



# *News Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS SIXTH ANNUAL GALA TO CELEBRATE 50 YEARS, RAISE FUNDS FOR THE DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM**

**DETROIT** - Join the **Detroit Historical Society** for a celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of our region's premier keepers of maritime history at the **2010 Dossin Great Lakes Museum Gala** on **Friday, April 30** from **6 – 10 p.m.**, co-presented with the **Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority**. This year's gala features a casino theme, strolling dinner, the opportunity to explore the Museum's new exhibits, complimentary valet parking, music, and a silent auction.

Proceeds from the Gala provide much needed funds to support the Dossin Great Lakes Museum so that the Society can continue to provide educational programs and exhibits that celebrate the maritime history of our region.

For tickets or information, call the Society's Development Office at **(313) 833-4143**. "High Roller" tickets are \$200/person, with "Shark" level tickets at \$150 and "Snapper" level (for Society friends 35 and under) at \$100. Cocktail attire is requested. All tickets will be held at the door.

**Sean & Nancy Cotton** are the Event Sponsors for this year's Gala; **Doug & Diane Dossin** are the Dinner Sponsors; **Jim & Ann Nicholson** are the Invitation Sponsors; **St. John Health System** is the Valet Sponsor; **Michigan Marine Terminal on behalf of Mr. & Mrs. Martin Krall** is the Decor Sponsor; the **Detroit International Bridge Company** is the Auction Sponsor; **Richard & Elaine Dossin** are the Entertainment Sponsors; **Sidonie Dossin Brown** is the Beverage Sponsor; **Michael & Jennifer Kosonog on behalf of Deloitte & Touche LLP** are the Blackjack Sponsors; **Ernest & Mary Dossin** are the Poker Sponsors; **Marianne Endicott** is the Roulette Sponsor; **Detroit Thermal, LLC** is the Dessert Sponsor; and **The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.** is the Hors D'Oeuvres Sponsor.

The Honorary Host Committee for the gala includes the following: **Christopher & Anne Blake**; Detroit Mayor **Dave Bing**; **Catharine & Kevin Broderick**; **Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Brodie**; Detroit City Councilman **Gary A. Brown**; **Sidonie Dossin Brown**; **Joel & Lauren Bruss**; Detroit Historical Society CEO **Bob Bury & Mary Ann Bury**; **Ed & Judy Christian**; Detroit City Councilman **Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr.**; **Sean & Nancy Cotton**; **Ernest & Mary Dossin**; **Doug & Diane Dossin**; **Richard & Elaine Dossin**; **Marianne T. Endicott**; **Brian Geer**; **Robert & Ann Greenstone**; **Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Hertel**; Detroit City Councilwoman **Brenda Jones**; Detroit City Councilman **Kwame Kenyatta**; **Stephanie Germack Kerzic & Patrick Kerzic**; **Mr. & Mrs. Martin A. Krall**; Wayne County Commissioner **Tim Killeen**; **Mr. & Mrs. Dennis J. Levasseur**; U.S. Senator **Carl Levin**; Detroit Historical Society President **Sandy McMillan & Mimi McMillan**; **David & Kristin Nicholson**; **Jim & Ann Nicholson**; **Christa & Greg Schwartz**; U.S. Senator **Debbie Stabenow**; Detroit City Councilman **James E. Tate**; and Detroit City Councilwoman **JoAnn Watson**.

The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is dedicated to preserving and presenting the rich legacy of the Great Lakes. In 1949, the Maritime Museum of Detroit was opened on Belle Isle aboard the landed wood schooner *J. T. Wing*, the last commercial sailing ship on the Great Lakes. Seven years later, this Museum was closed due to the deteriorated condition of the *J.T. Wing*. The Dossin Family, a well-known name in the wholesale food and soft drink businesses, provided the funds for a new maritime museum. The new facility, now named the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, opened on the *Wing's* former Belle Isle site on July 24, 1960, the 259<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Detroit's founding.

The Dossin Museum, located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle, is open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free at the Museum during 2010 courtesy of **MASCO**; however, donations are welcome. During the week, the Museum is open for group tours by advance reservation. Permanent exhibits include the *Miss Pepsi* vintage 1950s championship hydroplane, a bow anchor from the *S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald*, the pilothouse from the Great Lakes freighter *S.S. William Clay Ford*, and one of the largest known collections of scale model ships in the world. New exhibits include *Life on a Long Ship: Great Lakes Sailors* and *Dossin Great Lakes Museum: Celebrating 50 Years*, both opening to the public Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. For more information, call **(313) 833-5538** or visit [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

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