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JOIN AUTHORS DORENE O’BRIEN, BILL HARRIS AND MICHAEL ZADOORIAN FOR A SPECIAL SHORT STORIES EVENING TUESDAY, JANUARY 5 AT THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

DETROIT – The Detroit Historical Society continues its Scholar Series with a special short story evening featuring Dorene O’Brien, author of Voices of the Lost and Found; Bill Harris, forthcoming author of Birth of a Notion; Or the Half Ain’t Never Been Told; and Michael Zadoorian, author of The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit. Each will share selected readings from their works, published by Wayne State University Press -- on Tuesday, January 5, at 6 p.m. at the Detroit Historical Museum.

Voices of the Lost and Found features 11 fictional first-person stories of lost innocence and betrayal. The characters, drawn from contemporary culture, present a striking portrait of alienation, volatility, violence and diversity in post modern America. Each faces an obstacle that ultimately transforms their lives.

In Birth of a Notion, a combination of prose and poetry, Harris confronts contemporary stereotypes and prejudices by tracing their roots in early American history. The stories chronicle 19th century American history from the 1830s and the rise of the abolitionist movement, to Reconstruction, the Industrial Revolution and the beginning of the 21st century. It ends with the development of jazz and blues.

The stories featured in The Lost Tiki Palaces of Detroit are drawn from everyday events that come to define the characters’ lives. Each character is forced to come to terms with the past and present of a broken city. These characters are survivors and have been worn down by tragedy. They are determined to not allow their tragedies to define them.

O’Brien is a fiction writer and a teacher of creative writing at the College of Creative Studies and Wayne State University in Detroit. Harris, a professor of English at Wayne State University, is the author of numerous plays including Robert Johnson Trick the Devil, Stories About the Old Days, Riffs and Coda. Zadoorian is the author of the novels, The Leisure Seeker and Second Hand, which won the Great Lakes Colleges Association’s First Fiction award.
The cost of the event is free for Detroit Historical Society members and $10 for the public. Advance registration is requested but walk-ins are welcome. 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 3:00 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 is 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.

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