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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Railroads at Trainfest Cover Five Football Fields

MILWAUKEE — Trainfest, America’s Largest Operating Model Railroad Show, is now five football fields of “everything trains,” with the addition of “The Trolley Barn” (*aka Cream Puff Pavilion*) to its footprint. In its 48th year, Trainfest takes place November 9 and 10, at Wisconsin State Fair Park in Milwaukee.

“Trainfest consistently uses every square inch of the 200,000 sq. ft. Expo Center exhibit space, plus all its meetings rooms,” said Ken Jaglinski, Trainfest Chairman. “With adding more running model train layout displays and the launch of the Trainfest Builders program for kids, we simply needed more space. It was a fun problem to solve.”

More than 70 beautifully-crafted, operating layouts will be on display at Trainfest. The largest layout, Mantrak, is 7,200 sq. ft. Most layouts encourage visitors, ages five and up, to run and operate the model trains. Seven gauges of model railroads are present from tiny “Z” to larger “G” scale.

Dozens of free clinics provide hobbyists skills from the basics of model railroads, to tips for expert modelers. 110 hobby manufacturers and vendors are previewing new products. Hundreds of hands-on activities and demonstrations occur throughout the event and are free with admission. The MLES train ride gives children and adults a ride around the Trainfest Kids Zone area within the Expo Center.

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad is the featured “Celebrate-a-Railroad” this year. Trainfest turns the spotlight on the CB&Q to honor its contributions in the making of America with a 32-panel historical display and special features throughout the show.

Participants in the new Trainfest Builders program, more than 70 children ages 5-14, will be exhibiting their model train layouts and modules within the Kids Zone area. Initiated by Trainfest in 2019, Trainfest Builders is an educational outreach program sponsored by Wm. K. Walthers to bring a STEAM (the grouping of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math academic disciplines) education to life through model railroads.

The popular “Kids-only” Make-n-Take activity returns in 2019 with new models for kids to build with the help of expert volunteers. Other Kids Zone activities include an inflatable obstacle course and LEGO Play Areas.

Discounted tickets are available now through November 8, at www.trainfest.com and at participating hobby shops.

Photo Gallery / B-Roll under Media Resources at <https://www.trainfest.com/in-the-news/>

About Trainfest. Trainfest is America’s largest operating model railroad show and the largest fall event held in the City of Festivals – Milwaukee. Over five football fields of space, the event showcases 70 huge and remarkable operating railroads from Z to G scale, more than 100 manufacturers and hobby dealers, dozens of expert clinics, historical displays, and hundreds of hands-on activities and demos. Trainfest is staged by the Wisconsin Southeastern Division, Inc., of the National Model Railroad Association, a nonprofit organization. Trainfest is held annually on the second full weekend of November. More info at www.trainfest.com.

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