



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LEARN THE RICH HISTORY OF DETROIT'S ORIGINS AT THE CITY'S FREE 309TH BIRTHDAY PARTY IN THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

DETROIT -- Join the **Detroit Historical Society** for a family celebration like no other -- the **City of Detroit's 309th Birthday Party** on **Sunday, July 18th** from **1 - 4 p.m.** at the **Detroit Historical Museum**. Admission to the Museum and the event is free.

Celebrate the founding of the "city on the straits" by French adventurer **Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac** on July 24, 1701. This year the "**Belles and Bachelors of Fort Detroit**" will present Judge Augustus Woodward and Detroit's role in the War of 1812, courtesy of the **Dance Thru History Company**. Guests will meet members of the Pettibone Tribe and learn more about the Native American culture and traditions. Visitors of all ages can learn to trace their genealogy and stroll inside the shops of the Museum's signature exhibit, the *Streets of Old Detroit*. You can also participate (for \$1) in an old-fashioned cake walk to win birthday cakes. In the Kidz Art Zone, which will host Candy Art, Spin Art and Sandy Art, kids can make arts and crafts for \$3 per activity. Finally, complimentary birthday cake and beverages will be served in the New Cadillac Café throughout the event.

Guests at the event can also enjoy our summer film series and see a screening of "**Detroit: Remember When, Vol. 1 – Motor City Memories and Hometown Traditions**" at **1 p.m.** in the Louis C. Booth Auditorium. This film unearths Detroit history, explores its musical legacy and examines its architecture, politics, sports legends and landmarks. From Briggs Stadium to Boblo, Black Bottom to the Boulevard, this made-in-Detroit documentary captures the true spirit of this remarkable city. Run time: 44 minutes.

A special discount of \$10 off new Detroit Historical Society family memberships will be offered during the event. In addition to free admission to the Detroit Historical Museum and Dossin Great Lakes Museum, Society members receive the following benefits:

- Discounted tickets to our Historic Houses of Worship tours or Behind the Scenes events;
- Various members-only events, including sneak previews of new exhibits;
- A subscription to our newsletter, *Making History*, published quarterly;

- A 10 percent discount at the museum stores.

Detroit's 309th Birthday Party is made possible by the **National Endowment for the Arts**, the **Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs** and the **Louisa St. Clair Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution**.

This event kicks off a week of free admission and extended hours at the Detroit Historical Museum! Starting **Monday, July 19** through **Sunday, July 25**, the Museum will be open every day from **9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

The Detroit Historical Museum is located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Detroit's Cultural Center area. 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*. For more information, call the Museum at **(313) 833-7935** or check out our website at www.detroithistorical.org.

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