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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Lake Champlain Maritime Museum 2020 Season Changes

Vergennes, VT, May 19, 2020:

As we navigate the unprecedented situation brought on by COVID-19, the team at Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is charting a new course for 2020. With the safety of our visitors, staff, volunteers, and community in mind, it has become clear that we cannot open the museum site as we normally would this year. We have made the difficult decision to remain temporarily closed to the public. Instead, we will introduce new programming—both onsite and online—that lets us serve our community and keep everyone safe.

Our work of building a healthy future and community for Lake Champlain is core to our mission. Some of our new community-focused offerings for 2020 include:

- <u>Free Virtual Lake Adventure Camps:</u> A new virtual learning experience will encourage campers to get outside every day to explore their environment. Campers will receive activity kits in the mail and meet for a physically distanced group gathering each week. Registration opens May 20.
- <u>Interactive Digital Exhibits</u>: Visit our new <u>Digital Museum</u>, including a digital exhibit to open July 1 celebrating our 2020 focus on "Women at the Helm."
- <u>Virtual Shipwreck Tours:</u> Tour a shipwreck site in the Vermont Underwater Historic Preserves. New tours will be released weekly throughout the summer.
- **Small outdoor group experiences**: New small group experiences will start on site and on the water once we have clear guidelines on best practices.

While much continues to be uncertain, we know that people continue to need opportunities to connect with each other, our history, and our environment so that they can feel recharged and ready to figure out the future together.

In almost every way, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is open. We will continue virtual education programs, research projects, archaeology work, collections management, and replica fleet maintenance.

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is building a community that will ensure a strong future for our region and for Lake Champlain. To learn more about the 2020 museum season, visit <a href="http://lcmm.org">http://lcmm.org</a>.

We look forward to seeing you online, on the water, and back at the Museum again soon.

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