



# *News Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS FIFTH ANNUAL GALA TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM**

**DETROIT** - Join the **Detroit Historical Society** for a celebration of our region's storied maritime history at the **2009 Dossin Great Lakes Museum Gala** on **Friday, May 1, 2009** from **6 – 10 p.m.**, hosted 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 help the Dossin Great Lakes Museum continue to provide educational programs and exhibits that celebrate the exciting maritime history of the region.

For tickets or information, call the Society at **(313) 833-7935**. "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.

**PVS Chemicals** is the Dinner Sponsor for this year's Gala; **Jim and Ann Nicholson** are the Décor Sponsors; the **Detroit International Bridge Company** is the Auction Sponsor; **Doug and Diane Dossin** are the Beverage Sponsors; **The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.** is the Dessert Sponsor; **Michigan Marine Terminal** is the Entertainment Sponsor; **Richard M. Dossin** is the Valet Sponsor, **Sidonie Dossin Brown** is the BlackJack Sponsor; and **Dwight and Cynthia Vincent** are the Poker Sponsors.

The Honorary Host Committee for the gala includes the following: **Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Bluth; Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Brodie; Sidonie Dossin Brown; Joel & Lauren Bruss; Detroit Historical Society CEO Bob Bury & Mary Ann Bury; Ed & Judy Christian; Detroit Mayor Kenneth V. Cockrel, Jr. & First Lady Mrs. Kimberly Cockrel; Detroit City**

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Councilwoman **Sheila M. Cockrel**; Detroit City Councilwoman **Barbara-Rose Collins**; **David & Janet Cornillie**; **Doug & Diane Dossin**; **Marianne Endicott**; **Brian Geer**; Detroit Deputy Mayor **Saul Green & Diane Green**; **Robert & Ann Greenstone**; **Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Hertel**; **Phil Kazmierski**; **Mr. Patrick Kerzic & Mrs. Stephanie Germack Kerzic**; Wayne County Commissioner **Tim Killeen**; **Mr. & Mrs. Dennis J. Levasseur**; U.S. Senator **Carl Levin**; **Gary & Kathy Marowske**; Detroit Historical Society President **Sandy McMillan & Mimi McMillan**; the **Moroun Family**; **David & Kristin Nicholson**; **Jim & Ann Nicholson**; U.S. Senator **Debbie Stabenow**; Detroit City Councilwoman **Alberta Tinsley-Talabi**, and **Dwight & Cynthia Vincent**.

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; however, donations are welcome. During the week, the Museum is open for group tours by advance reservation. Permanent exhibits include the *Miss Pepsi* vintage 1940s 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 *Committed to the Deep: Exploring Underwater Treasures* and *L is for Lighthouse*, both opening to the public Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. For more information, call **(313) 833-5538** or visit [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

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