

News Release



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Railroad Museum to Showcase a Magical & Festive “Small Train Holiday” on November 26 & 27

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Widely known as North America’s most popular railroad museum, the California State Railroad Museum has exciting plans to dazzle, delight and engage post-Thanksgiving visitors with a special “Small Train Holiday” focus on November 26 & 27. Expanded holiday offerings inside the Museum include lively “roving” musical entertainment and storytelling, crowd-pleasing handcar rides, always-popular scale model and toy train displays, period-appropriate holiday decor and much more.

New this year, the fun and kid-friendly “Amazing Harmonatras” musical group will roam the 100,000-square foot Museum playing the guitar, singing Christmas carols and entertaining guests all the way. Additionally, Mrs. Claus will delight children of all ages as she strolls throughout the Museum greeting guests and offering periodic “story time” activities inside the wintry Snow Shed diorama in the Transcontinental Railroad Gallery. And, as a special treat, kids both days can participate in a fun, “armstrong”-powered interpretive handcar ride in the Museum Roundhouse.

In addition to these new activities, the “Small Train Holiday” focus includes other fun favorites such as 10 amazing scale and model toy train layouts on display throughout the Museum, a Polar Express model train running on the “Small Wonders” toy train layout, a discovery-filled scavenger hunt and even a whimsical Toy Train movie where the viewer’s eye-level perspective provides a unique experience that explores the magical world of vintage toy trains.

With all the fun and festive activities happening inside the Museum, there’s plenty to do outdoors in Old Sacramento State Historic Park as well*. Of course, Santa Claus will be available in the Eagle Theatre from 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday for those interested in visiting with him; professional photo opportunities are also available. And, the dazzling Old Sacramento Theatre of Lights will brighten the evening skies with a nightly symphony of lights, sounds and visual effects at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. beginning Thursday and continuing through Sunday.

All “Small Train Holiday” activities happening inside the California State Railroad Museum are included with the cost of admission (\$9 adults, \$4 youths ages 6-17 and free for children five and under). More information about events, exhibits and activities happening at the California State Railroad Museum is available at www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org.

**Due to an amazingly busy and robust holiday schedule for Good Ol’ St. Nick this season (with expanded duties and an earlier start date for the sold-out Polar Express™ Train Ride program), steam train rides with Santa aboard (offered in past years over Thanksgiving weekend) will not be available in Old Sacramento.*

Operated by California State Parks with assistance from the nonprofit CSRM 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-visited railroad museum, the complex of facilities

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includes the 100,000-sq. ft. Railroad History Museum plus the reconstructed Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Depot, 1849 Eagle Theatre, and Big Four and Dingley Spice Mill buildings in Old Sacramento. 24-hour info: (916) 445-6645 or www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org

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