

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrate the Holidays with the Chicago History Museum

CHICAGO (November 21, 2011) – This winter season the Chicago History Museum (CHM) will launch a whole host of programs that feature family programming to teach history in a fun and engaging way, commemorative programs that look to celebrate national holidays from a fresh perspective, historic tours of Chicago that offer a reprieve from the winter blues and LGBT programming that strives to build awareness and community empowerment.

On December 10, January 14 and February 11 **Second Saturdays for Families** offers young Chicagoans a chance to discover Chicago with the Radio Disney Road Crew. Participants explore the Great Chicago Fire, the city's landmarks and Blues music through dancing, singing and other creative activities that engage the whole family. Performances begin at noon and 2 p.m. Each performance lasts 40 minutes.

On Monday, January 16, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. CHM will commemorate the life, legacy and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The program brings to life Dr. King's message of peace and justice using family activities, crafts and music that honors Dr. King. The Writers' Theatre will be on hand for a performance of *The MLK Project*. Weaving together poetry, hip-hop and history, *The MLK Project: The Fight for Civil Rights* is a touring one-woman show that follows a young girl's search for truth and self-discovery through the American Civil Rights Movement.

Imagine growing up in a big white house with 132 rooms, an eighteen-acre yard, secret agents to play with, and dignitaries, celebrities and kings to meet. On Monday, February 20, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. **Kids in the White House!** will celebrate Presidents' Day by discovering stories about "First Kids" in the White House, through dramatic performances, music, and craft activities for the entire family. This event is free and includes complimentary Museum admission.

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CHM will be offering walking and bus tours throughout the winter season that promise to get the blood flowing no matter the temperature. The infamous monthly pub crawls offer Chicagoans and tourists alike a unique taste of the city's past while participants relax and enjoy a few drinks.

On Thursday, January 19, 7- 10 p.m. CHM will offer the **Magical Whiskey History Tour**. This multisensory journey will be led by mixologist Angie Jackson who will educate guests about the history and distillation of the elixir as the tour sips its way through four bars dedicated to the wonderful world of whiskey. The tour includes four whiskey tastings, one at each tavern. Admission is \$45 for the public and \$40 for members.

On Sunday, February 26, 1-4 p.m. CHM will offer a unique perspective of Prohibition-Era Chicago with the **Booze, Bars, and Bootlegging Tour**. Tour guests will get a taste of the speakeasies frequented by notorious gangsters like Capone, Moran and Dillinger. The tour will focus on how Prohibition came to be, and how it shaped Chicago's image then and now.

This winter the Chicago History Museum will be providing thought-provoking entertainment and education through LGBT themed programming. Every Saturday in January CHM's **LGBT film series** hits the stage with a verity of films that promise to make viewers laugh, cry and think, sometimes all at once. Films begin at 10 a.m. and run continuously until 4:30 p.m. Viewing is free with Museum admission.

Visitors can also experience LGBT culture by attending one of CHM's **Out at CHM** events. Entering its ninth year, *Out at CHM* explores the seldom seen and often overlooked elements of the LGBT past, present and future. *Out at CHM* will be held on January 19 and February 9 with cocktails beginning at 5:30 p.m. and programming beginning at 6:30 p.m. \$12 for the public, \$10 for members and students.

There has never been a better time than now to become a member of the Chicago History Museum. Membership benefits include unlimited access to the Museum and Research Center

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along with a fresh lineup of programs and benefits guaranteed to enthrall history lovers of all ages. All memberships to the Chicago History Museum are 100 percent tax deductible and make a timeless gift this holiday season.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is \$14 for Adults with audio tour, \$12 for Seniors and Students with audio tour and free for Children 12 years and younger.