



## *News Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM TO OBSERVE NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING BY LAUNCHING YEAR-LONG REFLECTION**

**DETROIT-** The Detroit Historical Museum will close to the public on **Tuesday, January 22**, to observe the **National Day of Racial Healing**. Rather than planning a day of activities focused externally, the Detroit Historical Society, which operates the museum, has chosen to sharpen its focus on this important work beginning with its closest allies – its staff.

Started in 2017 by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the National Day of Racial Healing follows Martin Luther King, Jr. Day each year and is meant as a national call for racial healing, gathering together people from across our communities to celebrate our shared humanity and inspire action. This year, hundreds of Kellogg Foundation grantees, partners and communities across the United States are engaging in conversations around collective action to create a more just and equitable world.

The Detroit Historical Society will gather 35 staff members at the Detroit Historical Museum for a day-long workshop designed to deepen the understanding of how aspects of diversity, equity and inclusion can support the work of the Society and benefit the communities it serves. The group will discuss implicit bias, diversity, equity and inclusion, and brainstorm action steps for further embracing those concepts as they relate to its mission of telling Detroit's stories and why they matter.

Detroit Historical Society CEO, Elana Rugh notes that the session will be the first in a year-long series of internal workshops designed to continue the transformation that the organization began with its award-winning Detroit 67 project. "We are literally rewriting our value statement on equity," Rugh said, "the only way we could truly honor this work is by beginning with a good hard look at our own institution. We are proud that our work can help further the objectives of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's effort to bring about transformational and sustainable change, and to address the historic and contemporary effects of racism through the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation initiative."

**The Detroit Historical Museum will reopen to the public on Wednesday, January 23.** Its IMLS National Medal-winning project, **Detroit 67: Looking Back to Move Forward** is a community engagement project 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. The interactive exhibition **Detroit 67: Perspectives** is on display now at the Detroit Historical Museum and open through 2019. Learn more at [detroit1967.org](http://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 \$9 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](http://detroithistorical.org).

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