**DAY OUT WITH THOMAS™: THRILL OF THE RIDE TOUR 2014 PULLING INTO THE B&O RAILROAD MUSEUM**

JOIN THE TOUR’S MOST EXCITING YEAR EVER AS HIT ENTERTAINMENT DEBUTS TALKING THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE™

**THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE TO VISIT B&O RAILROAD MUSEUM**
**APRIL 25-27 & MAY 2-4, 2014**

Baltimore, MD – Preschoolers will get the thrill of their lives when Thomas the Tank Engine™ steams across the country this year. When Thomas arrives at Baltimore for the **Day Out with Thomas™: The Thrill of the Ride Tour 2014**, he will not only take his fans for a ride, but also talk to them for the very first time on the tour! The event, which takes place April 25-27 & May 2-4, 2014, will be hosted by B&O Railroad Museum and presented by HIT Entertainment and sponsored by MEGA Brands, a leading toy company, and all inclusive Hard Rock Hotels.

- **Day Out with Thomas: The Thrill of the Ride Tour 2014** is a fun-filled event that provides children of all ages the opportunity to climb aboard and take a ride with Thomas as well as participate in **Thomas & Friends** themed activities. The tour, now in its 19th year, will make stops in 42 U.S. cities and is expected to welcome nearly one million passengers in 2014. For two back-to-back weekends, little engineers and their families are invited to take a 25 minute ride at the B&O Railroad Museum on their favorite engine, meet Sir Topham Hatt®, Controller of the Railway and enjoy a day of **Thomas & Friends** themed activities including arts & crafts, storytelling and more. The B&O Railroad Museum will also offer Interactive, story-telling puppets of Middle-earth Studios in **Unicorn Theater**. These unique puppet shows allow audience participants to dress in a variety of costumes and act out their parts to dramatic music and sound effects. **JUNK ROCK** rocks the audience with stick-shredding drumming! Performing on oil drums, plastic tubes, milk cans and various unusual objects, JUNK ROCK makes the audience part of every show! With comedic wit, virtuosic drumming, and unique showmanship, JUNK ROCK keeps the crowd movin’ and groovin’ to the beat! B&O Railroad Museum characters, Choo Choo Blue & Conductor Cap will lead the audience in a game of Hokey Pokey Train or Thomas Says. Rides on the **Happy Train**, Photo opportunities with **Sir Topham Hatt and Choo Choo Blue**, Kiddie train rides through the fictional town of **Choo Choo Blueville**, Thomas Imagination Station of interactive play, **Balloon bounces**, Carnival **games**, Kid’s **climb-on train**, **Crafts & tattoo stations**, and Interactive B&O Railroad Museum exhibits are sure to delight children of all ages.
Thomas the Tank Engine rides depart every 45 minutes, rain or shine. Departure times begin at 10:00 am on Fridays and 9:15 am on weekends through 3:15 pm on Friday, 4:45 pm on Saturday, and 4:00 pm on Sunday during each day of the event. Tickets for the Day Out With Thomas: The Thrill of the Ride Tour 2014 are $20 plus tax for ages two and up.

Tickets are on sale now by calling toll-free 866.468.7630 or logging onto www.ticketweb.com/dowt. For more information and directions, contact the B&O Railroad Museum at 410-752-2490 or www.borail.org.

Thomas the Tank Engine is star of Thomas & Friends® making tracks to great destinations on PBS KIDS® and Sprout®. Along with his engine friends, Thomas captivates children in more than 145 countries and 30 languages. The #1 blue engine and his friends invite children to enter a world of imagination through the tracks of a train and the words of a story. To date, 200 million Thomas & Friends books and e-books have been sold and the CGI-animated Thomas & Friends series is more popular than ever, rating as one of the top programs for children ages 2 to 5.

For more information about the tour or to find a Day Out With Thomas: The Thrill of the Ride Tour 2014 event near you, visit www.ticketweb.com/dowt.

**About THE B&O Railroad Museum**
The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, a full affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of American railroading and its impact on American society, culture and economy. The Museum is home to the oldest, most comprehensive collection of railroad artifacts in the Western Hemisphere including an unparalleled roster of 19th and 20th century railroad equipment. The 40-acre historic site is regarded as the birthplace of American Railroading and includes the 1851 Mt. Clare Station, the 1884 Baldwin Roundhouse and first mile of commercial railroad track in America. For further information on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, please call 410-752-2490 or visit www.borail.org.

**About Thomas & Friends™**
Thomas the Tank Engine was created by a father for his son nearly 70 years ago and today is enjoyed by families in more than 185 territories and in 30 languages. The #1 blue engine and his friends invite children to enter a world of imagination through the tracks of a train and the words of a story. Children embark on adventures with their engine friends while experiencing timeless life lessons of discovery, friendship and cooperation. Thomas & Friends makes tracks to great destinations on PBS KIDS®, Sprout® and with downloadable episodes available through iTunes. For more information about the world of Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends, please visit www.thomasandfriends.com. Follow Thomas on Facebook at facebook.com/thomasandfriends and Twitter @TrueBlueEngine.

**About HIT Entertainment**
HIT Entertainment is one of the world's leading preschool entertainment companies, specializing in building powerful brands based on engaging stories. HIT Entertainment’s world-class portfolio includes Thomas & Friends®, Mike the Knight™, Fireman Sam®, Bob the Builder, Barney®, Angelina Ballerina®, Pingu® and Rainbow Magic®.

HIT Entertainment excels at creating and building globally successful brands which capture the hearts and imaginations of preschoolers and their families. This is achieved through exceptional storytelling in

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1 Nielsen NPower, 11/2013
multiple formats, enhanced by creating high quality character-based products and experiences with best-in-class partners. HIT Entertainment’s lines of business span television and home entertainment production, content distribution, digital media, publishing, consumer products and live events and attractions. HIT Entertainment, a subsidiary of Mattel, Inc., has operations in the UK, US, Canada, Hong Kong and Japan. For more information visit [www.hitentertainment.com](http://www.hitentertainment.com)

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