



AMERICA'S CAR MUSEUM®

## America's Car Museum to Spotlight Car Restoration Apprenticeship Program and Job Creation at New York International Auto Show

*HEP' program providing hands-on training to help drive up youth employment in \$1.3-billion industry*

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TACOMA, Wash. (March 20, 2015) – With the economy continuing to shift into high gear, America's Car Museum (ACM) is helping to train students and create more jobs in the \$1 billion-plus automotive restoration arena through the Hagerty Education Program at America's Car Museum (HEP). ACM, the largest automotive museum in North America, will spotlight HEP along with several fully restored collector cars in its display at the upcoming New York International Auto Show (NYIAS) in the South Concourse of the Jacob Javits Center.

"It's all about job creation," said David Madeira, president and CEO of Tacoma, Washington-based ACM. "The automotive industry is skyrocketing and needs an influx of skilled workers and technicians. The restoration segment alone was worth \$1.36 billion in retail parts sales in 2014, according to the Specialty Equipment Market Association. That's why youth training and apprentice programs like HEP are so important to keep the job market growing."

Madeira pointed out that the restoration retail figure doesn't include labor, installation or the sale of collector cars, which hit \$1.3 billion in 2013, according to Hagerty, ACM's partner with HEP.

"We partnered with Hagerty last year to create HEP to increase support, education and comprehensive training to provide jobs and long-term careers to young people in the automotive restoration and preservation business," Madeira said.

Similarly, the Greater New York Automobile Dealers Association, the organization that owns and operates the Auto Show, supports education and training.

Ten years ago, the Association created and built a \$30 million automotive education and training complex near its headquarters in Whitestone, Queens. The Center for Automotive Education and Training conducts hundreds of continuing education courses and seminars each year for existing dealership personnel. It also houses the region's most prestigious post-secondary auto technician training program through its partner, Lincoln Technical Institute.

"Each year, for the last decade, our Lincoln Tech campus in Queens, NY graduates more than 700 highly trained technicians, ready to join the workforce and embark on fulfilling careers in the auto industry," said Association president, Mark Schienberg. "We are proud of the many young men and women who have worked hard, studied and prepared themselves for this exciting business."

With the same goal, HEP has awarded more than \$2.75 million toward student education and training since 2005. "The goal is to help make a positive impact on young adults and help them develop the necessary job skills for a rewarding, long-term career path in automotive restoration,"



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Madeira said. "The collector car industry is a high-growth environment with the potential to provide employment to a new generation of young people now entering the workplace. HEP's mission is to make it a reality."

A selection of collector vehicles to be displayed in the ACM exhibit at the NYIAS include:

From the Collection of Allentown Classic Motor Car, Inc.

- 1940 Buick Model 59 Super Estate Wagon (burgundy)
- 1936 Hudson 65 Custom 8 Convertible (teal)
- 1940 Lincoln Zephyr V12 Coupe (burgundy)

From the Collection of Don and Flo Makofske

- Jesse James Custom Motorcycle, *E'l Diablo*
- 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle LS6 SS (red)

### About the Hagerty Education Program at America's Car Museum

The Hagerty Education Program at America's Car Museum (HEP) is a grant-giving program supporting the **pathway to careers** for 18-25 year olds. We are at the center of a movement to preserve the skills and knowledge needed to protect our automotive heritage, by funding educational programs, scholarships and paid internships & apprenticeships. Founded in 2005 by Hagerty and formerly known as The Collectors Foundation, HEP supports hands-on, career-based education in communities around the United States and Canada while promoting America's automotive history and the interests of the collector community. HEP has awarded more than \$2.5 million in scholarships and grants since 2005. **This is the heart of HEP.**

### About LeMay – America's Car Museum ([www.lemaymuseum.org](http://www.lemaymuseum.org))

America's Car Museum (ACM), named one of *USA Today*'s 10 Best Museums in Seattle and KING 5's 2014 Best Museum in Western Washington, is an international destination where families and enthusiasts gather to celebrate America's love affair with the automobile and how it shaped our society. The stunning, four-level, 165,000-sq.-ft. Tacoma, Wash., facility features 12 rotating exhibits, five annual Signature Events and serves as an educational center, hosting students of all ages. For more information on ACM, visit [www.lemaymuseum.org](http://www.lemaymuseum.org).

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