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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KIDS RIDE FREE
*at Essex Steam Train & Riverboat on
Connecticut Open House Day
Saturday, June 11*

ESSEX, Conn., – The Essex Steam Train & Riverboat will be a major participant in Connecticut Open House Day, Saturday, June 11, 2005 with a **“Kids Ride Free”** Special Offer. Children ages 11 and under qualify for this special offering, and must be accompanied by an adult passenger with a valid Connecticut driver’s license. Seating is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Connecticut Open House Day is the first unified celebration of the state’s fascinating world of art, history, film and tourism. This unique statewide event is designed to broaden awareness of Connecticut’s exceptional cultural and tourism assets among Nutmeggers, and to encourage them to share their newfound discoveries with visiting family and friends.

“Essex Steam Train & Riverboat is delighted to share this Open House Day event with the residents of Connecticut” says Robert Bell, President of the Valley Railroad Company. “The purpose of the “Kids Ride Free” offering is to encourage Connecticut residents to rediscover, or experience for the first time, the history, beauty, and excitement of the Essex Steam Train & Riverboat’s sightseeing journey. We’re inviting Connecticut families to experience this wonderful treasure that exists right outside their backdoors - - *the only steam train and riverboat connection in the country*. We’re also inviting them to share all that Essex Steam Train & Riverboat has to offer with visiting family and friends this summer.”

Essex Steam Train & Riverboat is one of 116 cultural and tourism organizations throughout Connecticut who will join together on Connecticut Open House Day to pay tribute to the state’s colorful heritage and diverse properties.

For more information about Connecticut Open House Day, log on to www.ctbound.org or call 888.CTvisit. For more information about Essex Steam Train & Riverboat visit www.essexsteamtrain.com or call 800-377-3987.

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