**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ANTIQUE BOAT MUSEUM OPEN FOR 2024 SEASON**

CLAYTON, New York (May 20, 2024) – The Antique Boat Museum (ABM), North America’s premier freshwater boating museum located in Clayton, NY, opened for the 2024 season on Saturday, May 4th. The museum is now open seven days a week, 10am – 5pm, through Columbus Day, and open weekends through October 27th 10am – 5pm. The Museum will resume all programs Saturday, May 25th including Ride the River and *La Duchesse* guided tours. Admission is not required to shop the Museum Store.

Ride the River provide 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 (6 people) for each ride time. Guided walking tours of the historic houseboat, *La Duchesse,* will also require sign-up at Admissions. Skiff rowing at the ABM’s skiff livery will be available to visitors starting in the month of June (at no extra charge). The Museum’s 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.

**2024 Admission Rates**

ABM visitors continue to have a choice of four admission packages with complete package pricing available on the website: abm.org. Daily admission is $15 for adults and discount admission is available for seniors, youth and children, families of four, and all holders of a valid military ID: active duty, retired, reserve, and dependent. Member’s admission is included with their annual membership fee starting at $50 for an individual.

**New Exhibits**

Five new exhibits debut at the Museum this year: Chrysler Marine Concept Artwork of Bob Adair in the Elizabeth and Bolling Haxall Building concourse gallery, A Student Point of View: Artwork of the 1000 Islands from the TICSD Community Connections Program in the Homer L. Dodge Gallery. The Cleveland E. Dodge Memorial Launch Building features a refreshed Outboards! The Motor that Changed Pleasure Boating exhibit on the mezzanine level. The Small Craft Building features two exhibits recently refreshed: Paddlecraft: A Study Collection in the Pauline Morgan Dodge Gallery and The St. Lawrence Skiff: Our Indigenous Watercraft in the Miller S. and Adelaide S. Gaffney Gallery. A new virtual reality experience is also opening this summer! We invite you to come and experience your favorite boating history as it comes to life.

**2024 ABM Special Event Schedule**

June 1: 1000 Islands Family Free Day *FREE admission for everyone*

June 1-7: Steamboats Visit the ABM

June 29: 1000 Islands Concours d’Elegance *60 Years of Porsche 911* (Rain Date June 30)

August 2-4: 60th Annual Antique Boat Show & Auction *Celebrating 60 Years of Boat Shows*

**2024 ABM Educational Programming Schedule**

June 15-October 7: Boat America *USCG Auxiliary Boating Safety course; See website for specific dates*

June 19: Tool Sharpening

June 24-August 14: Sailing *See website for specific dates*

June 26: River Rat Days: Something Fishy

June 27 - 28 : Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs

July 9: Tuesday Night FREE Community Sailing & Rowing begins

July 23: River Rat Days: Island Explorers

July 23: Lofting

June 27-28: Making Half Hulls

July 13: Padding Chair Making

August 24: Hand Plane Making

October 1: Canvas Boat Bucket/Ditty Bag Making

October 10: Lapstrake Toolbox Making

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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.