

News Release



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Railroad Museum Celebrates 10 Years of *Small Wonders* Exhibit and Names August as Toy Train Month ***Special Activities Include Gallery Tours, Lectures & Story Time Readings Plus the Museum Welcomes “Logan” to Thomas & Friends™ Collection***

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California State Parks and the California State Railroad Museum are proud to recognize August 2014 as Toy Train Month in celebration of 10 years of the popular *Small Wonders: The Magic of Toy Trains* exhibit that first debuted in 2004. With various toy train related activities happening throughout the month, special gallery tours and lectures will be available on Saturday, August 23, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The extensive and internationally recognized toy train collection was donated to the Museum by the Sefton family along with a financial contribution that was used to build the Thomas W. Sefton Gallery. Accumulated over four decades by the late Mr. Thomas W. Sefton, the collection includes 20th century toy trains, Buddy "L" riding toys, railroad-related artifacts, approximately 7,000 toy trains and a variety of accessories, such as locomotives and railroad cars from companies including Buddy L, Ives, American Flyer, Marklin, Marx, and Lionel. At any given time, the *Small Wonders* exhibit showcases approximately 1,000 vintage toy trains, six interactive displays, and a magnificent operating toy train layout in its 3,300 square feet.

In addition to the *Small Wonders* 10th anniversary activities that will also include special story time readings throughout the month, the Museum Store is proud to welcome Thomas & Friends™ Wooden Railway new friend named “Logan.” The Museum store is one of only 20 stores across America -- and the only retail location in Northern California -- to offer the new and limited edition collectible toy. “Logan” will officially debut at the Museum store on Saturday, August 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with special family-friendly activities. The event is free and open to the public in front of the Museum store.

More information about the California State Railroad Museum is available at www.csrmf.org or by calling (916) 323-9280.

About the California State Railroad Museum

Operated by California State Parks with financial assistance from the non-profit California State Railroad Museum Foundation, the California State Railroad Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Widely regarded as North America's finest and most popular railroad museum, the complex of facilities includes the 100,000-square foot Railroad History Museum plus the reconstructed Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Depot, 1849 Eagle Theatre, and Big Four and Dingley Spice Mill commercial buildings in Old Sacramento. For 24-hour information, visit www.csrmf.org or call 916-323-9280.