



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME MUSEUM TO OPEN ON MAY 20 Free Admission, Exhibits, and Engaging Activities Highlight the 2023 Season

VERGENNES, VT - Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is pleased to announce it will open for the 2023 season on Saturday, May 20. The museum will be open daily with free admission from May 20–Oct. 15.

Located on the shores of Lake Champlain by Vergennes, VT, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum offers a unique, engaging experience for families, history buffs, mariners, boat builders, learners, paddlers, and lake lovers of all ages. All are welcome to browse exhibits, stroll and picnic on museum grounds, learn about historic and replica boats, watch boats being built, shop for local gifts in the museum store, and take part in educational activities.

“We believe that all people should have equal and free access to Lake Champlain and the opportunity to learn from the lake and our history, connect with each other, and be inspired to see new possibilities,” said Lauren Ross, the museum’s director of development and interim co-director. “Thanks to our sponsors, donors, and members our doors are open for free in 2023 and we look forward to welcoming everyone on campus this season.”

Highlights of the 2023 season include:

- **Free admission:** The museum is free for all visitors, open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from May 20–Oct. 15. Plan a visit at www.lcmm.org/visit.
- **Indoor and outdoor exhibits:** Visitors can enjoy a dozen exhibit spaces on campus including the updated “Hazelett Small Watercraft Center” which documents the history and craft of small boats in the Champlain Valley; outboard motors collection on display in “Steam to Gasoline,” open for the first time since the pandemic; and new interactive panels about native and invasive species at the waterfront. Open exhibits will be posted at www.lcmm.org/exhibits.
- **Pay-what-you-can camps and expeditions:** Summer programs at the museum have a pay-what-you-can tuition model to ensure all kids and teens have equal access to a great camp experience. Participants can sign up to build kayaks, learn about underwater archaeology, go on an overnight kayak or rowing expedition, and more. Details available at www.lcmm.org/camps.
- **Events and activities:** Throughout the season, the museum has events and activities for visitors including Abenaki Heritage Weekend on June 17–18 presented by the Vermont Abenaki Artists Association and Abenaki Arts and Education Center; the After Hours Summer Party on July 7; free monthly Collection Corner events with unique artifacts from the museum’s collection; and ROV shipwreck tours on Lake Champlain. For the most up-to-date list of events visit www.lcmm.org/calendar.

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www.lcmm.org • @LakeChamplainMaritime (Facebook and Instagram) • @LCMaritime (Twitter)

- **Open-water rowing:** Each spring through fall, adults of all ages are invited to experience open-water rowing on the lake in the museum's fleet of rowing gigs. Interested participants can join a weekly rowing club, which range from beginner to experienced, or sign up for one of the rowing events this season including the Hope for TomorROW on June 24 or the Lake Champlain Challenge Race on Sept. 9. Rowing clubs and events available at www.lcmm.org/adult-rowing.

Free admission for the 2023 season and pay-what-you-can camps and expeditions are made possible with support from Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, the Lake Champlain Basin Program, local businesses, individuals, foundations, and the museum's membership program.

Media

Download photos of the museum [here](#). All photos courtesy of Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

About Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Founded in 1985, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum connects all people to Lake Champlain, inspiring them to learn from the past, build together in the present, and create a sustainable future. Committed to free access to the lake and its history, archaeology, and ecology, the Museum is open to all from late May to mid-October for free admission. Year-round education programs serve more than 2,500 K-12 students, as well as hundreds of educators locally and nationally. For more information, visit www.lcmm.org.

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