

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM: Maine Marine Trades Association

PO BOX 1472, Rockland, ME 04841, 207-773-8725

mainemarinetrades.com

Contact: Stacey Keefer, Executive Director stacey@mainemarinetrades.com

Maine's newest boat show opens this fall at Thompson's Point in Maine's largest city during the peak of fall foliage season. *The Maine Boat Show* is being produced by the Maine Marine Trades Association and will be held the weekend of October 4-6 in Portland.

It has been several years since the association has produced a boat show. "We now have a great new event venue that fits our traditional Maine style, with a touch of modern," reports MMTA's director, Stacey Keefer. "A fall boat show is new for us –we'll be both unique and boutique –meaning a show featuring 40 to 50 of Maine's finest industry members." Keefer believes one of the strengths will be that no other east coast shows are capitalizing on the tremendous draw of visitors who come north to enjoy pretty leaves and scenery. The size of the show is also a plus because it is manageable to fit into a weekend of other activities. Timing at the end of the season will allow dealers, builders, and brokers to offer great prices and it gives service yards time to estimate and schedule winter projects and refits.

MMTA Board President Joan Fetsko will be there with a boat from Pemaquid Marine. "We like that it's easy for someone from Boston or southern New England to take the train right to the show," said Fetsko. Thompson's Point is one of Portland's hip, new event venues and is located next to the Amtrak station and a popular trio of local bars featuring wine, beer and spirits all crafted in Maine. There is also a fantastic food scene in Portland which was named America's 2018 Restaurant City of The Year by Bon Appétit.

Phil Bennet from Hinckley Yachts adds that "In New England we kick off our boat show season in Rockland in August and Newport in September. While there is then a progression of shows going south in the months to come, a number of Maine boatbuilders, yards and marine goods suppliers felt we were missing a wonderful opportunity to show off what we do in the fall when so many folks come to the area. This show is in a perfect place during the beautiful fall season, so we were thrilled to be one of the first exhibitors to sign up."

The show is sponsored by Yamaha and Allen Insurance and Financial. Yamaha will be there promoting the Yamaha Outboard Motor Service course recently launched in partnership with Southern Maine Community College. In an effort to promote marine industry careers, Maine students of all ages will receive complimentary admission to the show. For more information about *The Maine Boat Show* contact the Maine Marine Trades Association, 207-773-8725 or go to themaineboatshow.com.

PHOTO CAPTION: MMTA Show Committee viewing the event venue for The Maine Boat Show at Thompson's Point. A converted historic brick building with polished floors and bar service.