

ESSEX STEAM TRAIN & RIVERBOAT



**THE STARS OF THE NEW PBS CHILDREN'S SERIES
LOMAX: THE HOUND OF MUSIC
PERFORM LIVE AT ESSEX STEAM TRAIN & RIVERBOAT
Saturday & Sunday, June 20 & 21, 2009**

ESSEX, CONN., -- On Saturday, and Sunday, June 20 & 21, all families with young children are invited to kick off Summer 2009 with the stars of the PBS children's series, *Lomax: The Hound of Music*. Ride Essex Steam Train and enjoy a *Lomax: The Hound of Music* Show, featuring LIVE performances by *Lomax*, a good-natured, melody-obsessed puppet pooch, *Delta*, his blues-singing feline sidekick and *Amy*, their human companion and top-notch singer.

Lomax: The Hound of Music is produced by *Sirius Thinking, LTD*. Since its premier on *CPTV* in October 2008, *Lomax: The Hound of Music* has gained tremendous popularity on national public television, now reaching over 50% U.S. households. The series is designed to increase the musical intelligence of children ages 3 – 7, based on the curriculum of renowned University of Hartford music educator and author John Feierabend (*pronounced fire-rob-in*). As *Lomax*, *Delta* and *Amy* crisscross the musical landscape of America in a caboose aboard the "*Melody Hound Express*", real kids are invited to sing classic folksongs and along the way, gain a greater facility for music that will last a lifetime.

*The "Melody Hound Express" pulls into Essex Steam Train,
Saturday & Sunday, June 20 & 21*

Whether your family's celebrating the start of summer or Father's Day on the weekend of June 20th/21st... *Lomax: The Hound of Music* is certain to make the occasion especially fun! The Adult/Child ticket cost of \$18.00 includes a variety of *Lomax* activities the whole family will enjoy:

- more -

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- ***A 1-hour, Lomax: The Hound of Music, Live Show aboard the Essex Steam Train.*** Every coach becomes a stage for an interactive, musical performance of ***Lomax: The Hound of Music***, produced by *Riverway Studio*, East Haddam, CT, in collaboration with *Sirius Thinking*, producers of the ***Lomax*** television series. Each day, four Lomax shows are scheduled for regular Essex Steam Train departures as follows:
11:00 AM, 12:30 PM, 2:00PM, and 3:30PM.
- ***A Photo Opportunity in front of the REAL “Melody Hound Express”*** - - the very train that Lomax and his TV friends ride across country in search of fun-filled tunes. The entire “*Melody Hound Express*”, Engine 97, Coach and Caboose, will be on display adjacent River Valley Junction.
- ***Large-Screen viewing of Lomax: The Hound of Music television episodes*** in River Valley Junction.

“All of us here at Essex Steam Train, ***Home of Lomax: The Hound of Music***”, are thrilled to host a Lomax show on board the train,” says Robert Bell, President of The Valley Railroad Company. He continues, “As an attraction that’s devoted to enriching precious family time together, our collaboration with ***CPTV, Sirius Thinking***, and ***Riverway Studio*** is a natural and exciting fit.”

Essex Steam Train & Riverboat’s role in ***Lomax: The Hound of Music*** is that of outdoor location for filming and “home” of the *Melody Hound Express*. During the 2009 season, families will not only be able to enjoy ***Lomax: The Hound of Music*** on *PBS*, but they’ll also be able to visit Essex Steam Train & Riverboat to view the very Caboose that Lomax, Delta and Amy call home aboard the “*Melody Hound Express*.”

The Valley Railroad Company

Incorporated in 1969, The Valley Railroad Company opened the Essex Steam Train & Riverboat to the public in 1971. Today, the Essex Steam Train & Riverboat attracts 150,000 visitors a year and is one of Connecticut’s most vibrant tourist attractions. Tour goers enjoy a 2½ hour narrated steam train and riverboat journey through the scenic Connecticut River Valley. Additional special events include *Day Out With Thomas, Santa Special* and *North Pole Express*.

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

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