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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Riders Beware: The FRIGHT TRAIN returns in 2011!
This is ONE Halloween journey to "die for"!

Essex, CT, October 1, 2011 - - It's a mystical, foggy evening... there's a strange feeling in the air..... It's the anniversary of the horrific train wreck of 1925 on the Valley Railroad line.... and you're traveling aboard the **Fright Train**! Will the restless souls and ghosts from this terrible tragedy appear?

That's the creepy backdrop for a ghoulish Halloween journey aboard Essex Steam Train & Riverboat's 2nd annual **Fright Train**. For Tweens (Ages 8+) and Adults who dare to ride, the **Fright Train** will pull out of Essex Station: **October 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, and 31**. Trains depart into the deep, dark night at **6:30pm and 8:00pm**.

According to Bob Bell, President of The Valley Railroad Company, "The **Fright Train** goes *beyond* just another scary Halloween event. This is a professionally created show that intertwines the fictional legend of a romantic love story and the gory train wreck of 1925."

The **Fright Train** is produced in collaboration with Essex Steam Train & Riverboat's "theater-in-the-rectangle" partner, **Riverway Studio** located in East Haddam, CT. Susan Dee, Marketing Manager at Essex Steam Train & Riverboat says, "Our ongoing collaborative relationship with Riverway Studio enables Essex Steam Train & Riverboat to enhance its overall entertainment experience for special events such as the *North Pole Express*, *The Valley Railroad Circus Train & Big Top Show* and *Murder Mystery* trains. The **Fright Train** is yet again another example of quality entertainment . . . and a great way to gather with family and friends to celebrate Halloween."

Tickets for **The Fright Train** are **\$20.00 per person** and are available online at www.essexsteamtrain.com. Recommended for Tweens, Ages 8 and up, and Adults. Event is approximately 1 hour long and includes Coach Seating only.

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Fright Train (cont.)

The Valley Railroad Company

Incorporated in 1969, The Valley Railroad Company opened the [Essex Steam Train & Riverboat](http://www.essexsteamtrain.com) to the public 40 years ago, in 1971. The *only* steam train and riverboat connection in the United States, Essex Steam Train & Riverboat continues to flourish as a Connecticut icon and vibrant tourist destination, attracting over 140,000 visitors a year. Tour goers enjoy a 2.5 hour narrated journey through the scenic Connecticut River Valley. Special events include: *The Eagle Flyer, Day Out With Thomas, The Valley Railroad Circus Train & Big Top Show, Murder Mystery, Fright Train, Santa Special, North Pole Express* and *Your Hand on the Throttle*.

For more information and directions contact Essex Steam Train & Riverboat at 800.377.3987 or visit www.essexsteamtrain.com.

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Photo Credit: Chase Smith