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JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL PANEL DISCUSSION OF THE SAYING I DO: METRO DETROIT WEDDINGS EXHIBIT ON THURSDAY, MAY 19 AT THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

DETROIT - The Detroit Historical Society will host a Curator Chat in conjunction with the Saying I Do: Metro Detroit Weddings exhibit on Thursday, May 19 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Detroit Historical Museum. Detroit Historical Society curator Joel Stone will moderate a discussion of the cultural traditions and wedding customs highlighted in the exhibit. Guests will also enjoy a tour of the exhibit before the discussion.

The exhibit explores the diverse cultural heritage of our area and the community rituals surrounding weddings. On display are portions of the Detroit Historical Society’s wedding gown collection and accessories, as well as artifacts and costumes, highlighting ceremonies and traditions of groups throughout the region. More than 20 weddings from a Native American ceremony in 1640 to a Mexican-American celebration in 2000 are chronicled in the exhibit, which also includes nuptials from the French, Irish, German, Polish, Belgian, Italian, Jewish, Baptist, African Methodist Episcopal (AME), Greek, Russian, Serbian, Lebanese, Syrian, Chaldean, Palestinian, Yemeni, Iraqi, Korean and Hindu traditions.

Featured panelists will include:

- **Dr. Gloria Thomas**, a family program consultant who assists organizations with developing family life education programs, will discuss African American wedding traditions

- **Sonya Kassis**, an educator at the Arab American National Museum, will discuss Antiochian Orthodox wedding traditions.

- **Ron Amen**, Director of Economic Development for the City of Dearborn Heights, will provide information about Muslim wedding customs.

- Historian **Michael Daitch** will discuss the Jewish wedding traditions.

- **Dr. Thaddeus Radzilowski**, historian and director of the Piast Institute in Hamtramck, will discuss Polish Catholic traditions.
Comerica Charitable Foundation is the Presenting Sponsor for the Saying I Do exhibit, with Hour Detroit, Metro Detroit Bride and Magic 105.1 FM as Media Sponsors.

The cost of the event is free for Detroit Historical Society members and $20 for the public. For more information or to register for the event, please call (313) 833-1801 or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

The Detroit Historical Museum, located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Detroit’s Cultural Center area, is open to the public Wednesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from Noon to 5 p.m. On Mondays and Tuesdays, the Museum is not open to the public but available for group tours by calling (313) 833-7979. Adult admission is $6. Seniors (60+), college students with valid college ID, and youth ages 5-18 pay $4. Admission for children ages four and under is free. Parking in the Museum’s lot is $4 at all times. Permanent exhibits include the famous Streets of Old Detroit; Frontiers to Factories; The Motor City; and The Glancy Trains. New exhibits include Saying I Do: Metro Detroit Weddings; Fabulous 5: Detroit’s Award Winners; Detroit Economic Club: 75 Years of Remarkable Speakers and Compelling Conversations; Automotive Showplace featuring a Scripps-Booth “DaVinci Pup” Cyclecar, and Detroit Artists’ Showcase featuring Janet Anderson.

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