

MAKING HISTORY

A QUARTERLY GUIDE TO EXHIBITIONS, EVENTS, TOURS, PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Happy Holidays!

FEATURES

Free holiday admission.....	3	Fun and interesting things to do.....	6-8
New exhibits opening soon.....	5	Don't miss Glancy Trains Show!	9

MAKING HISTORY is the official quarterly newsletter of the Detroit Historical Society, published each winter, spring, summer, and fall. Questions and comments may be submitted to Peter Poulos at peterp@detroithistorical.org.

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Letter from the Executive Director Bob Bury

It only seems appropriate that the city that put the world on wheels should also be home to some of the world's most important and historic streets. The cover of this issue of *Making History* features a beautiful holiday picture of Detroit's Washington Boulevard from 80 years ago. Anchored by the spectacular Statler and Book Cadillac hotels, Washington Boulevard was designed to resemble New York's Fifth Avenue and the stylish boulevards of Europe's most cosmopolitan

cities. Home to an upscale residential neighborhood and high end shopping district, Washington Boulevard was part of a thriving Detroit, when many of the landmarks we know today — the Ambassador Bridge, the Detroit Zoo, the Fisher Building and many others — emerged.

Much has changed in the years since this photograph was taken. Today, Washington Boulevard — with the new Book Cadillac Hotel and other planned enhancements — remains an important part of Detroit's history and future. It joins Woodward and other historic thoroughfares that are being renewed, refreshed and adapted for city life in Detroit as we know it today.

For many, this is a time for breaking the routine and reflecting both on the past and on what lies ahead. Also, the holiday season often brings back fond memories of family and friends from years gone by. Perhaps your memories include experiencing America's Thanksgiving Parade, visiting Santa at Hudson's or strolling down Washington Boulevard on a snowy day like the one pictured on our cover.

This holiday season, I hope you will continue to make great memories in Detroit. From enjoying the great outdoors at Campus Martius Park to spending a leisurely afternoon with family and friends on "our streets" — the *Streets of Old Detroit* — there is no better time to reflect on Detroit's remarkable past and be a part of its exciting future.

I hope to see you this holiday season. On behalf of the Board, staff, volunteers, donors and friends of the Detroit Historical Society, thank you for your continued support of our work and your confidence in our future.

Happy Holidays and all the best for the new year!

Sincerely,

Robert A. Bury

Executive Director & CEO
Detroit Historical Society

P.S. Please accept *our holiday gift to you* and visit us *free of charge* during the holiday season, December 26th through January 2nd. See page 3 for details!

ON THE COVER:

Washington Boulevard, as it appeared during the holidays, in 1930. Photo courtesy of Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University.

Society presents African American History Day

On Saturday, February 5, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Detroit Historical Society will celebrate Black History Month by hosting "African American History Day" at the Detroit Historical Museum. Offering **free admission** for all, "African American History Day" highlights the rich history and culture of the African American community in the region.

This annual event continues to grow, and we invite you to join in the celebration!

Find a variety of gifts or pamper yourself with items from our Artists Market in the *Streets of Old Detroit*, learn from many of the historical organizations in the area, and bring the kids to enjoy entertainment and a caricature artist throughout the afternoon.

Refreshments will be available for purchase. Make your plans now! (See pages 8 and 13 for more Black History Month offerings.)

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MICHIGAN CHRONICLE



Free admission, extended hours during holidays – our way of saying 'thanks'

As a special "thank you" to the community for its support during these challenging economic times, the Detroit Historical Society is offering free admission to the Detroit Historical Museum this holiday season, as well as extended visitor hours.

The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day from December 26, 2010 through January 2, 2011 (except New Year's Day).

Take a break from the hustle and bustle! Bring the entire family and experience a fun-filled, relaxing day — on us!

(NOTE: The Detroit Historical Museum will be closed on December 24 and December 25 in observance of the Christmas Holiday as well as on January 1, 2011.)



Society welcomes new Director of Education

After a national search, Tobi Voigt has been hired by the Detroit Historical Society for the position of Director of Education. Reporting to David Janssen, Society Vice President for Collections & Interpretation, Voigt is responsible for developing programs, tours, and materials for school-age audiences, and contributing to gallery programs for walk-in visitors at both the Detroit Historical Museum and Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

Prior to coming to the Society, Voigt spent more than five years at the New York State Historical Association in Cooperstown, four of those years in the position of Manager of Statewide Programs. While there, she handled the National History Day in New York program, created professional development programs related to museum collections and exhibitions, and put together online and printed curriculum materials.

Before moving to New York, Voigt started her museum career at the Rochester Hills Museum, where for over three years she worked with educational staff as an interpreter and program developer, assisted curatorial staff on exhibit development, oversaw the museum's collections, managed the gift shop and served as volunteer coordinator.

A metro Detroit native, Voigt grew up in Troy and graduated from Athens High School. She holds bachelor of arts degrees in history and psychology from Oakland University and a master of arts in history museum studies from the Cooperstown (NY) Graduate Program.

Society elects new president

At its recent annual meeting, the Detroit Historical Society elected Thomas Buhl of Grosse Pointe Farms as its new president, succeeding Francis W. "Sandy" McMillan, who will stay on as Immediate Past President.

Buhl is Vice President of Investments at the Grosse Pointe Farms offices of USB Financial Services.



Outgoing Society President Sandy McMillan (l) passes the gavel to incoming President Thomas Buhl at the annual meeting.

Exclusive Detroit Historical Society Member Preview

Attention members! Watch your mail this winter for your invitation to an exclusive Member Preview Reception at the Detroit Historical Museum on Friday, March 18 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

This exclusive, members-only event will showcase the newest exhibits at the Detroit Historical Museum. Be among the first to see *Fabulous 5: Detroit's Award Winners*, *Detroit Artists Showcase* and *New to the Collection*. (See page 5 for details on exhibits.)



If you're a member and would like to RSVP — or if you'd like to become a member so you can attend — please contact Amanda Saoud at (313) 833-1980 or at amandas@detroithistorical.org.



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Saying I Do: Metro Detroit Weddings

Now open • Booth Wilkinson Gallery

"I do." Brides and grooms have been uttering these words in one way or another — and in one language or another — for a long time in metro Detroit as part of the colorful pageantry that celebrates hopeful futures as well as the uniting of families, neighbors and communities. But weddings can be much more than that. They can be solemn ceremonies that reflect centuries of cultural and ethnic traditions, with rituals that span generations.

This exhibition, *Saying I Do: Metro Detroit Weddings*, highlights three centuries of these personal stories and community rituals as it examines the traditions surrounding marriage and weddings.

Portions of the Detroit Historical Society's collection of wedding gowns and accessories will be highlighted in this exhibit. The Society has also established partnerships with a host of ethnic and community groups from throughout the region as a means of ensuring diverse representation of traditional costumes, ceremonial artifacts and stories.

Be sure to put this on your "must see" list and discover the rich, diverse ways metro Detroit has been saying "I do" for more than 300 years!



Fabulous 5

Fabulous 5: Detroit's Historic Retailers

Open through Feb. 27, 2011 • Kresge Gallery

The *Fabulous 5* exhibit series focuses on the people, places, products, and events that have shaped Detroit's history. The Detroit Historical Society changes this exhibit space regularly to highlight five examples of excellence within a range of topics. As such, this installment of our *Fabulous 5* series focuses on many of the retailers that changed the way we shop.

Fyfe's Shoes, Crowley Milner and Company, Ernest Kern Company, J. L. Hudson Company, and S. S. Kresge Company helped define the shopping experience for generations of Detroiters. Their familiar names evoke a nostalgic sense of quality and community.

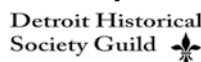
Each created its own identity within the robust culture of retail stores and chains that has served the region for over a century. What's more, they collectively created innovations that impacted how people shop, including ideas such as having the prices clearly marked on merchandise, using store-issued credit cards for payment, a bridal registry, the installation of motor stairs for ease of shopping — even air cooled comfort while shopping. Each of these innovations was born here in Detroit.

Come learn about these and more while revisiting the days when "window shopping" was more than just the click of mouse!

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Scripps-Booth "DaVinci Pup" Cyclecar

Now open
Automotive Showplace

The Scripps-Booth Cyclecar Company was founded in 1913 and occupied a factory less than a mile from the Detroit Historical Museum. A short-lived trend in the early days of "motoring," cycle cars were designed to be small, sporty and particularly fast. The company produced about 400 vehicles before the fad passed.

This "DaVinci Pup" is one of four Scripps-Booth vehicles in the Detroit Historical Society Collection and is yet another one-of-a-kind example that we're proud to display. Constructed on a wood frame, the boat-tailed aluminum body weighs 1,250 pounds and is powered by an all-aluminum 16-valve, 4-cylinder engine. Two rubber belts turn the wheels, propelling this car at over 90 mph.

While its value is indeed priceless, consider this: it was *built* at a cost of \$30,000! Don't miss this unique piece of automotive history.



VeloCity: Detroit's Need for Speed

Now open • Stark Hall

Metro Detroiters have always been ready to say "I'll race you!" From early Native American foot races to French horse races — right up to the recent Red Bull Air Races — we've always found the thrill of a race irresistible. No matter the century, no matter the season, the challenge has been met!

VeloCity: Detroit's Need for Speed is an exhibit devoted to our appetite for fast competitions. While other towns can claim to



race cars or boats or planes, Detroit's unique geography has enabled us to have been involved in all of these at their inception.

Community Partner



But this exhibit is more than just a history lesson. After all, racing is about thrills — for contestants and fans alike. Exciting graphics, videos and stories allow visitors to explore the nature of various sports and enhance the exhibit's appeal.

It's guaranteed to feed your need for speed!



Fabulous 5

Fabulous 5: Detroit's Award Winners

Opens March 19, 2011 • Kresge Gallery

The *Fabulous 5* exhibits highlight outstanding things about Detroit — people and aspects of the city that Detroiters love and respect. Occasionally, these wonderful elements of local culture are recognized nationally and internationally. *Detroit's Award Winners* is a salute to five people that have been honored in this manner.

Each of these Detroiters received awards that honor their extraordinary achievements. They are representative of the dynamic talent that this city has produced over three centuries. Their recognition instills pride in our city and hope for our future.

Fabulous 5: Detroit's Award Winners includes Mitch Albom, *Detroit Free Press* journalist, who received the 2010 Red Smith Award for Lifetime Achievement, given by the Associated Press Sports Editors for outstanding contributions to sports journalism. Albom has also been recognized as an author, screenwriter, radio personality and for charitable contributions to the city.

Dr. Ralph Bunche, Detroit-born United States Ambassador to the United Nations, was the recipient of the 1950 Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to mediate an agreement between Israel and numerous

Arab states. He was also recognized with numerous honorary doctorates and the 1949 Spingarn Medal from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Julie Harris, locally born actress from Grosse Pointe, received the American Theatre Wing's Tony Special Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002. She is also recognized for her 10 nominations and five Tony awards — the most ever — as well as the National Medal of the Arts that she received in 1994.

Joe Louis, native Detroit heavyweight boxing champion, was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1981. Louis was honored for his numerous boxing achievements, but more importantly for his service to the United States as a soldier and a symbol of American determination.

Diana Ross, vocalist and actress, was a recipient of the prestigious Kennedy Center Honors in 2007. That same year she also received the Black Entertainment Television Lifetime Achievement Award. Both of these accolades recognized her numerous Grammy nominations, American Music Awards, Golden Globe and Tony awards, as well as her place in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Make sure to visit this great exhibit and celebrate their remarkable achievements.

New to the Collection

Opens March 19, 2011 • Booth Wilkinson Showcase

The Detroit Historical Society holds more than 200,000 artifacts in its collection. Long after memories fade and perspectives change, these objects will remain to document our past and contribute to a broader understanding of the individuals, places and events that helped shape our region's history.

Throughout its history of preserving the objects that tell the stories of our region, the Detroit Historical Society has counted on the generosity of donors across the country to enhance its collection. The objects in this exhibit represent our most recent acquisitions and are only a fraction of the artifacts that the Society has collected over the past year.

Stop by and see the latest installment that includes:

- A beautiful wooden arm chair from the Great Lakes steamer, the *City of Detroit III*
- A colorful collectible glass from Detroit's own Milky the Clown (c. 1950–1964)
- Flatware that was given from the City Council of Detroit to Frank E. Doremus in 1910



Detroit Artists Showcase

Opens March 19, 2011
Second Floor Corridor

Janet Anderson (1949–1996) was best known for her extensive body of pen and ink and watercolor illustrations of Detroit

buildings and landmarks. In the 1970s and 1980s, she was an avid chronicler of life in the city and she was a featured artist in a temporary exhibit at the Detroit Historical Museum. This installation displays an array of images including the Detroit skyline, the Penobscot Building and the Bob-Lo boat.

COMMUNITY GALLERY



WWJ Newsradio 950: 90 Years of Innovation

Open through Jan. 2, 2011

On August 20, 1920, the *Detroit News* launched a radio station called 8MK with a short broadcast — the first commercial radio broadcast in American history! In the 90 years since, WWJ (the call letters of the station since 1922) has told the city's story and brought metro Detroiters many firsts and innovations.

This exhibit shares the station's rich history through a variety of unique artifacts, photographs and, of course, audio and video.



Michigan Sports Hall of Fame

Opens Jan. 15, 2011

The Michigan Sports Hall of Fame will present a spirited, interactive exhibit featuring an exciting theme based on comebacks and championships. From the Red Wings' unbelievable stretch as the best team in hockey after years of being one of the worst, to the Tigers' remarkable comeback in 1968, this exhibit will evoke nostalgic memories for fans of all ages.

Messages of teamwork, persistence and faith will invite visitors to take home a feeling of inspiration relevant to their lives — especially during our economic comeback journey.

WINTER 2011

BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS

\$20 Detroit Historical Society members • \$30 Guests (unless otherwise noted)

Sponsored by  DTE Energy

Advance reservations required. Tour registrants receive directions to the tour location, a map and additional information 1–2 weeks after payment is received. On average, tours last from 90 minutes to two hours. No refunds or tour credits will be given. You may choose from three options to sign-up:

- ① Fill out and send the form on page 11 ② Register online at www.detroithistorical.org ③ Call (313) 833-1801 to register by phone

The Fillmore

January 8 – 10 a.m.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Built in 1925, the Fillmore Detroit was known for most of its history as the State Theatre. Prior to that, it was the Palms Theatre, a movie house in the Renaissance Revival style of architecture. C. Howard Crane was the original architect, and the building is still called the Francis Palms Building. Be prepared to be astounded as you learn more about its rich history!

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

January 15 – 11 a.m.

*\$30 members/\$40 guests**Includes lunch!*

The Grosse Pointe Yacht Club's roots go back to 1914, when 25 local men formed a club to pursue their interests in ice boating and sailing on Lake St. Clair. Guy Lowell, a well-known Boston architect and yachtsman of the 1920s, was responsible for the unique 18th century Italian Renaissance design of the clubhouse. It was dedicated on July 4, 1929.

With its harmonious blend of sun-splashed creamy stucco and red tile, its rhythmic curving arches and elaborate gothic windows are dominated by a 187-foot bell tower, that serves as a navigational aid to Lake St. Clair boaters.



Grosse Pointe War Memorial

January 22 – 10 a.m.

*\$40 members/\$50 guests**Includes lunch!*

Housed on the shores of Lake St. Clair in Grosse Pointe Farms, the Grosse Pointe War Memorial serves as a center for enrichment in honor of veterans. The building itself, a mansion built in 1910 and donated to the community in honor of World War II veterans, is the former home of the Russell Alger family. The home is designated as a state and national historic site.



Fox Theatre

January 29 – 10 a.m.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Designed by C. Howard Crane and built in 1928, the Fox Theatre is the culmination of flamboyant movie palace architectural design! Crane, who designed more than 250 theaters by 1928, considered the Fox his best effort. Its size, ornate decoration and mechanical systems made it the premier example of what a movie palace could be.

Today, the Fox holds the distinction of being the largest continually operating theater in the country.

February 5 • NO TOUR

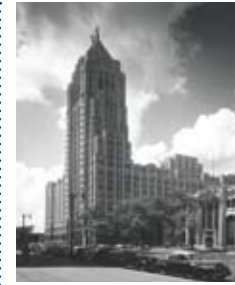
Detroit Boat Club

February 12 – 10 a.m.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Sixty-three years after our founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence, 22 years before the Civil War, two years after Michigan became a state, and while Abraham Lincoln was still a 30-year-old lawyer in Illinois, the Detroit Boat Club was founded!

Organized by oarsmen on February 18, 1839, it is the oldest continuous rowing club in the world, the oldest boating club in the United States and the oldest social club in Michigan. The Club had five clubhouses at several locations in the Detroit area before it built the fireproof one that opened on Belle Isle on August 4, 1902.



Fisher Building

February 19 – 11 a.m.

*\$20 members/**\$30 guests*

When the seven Fisher Brothers of Fisher Body fame hired architect Albert Kahn in 1927 to design a building

that would bear their name, they gave him a blank check and the instructions to build "the most beautiful building in the world."

Come explore this Detroit landmark with celebrated Preservation Wayne guide Ellen Howell.

Detroit Public TV Broadcast Studios

February 24 – 11 a.m.

*Special Thursday tour!**\$20 members/\$30 guests**Lunch included!*

Detroit Public Television (DPTV) is the only public television station in the Detroit market. It is Michigan's most watched public station, and is regularly viewed by some 1.5 million people in southeast Michigan each week.

DPTV operates from the Riley Broadcast Center, named for lead donors Dolores and George Riley, in Wixom.

Conservation & Museum Services

March 5 – 11 a.m.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Conservator Kenneth Katz opens his studio to display and discuss his work to conserve and restore paintings, frames, decorative objects, examinations and reports as well as decorative architectural and painted surfaces for museums, historic houses, corporations and individuals.

Don't miss this fascinating, behind the scenes tour!

COME
experience
history
FIRSTHAND!

WINTER 2011

BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS

\$20 Detroit Historical Society members • \$30 Guests (unless otherwise noted)

Sponsored by  DTE Energy

Advance reservations required. Tour registrants receive directions to the tour location, a map and additional information 1–2 weeks after payment is received. No refunds or tour credits will be given. You may choose from three options to sign-up:

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Art House

March 12 – 10 a.m.

*\$40 members/**\$50 guests**Includes hors d'oeuvres reception!*

Completed in 1872, this 23-room,

Gothic Revival home in Brush Park features original parquet and Minton tile flooring, wall coverings, woodwork, mantles, over-mantle mirrors and period furnishings.

Our tour will end with a reception in the third-floor ballroom where an installation of historic photos of Detroit will be on display.

Venus Bronze Works

March 19 – 1 p.m.

\$20 members/\$30 guests

Join Giorgio Gikas, the founder and president of Venus Bronze Works, Inc., Center for Conservation of Detroit, for this unique look at one of a handful of companies in the country that specialize in outdoor sculptural conservation.

Some museums and private institutions have their own in-house conservation staff, but for everyone else, companies like Venus ensure that the heads, arms, and other parts of sculptures stay intact. Given the unique skills required for this job, and the fact that the weather is always, well, weathering, there is always a demand for Gikas' services.



McClure's Pickles

March 24 – 9 a.m.

*Special Thursday tour!**\$10 members/\$20 guests*

Starting with their great grandmother's recipe, the McClure brothers founded McClure's Pickles in 2006, after years of making pickles in their tiny Michigan kitchen. They make the pickles, relish, mustard, and other McClure's products just outside of Detroit and in Brooklyn, New York.

Every jar is hand-packed and the cucumbers are hand-sliced. Their labels, printed by Rolling Press, use soy and vegetable inks with chemical-free plating, and are created with wind-powered electricity. This tour is your chance to see their pickles being made and to taste for yourself the products born of their family recipe.



Historic Houses of Worship Tours

Since 1972, the Historic Houses of Worship tours have acquainted metro Detroiters with the contributions religious institutions have made in the development of our community. These tours are co-sponsored by the Detroit Historical Society and the National Society of Colonial Dames of America in the State of Michigan.

For the first time, tours feature the comfort of motorcoaches, providing you with a relaxing view of our architecturally unique city!

Cost is \$30 for Detroit Historical Society members; \$40 for guests. **Tours run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** and both depart from and return to the Detroit Historical Museum (unless otherwise noted).

NOTE: Due to the popularity of these tours, it's recommended that you make reservations well in advance. No group or individual reservations will be held without payment in full.

Monday, March 7

Our Lady of the Rosary
First Unitarian Universalist
Christ Church Detroit
Second Baptist
Central United Methodist

Monday, April 4

Immaculate Conception
St. Ladislaus
St. Matthew & St. Joseph
St. Florian
Sacred Heart



Some events require registration. Unless otherwise noted, you may choose from three options to sign up:

- 1 Fill out and return the form on page 11 with your payment
- 2 Register online at www.detroithistorical.org
- 3 Call (313) 833-1801 to register by phone

Author Series

The Detroit Historical Society Author Series offers an opportunity to meet with those who write the fascinating stories behind our city's history and is presented in partnership with Arcadia Books.

Admission is FREE for Society Members and \$10 for Guests. Advance registration is requested but walk-ins are welcome.

Wednesday, January 19 • 6 p.m.

Featured author – Michael Hauser, *Remembering Hudson's: The Grand Dame of Detroit Retailing* (Detroit Historical Museum)



The J. L. Hudson Company redefined the way Detroiters shopped and enjoyed leisure time. A solid and lofty icon built by businesspeople who followed their passion, Hudson's defined Detroit's

downtown, creating trends and traditions in consumer culture that still resonate with us today.

Now and in the future, as Hudson's boxes, shopping bags, and artifacts are discovered in closets, attics, basements, and flea markets, many will remember that it was once as solid a civic fixture as the City-County Building or the Detroit Public Library. Join us for this nostalgic — and enlightening — evening.

Scholar Series

The Detroit Historical Society Scholar Series is an academic approach to Detroit's history. Presenters cover the causes, meanings, outcomes and possibilities that surround events and places in our community's past, present and future.

Admission is FREE for Society Members and \$10 for Guests. RSVP is requested but walk-ins are welcome.

Wednesday, February 16 • 6 p.m.

Featured scholar – Carol E. Mull, author of *The Underground Railroad in Michigan* (Detroit Historical Museum)

Though living far north of the Mason-Dixon line, many mid-19th century citizens of Michigan rose up to protest the moral offense of slavery. They published an

abolitionist newspaper and founded an anti-slavery society, as well as campaigned for emancipation. By the 1840s, a prominent abolitionist from Illinois had crossed the state line to Michigan, establishing new stations on the Underground Railroad.

This book is the first comprehensive exploration of abolitionism and the network of escape from slavery in our state. First-person accounts, interwoven with an expansive historical overview of national events, offer a fresh examination of Michigan's critical role in the movement to end American slavery.

Wednesday, March 16 • 6 p.m.

Featured scholar – Jennifer Baross, *Corrado Parducci, Architectural Sculptor* (Detroit Historical Museum)

In 1924, at the urging of Albert Kahn, Corrado Parducci came to Detroit. Parducci only intended to stay two months. He remained for six decades, and is revered as one of Detroit's greatest architectural artists. Parducci's work can be found in and around Detroit, with nearly 600 commissions.

Parducci's best known Detroit commissions include the Guardian, Buhl and Penobscot buildings. His work can be found in the delicate, exquisite details in the Christopher Wren dining room at Meadow Brook Hall, and the chiseled panels of the Federal Building. The Horace H. Rackham Memorial Fountain, or "the bear fountain" at the Detroit Zoo, is quite possibly Parducci's most loved work.

Jennifer Baross will discuss Corrado Parducci's process, give an overview of his work, and share the fascinating story of the humble young artist whose talents were discovered during Detroit's 1920s building boom.

Film Series

The Detroit Historical Society Films Series screens films that cover a range of Detroit history subjects. Films will screen on the second weekend of every month at 1 p.m. Admission to films is FREE with regular admission to the Detroit Historical Museum.

January 8 & 9

Dom Polski: Dance Hall Days of Detroit's Polonia (Producer's cut*)
 Running time: 90 minutes

This non-profit documentary film chronicles the history of the early twentieth-century Polish-American immigrants and their cultural traditions — in particular, their musical traditions. It is a celebration of Polish immigrant life and culture in Detroit's east and west side communities.

The unique musical culture was developed exclusively by Polish-American musicians during an unprecedented era of creativity and was performed in dance halls, clubs, and Polish-American social halls (*Dom Polskis*, or "Polish homes") throughout America. As the bandleaders of Detroit came of age, they modeled their style on that of the most popular East Coast Polish-American bandleaders and incorporated other genres such as jazz, classical, Latin, and blues, creating a sound and style that was unique to Detroit, yet as distinctly Polish-American as the musical styles that developed in other American cities with large Polish-American populations (Polonia).

*Producer will be on-hand to sell copies of the DVD after each screening.



February 12 & 13
Ralph Bunche, The Man Behind the Myth
 Running time: 40 minutes

Our hometown peace and human rights advocate, Dr. Ralph Johnson Bunche is not only the first African American to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1950, but also the first person of color, according to the Nobel Foundation, to be so honored. This film was made available through the Ralph J. Bunche Repository, Inc.

March 12 & 13

Detroit: Ruin of a City
 Running time: 92 minutes

Through a rich variety of archival footage of the Ford plants, mass protests of the Depression years, Diego Rivera painting his famous mural, the struggle for trade union rights, and the riots of 1943 and '67, this film charts both the city's history and the battle over its image that began when the Ford Motor Company began making its own films back in 1914.

Michigan's Vietnam Generation to be Recognized in Fox Theatre Film Premiere

Traveling Memorial Wall to visit Museum following event

They fought on a battlefield as brutal as any other and more deadly than most wars in our nation's history. The only difference: these veterans fought at a time when the U.S. was deeply divided on one of the most opposed wars in history — the Vietnam War.

On January 28, 2011, at the Fox Theatre, Vietnam veterans in Michigan — a state among the highest in lives lost to the conflict — will receive the honor they are due with the film premiere of *Our Vietnam Generation*.

Their stories are captured in the documentary produced and directed by Keith Famie, a nine-time Emmy Award winner. Following its premiere, it will air on Detroit Public Television sometime in February 2011.

"Since 2001, the number of Vietnam veterans who have passed away has nearly doubled, and we're losing nearly 300 of these heroes each day," said Famie. "It's time to rewrite their legacy."

The premiere event will feature a number of highlights, including a display of the Michigan Vietnam Veteran Traveling Memorial Wall which features the names of all 2,654 of the state's casualties. The memorial will then be on display at the Detroit Historical Museum from January 29 through February 13, 2011. All veterans and their families are invited to visit the wall free of charge during its stay at the museum.

Tickets for the Fox Theatre premiere are \$25 and \$35 and can be purchased by calling (800) 982-2787.

The Glancy Trains Show Returns December 19 with Free Admission



Don't miss the annual Glancy Trains Show, the only free admission train show in the area, returning Sunday, December 19

to the Detroit Historical Museum! Enjoy free admission to the Museum, courtesy of the Masco Corporation Foundation, from noon to 5 p.m.

Pick up those last-minute holiday gifts as you browse through model trains, accessories, structures, switches and track. Free repair advice and appraisals (for a fee of \$3) for that old train in your attic will also be available. Proceeds from the show benefit the Museum's Glancy Trains exhibit.

For more information or to buy tables for this year's event, please call (313) 675-5484.

Discover Detroit!

Want to learn more about what our great region has to offer — or know someone who does? Then make your plans now to join us on March 11, 2011, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Detroit Historical Museum for *Discover Detroit!*

Come mingle with local Detroit authors, scholars, and vendors to discover all that our great city has to offer. Throughout the evening, you will have the chance to learn about Detroit's history, comment on the future and enjoy samples of our local fare.

Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased by contacting Rebecca McDonald at (313) 833-1801.

PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

The Detroit Historical Society has extended its partnership programs to include day and evening events offered by other non-profit and community-based organizations. Please use the contact information given for more details.

Michigan in Perspective: The 53rd Annual Conference on Local History

Friday and Saturday, March 25–26, 2011

Michigan State University Management Education Center, Troy

Presented by the Historical Society of Michigan, in conjunction with the Detroit Historical Society, this annual conference includes premier offerings on topics in Michigan and regional history.

Complete conference information — including featured speakers and sessions — will be available and registration will get under way beginning in January 2011.

For more information, please visit www.hsmichigan.org or call (800) 692-1828.



The 29th Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival

Saturday, March 5, 2011

Washtenaw Community College's Morris Lawrence Building, Ann Arbor

Whether your interest lies in shipwrecks, diving, history, or you just have a fascination with the underwater world, this year's festival promises something for everyone.

This full-day festival is sponsored by the Ford Seahorses Scuba Diving Club. The Dossin Great Lakes Museum is a partner in this event, so look for our special display.

Tickets are \$15 in advance. For more information or tickets, visit www.shipwreckfestival.org.



WINTER 2011

PROGRAMS & EXHIBITIONS

For more information call (313) 833-5538 or visit www.detroithistorical.org

Presenting Sponsor



Life on a Long Ship: Great Lakes Sailors

Now open
Great Lakes Gallery

Ever thought of running away to sea? The new exhibit at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, *Life on a Long Ship: Great Lakes Sailors* might help satisfy that yearning — or help you decide against it!

This exhibit transports visitors to the inside of a typical lake boat for a look into the lives of individuals who make their living on the Great Lakes. You will view a bridge deck and discover all that is involved in being the captain of the ship as well as how that job has changed over the years. Similarly, you'll learn about wheelmen, mates, porters, engineers, lookouts, oilers and deck hands — virtually every position on board.

Come see what life is really like for the men and women who have sailed on the Great Lakes — perhaps less romantic than expected... and definitely a lot of hard work!



Dossin Great Lakes Museum: Celebrating 50 Years!

Now open • DeRoy Hall

Opened to the public on July 24, 1960, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum was the first building dedicated to telling the many stories of the Great Lakes Maritime. Since then it has focused on that mission, and has successfully moved into the 21st century as one of the premier maritime museums on the Great Lakes.

This exhibit focuses on the early years of the Dossin, when it opened in 1949 as the *J.T. Wing*, the last working schooner on the Great Lakes. It features the stories of those that made this museum possible as well as the more memorable projects, such as the recovery of the anchor from the *S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald* and the installation of the pilot house from the *S.S. William Clay Ford*.

It also details current projects that are under way that will engage visitors in a deeper exploration of our region's unique maritime history.



SAVE THE DATE

Special Members Only Preview

Mark your calendars now and plan on joining us for a special "Members Only" sneak preview of two exciting new exhibits opening next year at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum — *To Scale: Great Lakes Model Ship Builders at Work* and *Bells and Whistles, Flags and Flashers: Lost Languages of the Lakes*.

This event will take place on Friday, April 8, 2011 from 6 to 8 p.m. Invitations will be sent out in advance of the preview.

Annual Dossin Gala date set

Make your plans now to join us for the annual Dossin Great Lakes Museum Gala on Friday, April 15, 2011 from 6 to 10 p.m.

Always a fun-filled, history-making night, the evening will once again feature a strolling dinner, a silent auction featuring maritime-related items and more.

In addition, guests will experience the latest exhibitions on display at the region's premier maritime museum.



Guests enjoyed the many casino-style games at last year's Dossin Gala.

TOURS & SERIES REGISTRATION

NOTE: If paying by check, please call (313) 833-1801 to confirm availability before mailing.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Make checks payable to: Detroit Historical Society

If paying by: [] VISA [] MasterCard [] American Express

Account # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

MAIL TO: Attn: Tours, Detroit Historical Society, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI, 48202

Behind the Scenes Tours

\$20 DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS • \$30 GUESTS (UNLESS NOTED)

					# OF TICKETS	SUBTOTAL
Sat., Jan. 8	10 a.m.	The Fillmore	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., Jan. 15	11 a.m.	Grosse Pointe Yacht Club	\$30 Members	\$40 Guests		
Sat., Jan. 22	10 a.m.	Grosse Pointe War Memorial	\$40 Members	\$50 Guests		
Sat., Jan. 29	10 a.m.	Fox Theatre	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., Feb. 12	10 a.m.	Detroit Boat Club	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., Feb. 19	11 a.m.	Fisher Building	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Thurs., Feb. 24	11 a.m.	Detroit Public TV Broadcast Studios	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., Mar. 5	11 a.m.	Conservation & Museum Services	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Sat., Mar. 12	10 a.m.	Art House	\$40 Members	\$50 Guests		
Sat., Mar. 19	1 p.m.	Venus Bronze Works	\$20 Members	\$30 Guests		
Thurs., Mar. 24	9 a.m.	McClure's Pickles	\$10 Members	\$20 Guests		

Historic Houses of Worship

\$30 DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS • \$40 GUESTS

Mon., March 7	10 a.m.		\$30 Members	\$40 Guests		
Mon., April 4	10 a.m.		\$30 Members	\$40 Guests		

Author Series/Curator Chats/Scholar Series Registration

Wed., Jan. 19	6 p.m.	Author Series	FREE Members	\$10 Guests		
Wed., Feb. 16	6 p.m.	Scholar Series	FREE Members	\$10 Guests		
Wed., Mar. 16	6 p.m.	Scholar Series	FREE Members	\$10 Guests		

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

A Gift for All Seasons... and All Reasons!

What do you give someone who has everything?

A Detroit Historical Society Membership, of course! This unique gift gives that special individual a chance to explore history that can't be found anywhere else and supports the *only* organization dedicated to preserving the rich history of our region for future generations.

Each gift membership provides one year of free admission to the Detroit Historical Museum and the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, invitations to special members-only events, a subscription to the *Making History* newsletter and more!

Just in time for the holidays! Be one of the first 10 people to purchase a gift membership at the Individual level or higher and receive a handcrafted Detroit Historical Society holiday ornament, which can be shipped to you or the gift membership recipient.

Share your passion for history with your loved ones. Gift memberships are available using the form below, by visiting our website www.detroithistorical.org or by calling (313) 833-1980.

Check One:

- \$40 Individual
 \$50 Individual Plus
 \$65 Family
 \$150 Patron
 \$300 Donor
 \$500 Historian

I'm giving this membership to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Message I'd like to send to this gift recipient:

Payment Method

- Check (payable to the Detroit Historical Society)
 Credit Card:
 VISA
 MasterCard
 American Express

Account # _____ Exp Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please ship the holiday ornament:

- To my address
 With the gift membership

This Gift Membership is from:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

MAIL TO: Attn: Membership
 Detroit Historical Society
 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI, 48202

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:
 call (313) 833-1980, or visit www.detroithistorical.org.



Honor, memorialize a loved one with a gift to the Society

If you're looking for a unique gift for the holidays you've come to the right place. This year celebrate the holidays — or any special occasion such as a wedding, birthday, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, anniversary or graduation — by making an Honorary Gift to the Detroit Historical Society in the name of a friend or family member.

Christmas, Hanukkah, Valentine's Day, and Mother's or Father's Day is also a great time to recognize a loved one's passion for history.

You may also wish to remember someone who appreciated history during his or her life by making a Memorial Gift to the Society. These thoughtful tributes are acknowledged with a letter to the family or friends you designate.

For more information, please call the Development Office at (313) 833-4143 or visit our web site at www.detroithistorical.org to make an Honorary or Memorial Gift online.

Help Us Keep Detroit's History Alive

Help the Society with a year-end gift!

The Detroit Historical Society tells Detroit's story through interesting and innovative exhibits, dynamic programming and educational community events. Every year the Society welcomes approximately 100,000 visitors to the Detroit Historical Museum and the Dossin Great Lakes Museum and provides nearly 12,000 schoolchildren with educational tours of the Museums. Crucial to these efforts is the support we receive for the Society's Annual Fund.

The Annual Fund supports all of the activities that the Society provides to the metro Detroit community, making its success key

to the work of the organization as a whole. If you've already made a gift to the 2010–11 Annual Fund, we want to thank you. If you have not made a gift, please consider doing so today. Your support will help the Society continue its import work.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a response envelope to make a gift to the Society's Annual Fund. Remember — all gifts are completely tax-deductible!

Thank you in advance for your support.

Adopt-an-Artifact today!

What does it take to care for over 200,000 historic objects? Training, hard work — and you!

Beginning this month, the Detroit Historical Society will debut a new display at the Detroit Historical Museum that will showcase select artifacts from its large collection — and the work required to store, clean, and conserve them properly. Supporters can help preserve select artifacts — including items from our sports, retail or military collections — through our Adopt-an-Artifact program.

This program will provide Society members and visitors with the opportunity to support the important work that goes into preserving rare and unique artifacts. Supporters who adopt an artifact will receive a certificate of adoption, a picture of the artifact with a detailed description of the artifact's historical significance and name recognition on the Detroit Historical Society website.

Visit us at the Detroit Historical Museum and adopt your artifact today!

For more information about this program, please contact Lisa Williams at (313) 833-4143.



Among the items you can adopt are those from the time capsule created as part of Detroit's bicentennial celebration in 1901. Thinking ahead to the tricentennial birthday in 2001, then Detroit Mayor Maybury ordered a time capsule be created to greet the future. Instructions were left that the box was to be opened on New Year's of the 300th birthday year — which it was, revealing these fascinating artifacts!

Our Underground Railroad Story: The Descendants Speak of the River

Saturday, February 26 • 1 – 4 p.m. • *Detroit Historical Museum*

Our region's great civil rights legacy began with the Underground Railroad story. With the strength and courage of heroes from both sides of the historic Detroit River, thousands of enslaved people came to this place, known as "Midnight," to find freedom. Learn some of these family stories tied forever to this region at this special

presentation offered by the Society's Black Historic Sites Committee.

Panelists will include descendants of William Webb, Mary Ann Shadd Cary, Caroline Quarlls Watkins, and others. Local author and former *Detroit News* columnist Betty DeRamus, whose current book

"Freedom by Any Means" tells some of the most compelling stories of the Underground Railroad, will also appear.

Cost is \$10 for Society/Black Historic Sites Committee members and \$15 for Guests.

Call Janice Gates at (313) 833-1262 to purchase your tickets today.

Exciting programs highlight Michigan Sports Hall of Fame exhibition

In conjunction with the opening of its exhibition in our Community Gallery (see page 5) the Michigan Sport Hall of Fame (MSHOF) has scheduled a number of exciting programs at the Detroit Historical Museum. (All times to be determined; please check our web site after January 1, 2011 for exact times or call the MSHOF at (248) 473-0656.)

On Sunday, Jan. 16, it will host MSHOF Autograph Day, featuring former Detroit Lions stars Eddie Murray and Herman Moore.

On Saturday, Jan. 22, several MSHOF members who have written books will participate in an Author's Day and Book Signing.

The MSHOF will help celebrate African American History Day at the museum on Saturday, Feb. 5, with a special presentation by Hall of Fame member Ray Scott, who will lead a discussion on playing sports in the 1950s and 1960s.

Then on Sunday, Feb. 20, it will host another Autograph Day, this time featuring Detroit Red Wings legend Bill Gadsby and Detroit Pistons great Vinnie Johnson.

Make your plans now!

Take advantage of some great deals in our Museum (and online) Stores!

Ring in the New Year with special savings every month!

In January, save 10% off of *Remembering Hudson's: The Grand Dame of Detroit Retailing* by co-author Michael Hauser. Hauser will be the featured speaker during the Author Series on January 19. (See page 8 for details.)

Also in January, we're celebrating the opening of the exhibition *The Michigan Sports Hall of Fame* in our Community Gallery by offering 10% off of all sports-related titles.

In recognition of Black History Month, beginning Wed., Feb. 2 you'll save 20% off of all Black history titles. February will also feature 20% off of all Sanders products — perfect for Valentine's Day!

In March, we're kicking off the St. Patrick's Day festivities with a special offer. *Detroit's Corktown*, published by Arcadia, will be an additional 10% off.

Come on in — or visit us online — and enjoy the savings.



Look for the Society at Somerset Collection North!

Shoppers at Somerset Collection North's *The Detroit Shoppe* this holiday season might feel like they're visiting the Detroit Historical Museum. That's because the new retail venue — created to raise funds for and awareness of Detroit's cultural institutions — features a significant number of artifacts from the Society's collection.

The Somerset vision is to “instill a sense of pride in the residents of greater Detroit about the region's dynamic past, our determined present, and a dauntless future.”

The Shoppe, which contains 80 percent museum-like exhibits and 20 percent retail offerings, is designed to showcase all of the exceptional companies, products, people and places that have been — and remain — integral parts of Detroit's history and vibrancy.

All of the merchandise available for sale has a Detroit connection, including items from the Detroit Historical Society, pottery and tiles from Pewabic Pottery, posters and stationery from the DIA Museum Shop and favorite local snack foods and beverages, among other selections.

In addition, memberships to these cultural institutions are available for purchase at the Shoppe and with every membership purchased, guests receive a \$25 “I Decide Somerset Collection Gift Card.”

The Shoppe is open through December 31, 2010.

Help make new exhibits come to life!

Share your artifacts with an appreciative audience

The Detroit Historical Society is seeking donations to support future exhibits and programs. Every year, new artifacts are added to our collection through the generosity of individuals, organizations and corporations. These donations are often used for exhibitions, educational programs, research and simply documentation of the history of Metro Detroit.

Artifacts, documents, and photographs are needed to help interpret stories that will be told in new permanent exhibits currently in development. These include:

- **The Underground Railroad** — Artifacts and documents related to the lives of enslaved people, freedom seekers, abolitionists and their families in 19th century Detroit.
- **The Arsenal of Democracy** — Photographs, tools, clothing and letters related to life in the factories and at home in Detroit during World War II.
- **The Gallery of Culture** — Memorabilia, photographs, media and documents related to the architecture, art, pop culture and sports in 20th century Detroit.
- **The Motor City** — Tools, clothing, photographs, documents and other artifacts that tell the story of the automobile industry in Detroit. This includes items related to factory work, automotive corporate leaders, unions and automobile enthusiasts.



If you are interested in donating items for these exhibits and related programs, please contact Tracy Irwin at (313) 833-1405.

If you are interested in donating items to the general collections of the Detroit Historical Society, contact Adam Lovell, the Curator of Collections, at (313) 297-8391.

Help share our region's unique history today!

Become a Fan of the Detroit Historical Society on Facebook or Follow Us on Twitter!

facebook

twitter

See our homepage at www.detroithistorical.org for all the details!

Don't Just Make Plans... MAKE HISTORY

LET US HELP HOST YOUR EVENT



Attention members!

Book your next event with us and receive a 20% discount!

Looking for a great place to hold your next event?

Why settle for four blank walls! Let us help you plan and organize your event today.

As a special thanks for being a Detroit Historical Society member, we're offering you 20 percent off the cost of your next rental at either the Detroit Historical Museum or Dossin Great Lakes Museum. Simply book your event by March 31, 2011 to qualify for this offer.

Whether you're planning a meeting for 50 clients, a birthday or retirement party — or that once-in-a-lifetime event — we can help make it special.

Every event includes:

- Consultation with our Event Planner
- Free admission to the Museum for you and your guests.
- Assistance with the setup and breakdown of event space
- Free parking for up to 55 vehicles (Detroit Historical Museum)

Please call us at (313) 833-7979 to schedule a free consultation with our events planning expert. Or visit us at www.detroithistorical.org for more information.



SIGN ME UP TO VOLUNTEER

The Detroit Historical Society is always looking for dedicated volunteers to help with tours, special events and programs as well as administrative support.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

I AM INTERESTED IN:

- Guiding tours at a museum
 Administrative support
 Working at special events

- Assisting museum visitors
 Guiding tours around metro Detroit
 Building and grounds maintenance

- Facilitating *Behind the Scenes* Tours
 Other: _____

If you are enthusiastic about Detroit's history, then we just might be the place for you. Simply fill out and send in the information below and we'll be in touch.

Phone _____

E-mail _____

MAIL TO: Attn: Volunteers, Detroit Historical Society, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI, 48202

5401 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202
(313) 833-7935
www.detroithistorical.org

MISSION

To educate and inspire our community and visitors by preserving and portraying our region's shared history through dynamic exhibits and experiences.

VISION

To create a shared sense of community and pride by celebrating the history and the unique culture of our region.



5401 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI 48202
(313) 833-1805

Hours

Wed. – Fri. • 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Saturday • 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday • Noon – 5 p.m.

EXTENDED HOURS: Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day from Dec. 26 through Jan. 2 (except New Year's Day).

NOTE: Closed Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 as well as on Jan. 1, 2011.

Admission

Adults	\$6
Seniors (age 60 & above)	\$4
Youth (ages 5–17)	\$4
Children (age 4 & under)	FREE
Parking	\$4



Groups

Call (313) 833-1733 to schedule a group tour.

Host an Event

Call (313) 833-7979 to host an event at the Detroit Historical Museum.

Volunteer

Call (313) 833-1419 to volunteer at the Detroit Historical Museum



100 Strand Drive, Belle Isle
Detroit, MI 48207
(313) 833-5538

Hours

Saturday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

NOTE: The Museum will be closed on Dec. 25 in observance of the Christmas Holiday as well as on Jan. 1, 2011.

Admission

Admission is FREE thanks to the generous support of the Masco Corporation Foundation.



Groups

Call (313) 833-1733 to schedule a group outing.

Host an Event

Call (313) 833-7979 to host an event at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

Volunteer

Call (313) 833-1419 to volunteer at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.



Return Service Requested

Dated Material

www.detroithistorical.org

5401 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, MI 48202
DETROITHISTORICAL SOCIETY *est. 1921*