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DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM RECEIVES THE NATION'S HIGHEST MUSEUM AND LIBRARY HONOR FOR ITS DETROIT 67 PROJECT

DETROIT- The Institute of Museum and Library Services today announced that the Detroit Historical Museum has won the 2018 National Medal for Museum and Library Service for its *Detroit 67: Looking Back to Move Forward* community engagement project. The National Medal is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries that make significant and exceptional contributions to their communities. Over the past 24 years, the award has celebrated 182 institutions that are making a difference for individuals, families, and communities. The award will be presented at an event at the U.S. Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C., in May.

The Detroit Historical Museum is the only Michigan institution to be named a National Medal winner in 2018. Only two Michigan museums have received the honor before: Artrain USA (Ann Arbor, 2006) and The Henry Ford (Dearborn, 1998). The Detroit Zoo was a finalist for the award in 2017.

"Receiving this prestigious award is an important moment for us but also for Detroit and for all of our partners who lent their perspectives and expertise to this transformational effort," said Bob Bury, Executive Director of the Detroit Historical Society, the nonprofit organization that operates the Detroit Historical Museum. "*Detroit 67: Looking Back to Move Forward* has been a bold and transformative project from the moment that it was conceived. Receiving the National Medal validates our decision to embrace a difficult story in an authentic, inclusive and forward-facing way" added Marlowe Stoudamire, Detroit 67 Project Director.

"The W.K. Kellogg Foundation is thrilled by this recognition of the Detroit Historical Society and its commitment to broadening the public's understanding of our history. Detroit 67: Looking Back to Move Forward is powerful because it is grounded in community voice," said La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. "Acknowledging the past—no matter how complicated—is the pathway for racial healing, open dialogue and the shared problem solving that will change the futures of our nation's children."

The Detroit Historical Society launched Detroit 67 in 2015 as a long-term effort to engage the Detroit community in its efforts to plan a meaningful commemoration of the tumultuous summer of 1967, a traumatic time in Detroit's history. This first-of-its-kind effort enabled the Society to base development of both a program and an exhibition on public input, ensuring that a broad spectrum of perspectives is represented. The exhibition, *Detroit 67: Perspectives*, and the programming and engagement model developed to inform it, will continue through 2019 and are expected to travel in order to maximize the project's reach.

In celebration of the National Medal win, the Detroit Historical Museum will offer free facilitated experience tours of the *Detroit 67: Perspectives* exhibition on May 5 and 6. See detroithistorical.org for times and details.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. We advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. Our vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities. To learn more, visit www.ims.gov and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Detroit 67: Looking Back to Move Forward is a community engagement project of the Detroit Historical Society that brings together diverse voices and communities around the effects of an historic crisis to find their place in the present and inspire the future. Learn more at detroit1967.org.

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 \$7 at all times. Group tour pricing and information is available by calling 313.833.7979. 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 detroithistorical.org.

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 150,000 people annually.

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