

Philadelphia to Discover the Rail Way(SM) on National Train Day

Amtrak Celebrates the Past, Present and Future of Rail Travel with Event at 30th Street Station

WASHINGTON - Amtrak will celebrate America's love for rail travel with events in Philadelphia and across the country at its second annual National Train Day, May 9, 2009. Marking 140 years of connecting travelers from coast to coast, National Train Day celebrates the importance of train travel with complimentary live musical entertainment, an interactive green exhibit, VIP appearances, an AmtraKids Depot, J. Craig Thorpe Gallery, and Amtrak and historic train cars on display.

"Train travel is deeply rooted in American culture and it shows great promise to become a growing part of our country's transportation future," said Emmett Fremaux, vice president marketing and product management, Amtrak. "National Train Day gives the public a glimpse into how the train shaped the country and how it will continue to do so through exhibits showcasing how train travel provides greener travel options with clean technology and greater efficiency through high-speed rail travel."

Event Exhibits and Festivities

As part of National Train Day, on May 9, Amtrak will host a complimentary event at the historical 30th Street Station, 30th and Market Street, from 10 am to 3 pm. An experience for the whole family, National Train Day allows Americans to *Discover the Rail Way*. Train enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in the following:

Amtrak Brand Display — Enjoy the Journey: Learn about Amtrak's connectivity, available routes, train technology, amenities and offerings. Amtrak "travel experts" will also be on hand to ensure National Train Day attendees receive all the information they need.

AmtrakKids Depot: Enjoy appearances by The Radio Disney Road Crew where kids and former kids can enjoy music, a dance party, interactive games and receive giveaways. Magicians, face painters and educational hands-on activities including interaction with Amtrak employees such as train engineers and conductors will also be on site.

J. Craig Thorpe Gallery: Visit notable train artist J. Craig Thorpe's exhibit, "Honor the Bright Land — Trains in our National Landscapes," featuring his vision of trains in urban, rural, wilderness and future settings.

Trains Move our Economy Exhibit: Learn about high-speed corridors, Amtrak's Northeast Corridor, rail infrastructure, electrification and the role of freight trains.

Eco Exhibit: Discover the green aspects of rail travel — energy efficiency, electric rail, regenerative braking, etc. — with this free-standing interactive display.

Model Train Displays: Enjoy model train displays dispersed throughout the stations. Model trains are more than just a hobby; they are steeped in tradition and promote family fun.

Train Equipment Displays: See the trains up close and personal with displays that include historic private cars, commuter and freight cars, and other Amtrak offerings.

Snapshot Station: Create fun memories of National Train Day with photos featuring a custom train-themed photo backdrop.

Pullman Porter Tribute Ceremony: A special exhibit only in Philadelphia, the Pullman Porter ceremony will honor the service of African American pioneers and explain how they helped reshape passenger rail service and the labor movement. Hear the stories of one of these legendary men as he shares his experiences as an actual Pullman Porter worker. Learn the historical significance through the words of Dr. Lyn Hughes, author, *An Anthology of Respect: The Pullman Porters National Historic Registry Of African American Railroad Employees*, and Founder of the A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum. Watch history come alive as we host the showing of the PBS special, *Rising from the Rails*.

Musical performances by Jon McLaughlin and Rachel Yamagata will entertain the crowds throughout the day. Jon McLaughlin is a pop/rock singer-songwriter and pianist who, at the 2008 Academy Awards, performed his Academy Award nominated song "So Close," from the movie *Enchanted*. Rachael Yamagata is an up-and-coming singer-songwriter and piano player whose work has been featured on several TV shows, including *How I Met Your Mother*, *ER* and *Nip/Tuck*.

In honor of National Train Day, Amtrak riders will earn double Amtrak Guest Rewards points on each of the first four Amtrak train trips and triple points for the fifth trip and beyond, from March 16 through May 8, 2009. Plus, earn quadruple points for any trip taken on National Train Day, Saturday, May 9, 2009.

For more information about National Train Day events, promotions and information about the opportunity to host a National Train Day event in your city, visit www.nationaltrainday.com.