VISIT THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM FOR A SPECIAL WAR OF 1812 WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 28 - 29

In celebration of the bicentennial of Detroit’s final independence from the British and the new release *Border Crossings: The Detroit River Region in the War of 1812*, the Detroit Historical Society will be hosting three events this weekend coinciding with the 200th anniversary of when the British left Detroit for the last time on September 29, 1813.

There will be a *Border Crossings* book signing on Saturday, September 28 from 12 – 2 p.m. with the Society’s senior curator, Joel Stone. The Detroit Historical Museum is also hosting a flag raising ceremony, commemorating the War of 1812 victory on Sunday, September 29 at 2 p.m. outside on our Legends Plaza. Finally, the new documentary “*War of 1812 in the Old Northwest*” will be screened at the Museum both Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Having surrendered to the British on August 16, 1812, Detroit remained under foreign control until after the Battle of Lake Erie on September 10, 1813. Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry and General William Henry Harrison sent both naval and army forces to regain control of Detroit. On September 29, 1813, the Navy restored American control and the “Star-Spangled Banner” waved once again over the city on the straits. The Army arrived the following day.

“War of 1812 in the Old Northwest,” produced by WGTE-TV Toledo’s Darren LaShelle, brings to life some of the most famous names and places of the war, each closely linked to our region: Tecumseh, William Henry Harrison, Oliver Hazard Perry, Fort Meigs, River Raisin and the Battle of Lake Erie.

In addition to contemporary HD footage of the locations that played a prominent role in the War, the film is richly illustrated with archival photos, paintings and newly-created maps.

Douglas Brinkley, David Skaggs and Randall Buchman are among the noted historians and authors featured in the program, along with Eric Hemenway, who works in the Cultural Preservation Department for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians in Northern Michigan. Running time for this film is 55 minutes.

Support for “War of 1812 in the Old Northwest” is provided by a grant from the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and by Buckeye CableSystem.
At 2 p.m. Sunday, the Legends Plaza program will celebrate the United States flag returning to Detroit featuring regional War of 1812 groups.

*Border Crossings: The Detroit River Region in the War of 1812* is now available for sale at our Museum Store or online at [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org). This 302-page collection of essays, edited by Denver Brunsman, Joel Stone and Douglas Fisher, explores the changing political allegiances and sweeping human narratives that shaped the Detroit River region during the War of 1812. For more than a generation, American citizens, British subjects, French settlers, Native Americans and African slaves and freed-men routinely crossed the border while living and working together in one of the most diverse regions in North America. That tranquility ended suddenly with the War of 1812.

The result of a year-long community history project by the Detroit Historical Society and Wayne State University, *Border Crossings* uncovers the personal and group interactions often ignored in standard histories of the War of 1812. As the Detroit River region shifted between American and British control, "border crossings" had profound new implications for its diverse inhabitants, including widespread privation, imprisonment, enemy attacks, and dispossession of homes and land. Ultimately, this ugly conflict produced a surprising outcome: The War of 1812 molded a region, divided between two nations, that today hosts the busiest crossing of the longest peaceful border in the world.

Brunsman is currently an assistant professor of history at The George Washington University and was formerly an assistant professor of history at Wayne State University from 2005-2012.

Stone is a lifelong Detroit area resident, who received his bachelors degree in history and communications from the University of Detroit and his masters in history from Wayne State. While at WSU, he received research awards for his work in colonial American history and early Detroit history. Fisher is a writer and an authority on regional War of 1812 scholarship.

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. Group tour pricing and information is available by calling (313) 833-1733. 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,” 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](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

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