



# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: **Bob Sadler**  
Director of Public Relations  
(313) 833-7937 or  
(313) 819-5761 (cell)  
[bobsadler@detroithistorical.org](mailto:bobsadler@detroithistorical.org)

## JOIN THE DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR A FREE CELEBRATION OF THE DOSSIN MUSEUM'S 50<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY ON SATURDAY, JULY 24<sup>TH</sup>

**DETROIT** – The **Detroit Historical Society** invites you to join us for the **Dossin Great Lakes Museum's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** on **Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**, from **11 a.m. – 4 p.m.** at the **Dossin Museum** on Belle Isle. Enjoy free admission, free birthday cupcakes while supplies last, and a chance to see the museum's exhibits on the exact date the Dossin Museum was dedicated 50 years ago.

The celebration features an appearance by **Annessa Carlisle**, author of “Bob-lo: An Island in Troubled Waters,” which brings a different perspective to the history of one of Detroit's most beloved attractions. Other special attractions will include the chance to talk maritime and Dossin Museum history with curator **Joel Stone**, a sailor knot-tying activity and other surprises.

Opened to the public on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1960, the Dossin Museum was the first of its kind dedicated to telling the stories of the Great Lakes maritime community. It has remained focused on that mission since its opening and has successfully moved into the 21<sup>st</sup> century as one of the premier maritime museums on the Great Lakes. Current exhibits include *Life on a Long Ship: Great Lakes Sailors* and *Dossin Great Lakes Museum: Celebrating 50 Years*.

**MASCO** is the presenting sponsor of the Dossin Great Lakes Museum's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities.

In 1949, the Museum of Great Lakes History 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,

- more -

## Dossin 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – Page 2

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 Great Lakes 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 for the duration of 2010 thanks to the generous support of **MASCO**, however, donations are welcome.

Permanent exhibits include the *Miss Pepsi* 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 the one of the largest known collections of scale model ships in the world. For more information, call **(313) 833-5538** or visit [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

###