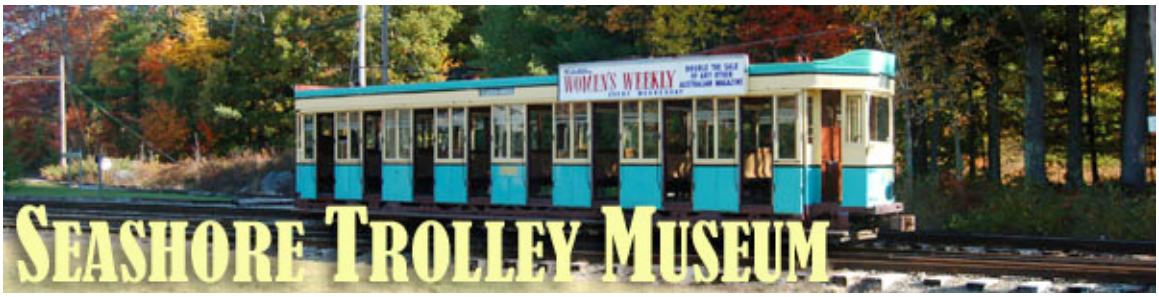

PRESS RELEASE

"The Attraction Is Obvious" Teacher Workshop Announcement – Partnership between Kennebunkport's Seashore Trolley Museum and Boston's Engineering is Elementary Program at the Museum of Science

The Seashore Trolley Museum of Kennebunkport announces that its Education Program has partnered with the *Engineering is Elementary* program at the Museum of Science's National Center for Technological Literacy to better support elementary school teachers and Maine's STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math) initiative.

The Maine STEM Collaborative is a statewide movement with two major goals: that Maine students graduate with essential knowledge and skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and that Maine students aspire to continue in the STEM fields at the post-secondary level.

"The Attraction is Obvious: Designing Maglev Systems" workshop on August 28, 2010 will help third to fifth grade teachers meet the new learning results in Science and Technology, particularly the standards directed at scientific inquiry and technological design.

"The Seashore Trolley Museum has responded to Maine's STEM initiative by designing curricular materials that integrate science and social studies and assist teachers in meeting the new Maine Learning Results. By partnering with Boston's Museum of Science, we ensure that we offer the best national practices in instructional design," said educational consultant Patricia Erikson.

"By addressing the needs prioritized by Maine's Department of Education, we hope that curricular coordinators and superintendents statewide will notice this curricular initiative and look to us as a local resource," said Seashore Trolley Museum project manager Phil Morse.

The Seashore Trolley Museum, founded in 1939, is the largest and oldest electric railway museum in the world. The museum's mission is to collect, restore, preserve, exhibit and demonstrate the operation of significant transit vehicles with emphasis upon traditional streetcar and interurban service, including rapid transit, trackless trolley and bus service

with select world wide comparative representation. The Museum also provides a repository for artifacts and information of an educational and historic nature relating to the origin and development of the transit industry and its contribution to modern society. More than 20,000 visitors each year are drawn to view, and sometimes ride, the vast assortment of over 250 street trolley cars, and transit, school and coach buses on display.

Melissa Higgins will teach the workshop, "The Attraction is Obvious: Designing Maglev Systems," which will take place on August 28, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Seashore Trolley Museum's visitor center at 195 Log Cabin Road in Kennebunkport. Higgins is a curriculum and research associate for the Engineering is Elementary project. Melissa received her B.A. in Architectural Studies from Connecticut College, and is currently completing her Masters in Museum Studies through Harvard with a focus on visitor studies for historic house museums. Melissa was a founding member of the Engineering is Elementary curriculum and has been a primary author of the curriculum for the past six years. Her interests include strengthening the interdisciplinary aspects of all subjects taught in elementary schools.

Registration and materials for the six-hour workshop cost $15 and teachers may earn salary contact hours. For further information or for registration, prospective participants may contact Patricia Erikson at perikson@usm.maine.edu or c/o Seashore Trolley Museum,Post Office Box A, Kennebunkport, ME 04046 or see http://www.trolleymuseum.org/education/index.php.

Background information:
The *Engineering is Elementary* (EiE) project aims to foster engineering and technological literacy among children. EiE is a research-based, standards-based, and classroom-tested curriculum that integrates engineering and technology concepts and skills with elementary science topics. EiE lessons not only promote K-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning, but also connect with literacy and social studies. For more information about the EiE program and the National Center for Technological Literacy, see http://mos.org/nctl/

Funding for the teacher workshop comes from a National Railway Historical Society grant and donations to the Education Initiative at Seashore Trolley Museum.