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For Immediate Release

### LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE MARKS 58TH YEAR MARCH 11-12, 2016

STERLING HEIGHTS – The 58th annual Michigan in Perspective: The Local History Conference, hosted by the Historical Society of Michigan, will be held at Wyndham Garden—Sterling Heights (formerly the Best Western Sterling Inn Banquet & Conference Center in Sterling Heights) on March 11 and 12, 2016. The largest of the Society’s three conferences, the Michigan in Perspective: The Local History Conference offers a diverse view of Michigan’s past and is open to anyone interested in state or regional history.

This year’s lead sponsors are Meijer and J. Ferrantino Foundation, and the major sponsors are Detroit Historical Society and Burton Historical Collection.

The four keynote speakers for 2016 will be former U.S. Senator Carl Levin speaking on “Reflections on Representing Michigan”; Jamon Jordan of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History discussing “Forged by Fire: Detroit’s Riots and Rebellions and How Chaos Created a Community”; Sandra S. Clark of the Michigan Historical Center speaking on “Natural and Cultural Resources: A Marriage Made in Michigan”; and Theresa Q. Tran of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Vote–Michigan division talking about “A Family’s Story: Asian-American Immigrants 1965 – Present.”

Attendees will also have the opportunity to attend a Friday reception, choose from 25 breakout sessions that address local and statewide history, and visit nearly 50 exhibitors and vendors. **The full lineup can be found on the conference’s brochure.**

At the Saturday Gala “Echoes of Yesteryear: A Cavalcade of Characters From Michigan’s Past,” participants will have a dinner theater-style experience and learn about some meaningful people in Michigan’s history. The performance’s reenactors will be available after the show to answer questions about the characters they portrayed.

Michigan in Perspective: The Local History Conference is held annually in the Wayne/Oakland/Macomb tri-county area. The 2016 conference is also sponsored by Bentley Historical Library, Michigan State University Press, University of Michigan Press, Walter P.

Reuther Library, Wayne State University Press, Algonquin Club of Detroit & Windsor, Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society, Historical Society of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame and William L. Clements Library.

**More information on the conference can be found on the Historical Society of Michigan's website: [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org).**

The Historical Society of Michigan is the state's oldest cultural organization, founded in 1828 by territorial governor Lewis Cass and explorer Henry Schoolcraft. A nongovernmental nonprofit, the Society focuses on publications, conferences, education, awards and recognition programming, and support for local history organizations to preserve and promote Michigan's rich history.

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