



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CLAIRE WAKEFIELD NAMED MUSEUM CURATOR

CLAYTON, New York (September 26, 2016) – The Antique Boat Museum (ABM), North America’s premier freshwater nautical museum based in Clayton, NY, announced today that Claire Wakefield has been appointed as the Curator, a role she has been filling on an interim basis since March 2016. As Curator she is responsible for building and guiding the course of the Museum’s artifact, library, and archival collections and for directing and developing content for exhibitions and public programs related to the collections.

Ms. Wakefield joined the ABM staff in 2010 in the role of Membership & Marketing Coordinator and in 2013 became the Assistant Curator. As Assistant Curator she has worked on a variety of projects including recent exhibitions such as the Antique Raceboat Regatta poster art installation, the history of the Matthews Boat Company archive, and The National Motor Boat Show. She has also led the first digitization efforts of the museum’s archives leading to the broader availability of important research materials to the general public.

“Claire brings a positive attitude and an eye for the details,” said ABM Executive Director Rebecca Hopfinger. “She will be a strong steward for the Museum’s vast collection and I am proud to name her to the position of curator.”

An alumna of Juniata College (Huntingdon, PA) class of 2009 with a degree in Museum Studies, Ms. Wakefield began her career as Assistant Registrar at the Juniata College Museum of Art, and also held a previous post at the Albany Institute of History & Art. Ms. Wakefield resides in Clayton.

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 will close for the 2016 season on Tuesday, October 11. For more information, please visit the Museum’s website at abm.org.

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Contact: Margaret Hummel, Director of Events & Marketing
315.686.4104 x223 mhummel@abm.org

