



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad Sets Record in Ridership for 2016

The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR) recorded the highest annual ridership in the history of the organization with 214,063 passengers in 2016. In 2015, ridership was at 185,550.

CVSR has seen continued increases year over year in ridership since 2007. In 2016, CVSR not only surpassed annual ridership over any years prior, but recorded the highest passenger counts of its scenic excursions and special events on the train.

Ridership of the National Park Scenic excursions reached an all-time high at 117,478, exceeding the 91,281 passenger count in 2015 and over any year prior. CVSR's popular Bike Aboard! program attracted the highest number to date with 23,911 passengers in 2016.

The Polar Express, a holiday tradition that has continued in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park for 23 years, remains one of the most highly-demanded programs in the greater Cleveland area. This past year, more than 42,000 passengers climbed aboard the CVSR to experience the magic of the Polar Express.

"The staff and volunteers of CVSR are pleased that so many people chose our trains as a way to experience Cuyahoga Valley National Park," said Kim Gillan-Shafron Vice President-Marketing & Community Alliances.

[Quote, Craig]

CVSR introduced a variety of special events, which have attracted visitors locally and nationally. In 2016, CVSR offered several new programs for families, including Read Aboard, the first summer reading program aboard the train and Royalty on the Rails and the Superhero train, excursions for children to meet and greet with their favorite characters on the train.

CVSR continues to offer popular beer and wine tastings each month, regular dining excursions, Murder Mystery trains and special four-course dinners; featuring renowned chefs and restaurants in Cleveland.

Visit www.cvsr.com for the train schedule and upcoming special events. Bike Aboard returns Saturday, April 1st and our coach ticket, an all-day pass, will still be a great value at \$15 for adults and \$10 for children.

About Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad (CVSR) is a private sector, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) volunteer supported organization operating in partnership with Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and is dedicated to the preservation of passenger rail transportation in Cuyahoga Valley and the historic Ohio & Erie Canalway. For more information about the railroad, visit Cvsr.com.

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