

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

APRIL 11, 2013

CONTACT: Bob Sadler

(313) 833-7937 or

(313) 819-5761 (cell)

bobsadler@detroithistorical.org

**TIGERS GREAT WILLIE HORTON TO CAST HIS HANDS AND SIGNATURE
IN CEMENT TOMORROW MORNING
FOR THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM'S LEGENDS PLAZA**

DETROIT – Willie Horton, known during his playing days as “Willie the Wonder,” becomes the latest giant of the Detroit sports world to be immortalized in the Detroit Historical Museum’s Legends Plaza tomorrow at 10:30 a.m., when he will place his hands and signature in cement in a brief ceremony in the Museum’s showcase exhibit, the *Streets of Old Detroit*.

When Horton’s handcasting is installed in Legends Plaza this fall, he will join sports greats like his former teammate Al Kaline, Mayor Dave Bing and Joe Dumars of the Pistons, Gordie Howe and Ted Lindsay of the Red Wings, Barry Sanders of the Lions and boxing champion Thomas “The Hit Man” Hearns. A total of 24 Detroit luminaries of arts, music, film, media and sports are currently honored in the Plaza, a popular outdoor attraction located in front of the Detroit Historical Museum open since the fall of 2012.

Horton, whose number 23 was retired by the Tigers in 2000, hit 325 home runs over an 18-year major league baseball career. Drafted by his hometown Tigers out of Northwestern High School, he was a member of the 1968 World Series Champions and threw out Cardinals speedster Lou Brock at home in Game 5 – a pivotal play that helped the Tigers overcome a three games to one deficit and win the Fall Classic in seven games. Horton still works for the Tigers as an adviser to team president Dave Dombrowski.

The Detroit Historical Museum, located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Midtown Detroit, is open to the public Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free for all, all the time. Parking in the Museum’s lot is \$5 at all times. Permanent exhibits include the famous *Streets of Old Detroit*, the *Allesee Gallery of Culture*, *Kid Rock Music Lab*, *Doorway to Freedom: Detroit and the Underground Railroad*, *Detroit: The “Arsenal of Democracy,”* the *Gallery of Innovation*, *Frontiers to Factories*, *America’s Motor City*, and *The Glancy Trains*. For more information, call the Museum at (313) 833-1805 or check out our website at www.detroithistorical.org.

###

