

Where  
the past  
is present

**DETROIT  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

## *News Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCES UPDATED ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

**DETROIT, October 21, 2019** – The Detroit Historical Society, the independent, nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Historical Museum in Midtown, announced today that the museum will return to a **paid admission policy** beginning in November. The museum has had free general admission since 2012.

**Effective November 1, 2019**, admission will be **\$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, students, active military and first responders** (with valid ID), **\$6 for children** and **\$35 for a household** (up to six adults and children with the same address). **Admission for all children under six years old and Detroit Historical Society members will continue to be free.** (While the Society also operates the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle, admission to that museum will remain free, with a suggested donation on \$5.)

The return to paid admission coincides with the introduction of a **revised membership structure** for the Society. New membership offerings better reflect how people “museum” today: options are available for individuals, couples and families, with enhanced benefits, including regular member tours, priority ticketing for special events and discounts in our museum stores and at neighborhood restaurants. A complete summary of the new membership program is at <https://detroithistorical.org/membership/membership-levels>.

Many other museums, including the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Detroit Institute of Arts, offer discounted admissions to local residents in recognition of their special relationship with these public institutions. To that end, the Society has created a new **Detroiter membership**, available at **no cost to residents of Detroit, Hamtramck and Highland Park**, recognizing the relationship that residents of the city have to the stories we tell and the artifacts that we safeguard on their behalf. Guests can sign up for the Detroiter membership when they visit the museum, by calling **313.833.0242** or at **detroithistorical.org**.

Detroit Historical Society President and CEO, **Elana Rugh**, says, “As this organization approaches its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021, we have made a passionate commitment to undertake a truly historical reimagining of who we are and how we serve our community. We are sharpening the focus of our work using the lens of diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion to continue to create groundbreaking exhibitions and relevant, engaging programming. A responsible admissions and membership program is an important and essential foundation for those goals.”

**Background on admissions:** In 2012, the Detroit Historical Society began a free admission policy at the Detroit Historical Museum, following a successful capital campaign and museum renovations. Although free admission was originally planned as a one-year celebration

of the re-opening of the newly renovated museum, the policy has remained in place for seven. From 2006 – 2012, the Society operated the museum with an admissions charge. Prior to 2006, the city of Detroit ran the museum and charged admission.

**The Detroit Historical Society**, established in 1921, is a private, nonprofit organization located in Midtown, the heart of Detroit’s cultural center. Founded in 1921, its mission is to tell Detroit’s stories and why they matter. Today, the Society operates the Detroit Historical Museum and the Dossin Great Lakes Museum. In addition, the Society is responsible for the conservation and preservation of more than 250,000 artifacts that represent three centuries of our region’s rich history. Through its museum exhibits, school tour programs, community-based programs and history-themed outreach efforts, the Society serves more than 180,000 people annually.

**The Detroit Historical Museum**, located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Midtown Detroit, is open to the public **Tuesday through Sunday and will soon be adding evening hours on Thursdays (beginning on November 14, 2019)**. Parking in the Museum’s lot is \$9. Group tour pricing and information is available by calling 313.833.7979. Permanent exhibitions 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, visit [detroithistorical.org](http://detroithistorical.org).

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