



News Release

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DETROIT/WAYNE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY AND DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOST THIRD ANNUAL GALA FOR THE DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM

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DETROIT - The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority (DWCPA) and the Detroit Historical Society are again joining forces to stage an event to raise funds in support the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Monday, September 18, 2006. This third annual event takes place from 5:30 – 8 p.m. at the Dossin Museum, located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle in Detroit. This year's gala will feature a silent auction along with a strolling dinner, a chance to explore the museum's current exhibits, complimentary valet parking and live jazz from the Marvin Thompson Jr. Ensemble.

"Once again, the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority is proud to partner with the Detroit Historical Society to host this annual event intended to preserve the Great Lakes' maritime history," said Curtis Hertel, the DWCPA's executive director. "This year's gala should be an exciting event, as we invite the metropolitan Detroit community to join us in a celebration of our maritime history. Support of this event and of the museum, is an opportunity to keep our history alive for future generations."

Honorary Chairpersons for the gala are Douglas and Diane Dossin and Matthew Moroun of Ambassador Port Company. Other supporters of the event include the DWCPA Board of Directors: Arthur B. Blackwell II, chairman; Byron F. Kelley, vice chairman; Roderick D. Gillum; Derrick A. Miller; and Philip B. Fischer. Members of the host committee include Curtis Hertel, DWCPA executive director; Bob Bury, executive director, Detroit Historical Society; Commodore William Farmer, Detroit Yacht Club; Commodore Dan Padilla, Bayview Yacht Club; Commodore Robert J. Kay, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club; Commodore Gwendolyn Gipson, Grayhaven Sail Club of Detroit; Captain Sam Tundo, president, The Propellor Club of the United States-Port of Detroit; and Denne Osgood, Great Lakes Maritime Institute.

The purpose of the gala is to raise funds to support the Dossin Great Lakes Museum's exhibits and educational programs and increase public awareness of the museum. The public is invited. Tickets are \$150 per person, and dressy attire is recommended. For more information and to purchase tickets, please call Cheryl Solomon at (313) 331-3842, ext. 310.

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, 1961, the 260th anniversary of Detroit's founding.

For more information about the Dossin Museum, call (313) 833-1805 or check out the Detroit Historical Society website at www.detroithistorical.org. The museum is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors and children 5-18, and free for children 4 and under. During the week, the Museum is open for group tours by advance reservation.

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