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Press Release

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Metro-North

IMMEDIATE

Get Out of Town With MTA Metro-North Railroad's Discount Getaways to The International Festival of Arts & Ideas and Clearwater's Great Hudson River Festival Revival

This June MTA Metro-North Railroad has discount rail and admission packages that are the perfect way to travel and spend time with family and friends. Metro-North's Discount Getaways are convenient, affordable, fun and just a relaxing train ride away.

A smorgasbord of cutting-edge music, theater, dance and creative play awaits you at the 14th annual International Festival of Arts & Ideas in New Haven. From Saturday June 13 – Saturday June 27, 2009, hop a train to New Haven to immerse yourself in the arts with dozens of events to choose from. Eighty percent are free!

The 16-acre New Haven Green is a magnet for artists and musicians from 75 countries around the world who converge for two weeks in the intellectual city of New Haven to share their energy and ideas.

This summer's festival celebrates the theme "Global Identities/Local Heroes," and features two U.S. premiere theater events, Circus by the Barabbas Theatre Company of Ireland, and Ivanov by the Katona Jozsef Theatre Company of Hungary. Discount tickets are available through Metro-North's Getaway package.

To see a preview of all that the Festival has to offer, visit www.artidea.org. To redeem your special event ticket, you must call 888-ART-IDEA (888-278-4332) at least seven days in advance of the event you wish to attend.

This year Clearwater's 2009 Great Hudson River Revival Festival celebrates the 40th anniversary of the launch of the sloop Clearwater, the 90th birthday of the legendary folksinger, and Clearwater founder, Pete Seeger and the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's voyage up the river on the Half Moon.

The two-day festival is set for Saturday and Sunday June 20 & 21 on the shores of beautiful Croton Point Park in Croton-on-Hudson, NY. A free shuttle bus connects the Croton-Harmon Station with the park.

This year's lineup will appeal to all kinds of people interested in great music and environmental awareness. Longtime, folk-centric Clearwater favorites like Richie Havens, Jay Ungar and Molly Mason, Rik Palieri, Linda Richards and Rick Nestler, will share the stages with many festival newbies such as The Persuasions, indie pop-rock bands Dr. Dog and Elvis Perkins in Dearland, New Pornographers front man A.C. Newman, acclaimed singer-songwriters Alejandro Escovedo and Allison Moorer, bluegrass/jamband Cornmeal, Irish dance band Mac Tall Mor, and the Sleepy Hollow String Band and more. Pete Seeger will be performing at various junctures during the two-day festival, as usual, and his grandson and frequent collaborator, Tao Rodriguez-Seeger, will also be playing a set with his new band.

The Clearwater Festival will also feature a number of superb storytellers and family-oriented entertainers, as well juried crafts, a Green Living Expo, a working riverfront, environmental education sites and the Circle of Song, where audience participation is the focus. The entire festival is wheelchair accessible and staffed with American Sign Language interpreters.

Dozens of other discount Getaway packages can be purchased at Metro-North ticket offices and at full-service ticket machines, including those at Grand Central Terminal. Packages are not sold on board trains and are not available at ticket offices or ticket machines at the event's train station. For example, the package to Empire City Yonkers Raceway, is not available at Fleetwood Station ticket office or ticket machines.

All packages include discounted round-trip rail fare and discount admission. Purchase your Metro-North Getaway package online and receive an additional 5 percent off the already discounted rail fare. Packages are on sale now.

The Spring 2009 Getaways to the Hudson Valley, Connecticut and Beyond Guide and the 2009 Manhattan Getaways Guide, are available at Grand Central Terminal, all Metro-North ticket offices, and at hotels and visitor centers throughout Manhattan, or, visit us on-line at www.mta.info, where you'll save an additional 5 percent off the already deeply discounted rail fare portion. To receive additional information about discount Getaway packages throughout the year, sign up for "Discount Getaways News."

For more information about packages or to receive a free brochure, call 212-532-4900; outside of NYC call 800-METRO-INFO (800-638-7646).