



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ANTIQUÉ BOAT MUSEUM PROMOTES REBECCA HOPFINGER TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

CLAYTON, New York (July 25, 2016) – The Antique Boat Museum (ABM) announced today that its Board of Trustees designated Rebecca Hopfinger, the museum’s current acting director, to serve as executive director effective immediately.

In announcing the promotion, Rick W. Tague, chairman of the museum’s board of trustees, said, “As acting executive director over the last several months, Rebecca’s leadership style and management practices became a clear demonstration of her capabilities to serve not just the museum’s daily operations, but also her ability to advance the museum in its longer-term relationships with staff, local community, museum members and key donors, antique boat enthusiasts and the museum’s board of trustees.”

“When I accepted the temporary assignment to serve as acting director, it was not my intent to ultimately become the museum’s next executive director. The fact that the museum’s board came to recognize my potential and appreciate my efforts is very gratifying,” said Hopfinger.

Ms. Hopfinger has a Master of Arts in Museum Studies from Syracuse University and began her career at the ABM in 1996 as curator, becoming director of development and curator of special exhibits in 2004 and held that position until 2008. She served as executive director of the Thousand Islands Art Center from 2009-2013 and rejoined the ABM as director of advancement in 2013 and became acting director in late April 2016.

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**About ABM**

Located on the St. Lawrence River in upstate NY, the ABM features a collection of over 300 antique and classic boats, among thousands of recreational boating artifacts, including the world’s largest runabout, Pardon Me, and a 113-year old gilded-age two-story houseboat, La Duchesse. In addition, the ABM plays host to the longest running antique boat show in North America and is considered the birthplace of antique raceboat regattas. The Museum opened for the 2016 season on Friday, May 6 and is open seven days a week 9 to 5. For more information, please visit the Museum’s website at [abm.org](http://abm.org).

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