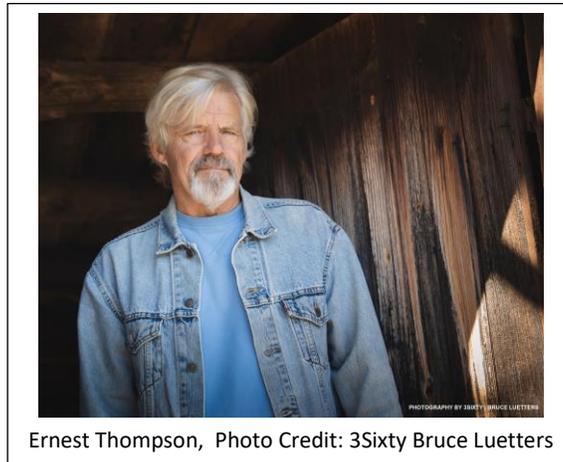


NEW HAMPSHIRE BOAT MUSEUM

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For Immediate Release



Ernest Thompson Narrates 14th Annual Boathouse Tour

Wolfeboro, NH--August 24, 2020--Expressing a love for Maine’s Belgrade Lakes that began in childhood, Oscar-winning screenwriter, playwright, director, actor and songwriter Ernest Thompson will narrate the New Hampshire Boat Museum’s first virtual Boathouse Tour.

“Mr. Thompson lives in New Hampshire and cherishes our lakes, which is why we approached him with our project,” said Martha Cummings, executive director of the New Hampshire Boat Museum (NHBM).

Noting he agreed to be the face and voice of the online event as well as share his music for it, Cummings said his obvious passion for the subject matter has enhanced the project.

“His involvement helps us capture the wonder and excitement you can have when exploring our beautiful lakes,” she said.

In speaking with her, Cummings said Thompson spoke at great length regarding his fascination of boathouses, some he described as “luxurious castles” and others “woebegone and run-down.”

It is this curiosity, she said, that has helped to explain the popularity behind NHBM’s annual Boathouse Tour, which is in its 14th year and presented by Lake Life Realty.

“These boats are curiosities to all of us,” she said. “We all wonder what they contain, how old they are and who built them.”

She said Thompson even acknowledged that his play, *On Golden Pond*, was reminiscent of people and places he remembered from his childhood while on the Belgrade Lakes.

“He really is the right person to narrate this online event, because he understands and experiences the wonder and beauty of our lakes and boathouses,” she added.

This year’s Boathouse Tour is also unique as it leaves Lake Winnepesaukee for the first time.

“We’ll take people to Squam Lake and Lake Waukegan, too, as well as to an antique car collection,” she said. “This is something we could never do in our traditional, in-person format.”

In addition to Thompson as narrator, the online event will feature *Live Free or Die*, his new song co-written by local legend Art Harriman and sung by television star and fellow NH resident John Davidson.

“We are thrilled to have all three involved in this online event,” said Cummings. “We also want to thank the generosity of the boathouse owners, many of whom talk about their boathouses on film, too.”

She also expressed gratitude for the support of Lake Life Realty, the tour and online event’s presenting sponsor.

“Their contribution helped make this virtual tour and online experience possible,” she said. “I cannot thank them enough, as this entire project reflects the very essence of our mission.”

Noting the online event will be viewable on NHBM’s website in late summer (Date TBD), Cummings said they will ask for donations from people as they participate in it.

“We are working out the final details on sharing this virtual event, which provides an exclusive glimpse into the life and culture of New Hampshire’s lakes,” she said.

Founded in 1992 by antique and classic boating enthusiasts, NHBM is committed to inspire people of all ages with an understanding of, and appreciation for, the boating heritage of New Hampshire’s fresh waterways.

To learn more about the 14th Annual Boathouse Tour, or NHBM, visit nhbm.org.

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