

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**JOIN AUTHOR JEREMY WILLIAMS FOR A DISCUSSION OF DETROIT'S BLACK
BOTTOM COMMUNITY ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 AT THE
DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

DETROIT - The Detroit Historical Society continues its popular Author Series with **Jeremy Williams**, author of “**Detroit: The Black Bottom Community**,” published by **Arcadia Publishing**, on **Wednesday, May 12** from **6 – 8 p.m.** at the **Detroit Historical Museum**

Black Bottom was located on Detroit’s lower east side and bounded by Gratiot Avenue, Brush Street, Vernor Highway and the Grand Trunk railroad tracks. The community emerged between 1914 and 1951 out of a need for black migrants to find a place for themselves. Racism and housing discrimination in the South forced many blacks to migrate to the North. Many sought employment in Detroit’s burgeoning industrial metropolis. Black Bottom became a social, cultural, and economic center of struggle and triumph. The community began to decline in 1941 when Mayor Edward Jeffries marked the area for demolition and urban renewal.

Williams, a local historian, combines research with archived photographs for an insightful look at Black Bottom's early beginnings, its racial transformation, the building of a socioeconomically solvent community through various processes of institution building and networking, and its ultimate demise and dislocation of its residents.

The cost of the event is free for Detroit Historical Society members and \$10 for the public. For more information or to register for the event, please call **(313) 833-1801** or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

Arcadia Publishing is the leading publisher of local and regional history in the United States. Their mission is to make history accessible and meaningful through the publication of books on the heritage of America’s people and places.

The Detroit Historical Museum, located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Detroit’s Cultural Center area, is open to the public Wednesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from Noon to 5 p.m. On Mondays and Tuesdays, the Museum is not open to the public but available for group tours by calling **(313)**

833-7979. Adult admission is \$6. Seniors (60+), college students with valid college ID, and youth ages 5-18 pay \$4. Admission for children ages four and under is free. Parking in the Museum's lot is \$4 at all times. Permanent exhibits include the famous *Streets of Old Detroit*; *Frontiers to Factories*; *The Motor City*; and *The Glancy Trains*.

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