Town, Correct Craft, & Herreshoff*

**2023 ABM Educational Programming Schedule**

May 15-October 19: Boat America *USCG Auxiliary Boating Safety course; See website for specific dates*

May 25: Tool Sharpening

June 9-11: ABM & ACBS Symposium

July 13 & 15: Lines Taking

July 20 & 22: Lofting

June 26-August 16: Sailing *See website for specific dates*

June 27: Tuesday Night FREE Community Sailing & Rowing begins

June 27 & 29: Mold Making

June 28: River Rat Day 1 – Something Fishy

June 29-30: Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs *Free*

July 11 & 13: Hand Plane Making

July 14: River Rat Day 2 – Flora and Fauna of the St. Lawrence

July 24-28: Youth Architecture & Design Camp *with Syracuse University School of Interior Design*

July 27: River Rat Day 3 – Bird Adventures-Merganser Madness

August 15 & 17: Spar Building for Small Craft

August 16: 2nd Annual Sail for a Slice *with the Clayton Yacht Club*

August 26: Family Birdhouse Building

August 27 & 28: Half Hull Making

September 25-29: Bronze Casting *with Master Metalsmith Michael Saari*

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**Enclosures** (1 JPEG):ABM’s campus during the 2013 Annual Antique Boat Show & Auction

**About ABM**

Located on the St. Lawrence River in upstate NY, ABM features a collection of over 300 antique and classic boats and thousands of recreational boating artifacts. Each summer the 4.5-acre waterfront campus comes alive with numerous educational programs and special events, including the longest running antique boat show in North America. For more information, please visit the Museum’s website at abm.org.