

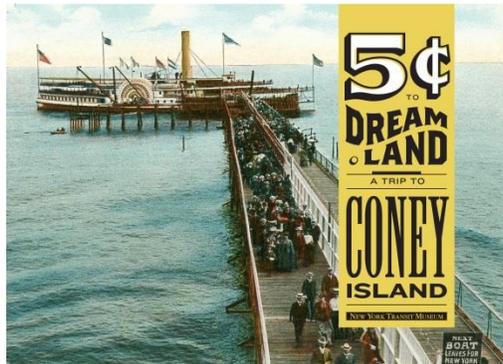
NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM

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FIVE CENTS TO DREAMLAND: A TRIP TO CONEY ISLAND

Exhibition opening July 2, 2016 at the New York Transit Museum in Downtown Brooklyn

From horse-drawn streetcars, steamboats, and railroads, to the buses and subways of today, mass transportation has played a pivotal role in Coney Island's development as a whirling smorgasbord of amusement parks, seaside resorts, veiled temptation, and kitsch. A complex and rollicking microcosm of Americana, Coney Island has weathered fire, flood, Prohibition, the Great Depression and the changing mores and morals of a diverse society. **Opening Saturday, July 2**, the New York Transit Museum's next exhibition *Five Cents to Dreamland: A Trip to Coney Island* explores how transport to Coney Island has changed and developed with the times, propelling the Island's transformation from a retreat for the rich to the people's playground.

Through objects and images from the Transit Museum's collections, *Five Cents to Dreamland* traces the evolution of public transportation in Brooklyn and its storied connections to the wonders of Coney Island both past and present. New York & Sea Beach Railroad tickets from ca. 1880, vintage Coney Island destination signs, and postcards dating as far back as the late 19th century offer a glimpse of the vital role mass transit played in transforming Coney Island from a summer vacation destination to a treasured year-round neighborhood and American icon. Visitors will also have the opportunity to view patent drawings for the world's first roller coasters and, for a fun twist, see their distorted reflection in a wacky funhouse mirror.

Five Cents to Dreamland is the first in a three-part series of exhibitions and programs showing how transportation has influenced the development of New York City. In 2017, exhibitions on this theme will focus on the impact of the 7 train on Queens and the Fulton Ferry on Downtown Brooklyn. To learn more about Transit Museum exhibitions, visit nytransitmuseum.org/exhibits.

Five Cents to Dreamland opens to the public on Saturday, July 2 at the New York Transit Museum in Downtown Brooklyn. The Transit Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m.

to 4p.m; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and is closed Mondays, major holidays and for special events. General admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 2-17 years old, \$5 and free on Wednesdays for senior citizens 62 years and up, and free for museum members. For more information on hours, admission and directions, please visit: nytransitmuseum.org/visit.

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Transit Museum will present a series of panels, tours, and gallery talks that explore related themes and topics. Curators of the exhibit will present gallery talks on [Friday, July 15th](#) and [Friday, August 26th](#) and the Transit Museum's fleet of R1/9 cars from the 1930s will head out to Coney Island for a nostalgia ride on [Sunday, July 31st](#). For more details regarding Transit Museum programs, visit nytransitmuseum.org/programs.

This exhibit is generously sponsored by Scheidt & Bachmann. Additional support is provided by di Domenico + Partners LLP, and by Domingo Gonzalez Associates Architectural Lighting Design. Exhibits at the New York Transit Museum are made possible, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM:

The [New York Transit Museum](#), one of the city's leading cultural institutions, is the largest museum in the United States devoted to urban public transportation history and one of the premier institutions of its kind in the world. The Museum explores the development of the greater New York metropolitan region through the presentation of exhibitions, tours, educational programs and workshops dealing with the cultural, social and technological history of public transportation. Since its inception nearly forty years ago, the Museum – which is housed in a historic 1936 IND subway station in Downtown Brooklyn – has grown in scope and popularity. As custodian and interpreter of the region's extensive public transportation networks, the Museum strives to share through its public programs their rich and vibrant history with local, regional, and international audiences.

What: Five Cents to Dreamland: A Trip to Coney Island

When: July 2, 2016 – December 4, 2016

Where: New York Transit Museum
Corner of Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street
Downtown Brooklyn

Images: Download a press kit at nytransitmuseum.org/press.

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