

Electronic News Update from the  
Michigan Council for History Education  
May 1, 2011, Vol. VIII, No. 10

Dear Colleagues:

A little late due to too many other commitments, the May issue has items calling for your immediate attention, including some deadlines for summer programs, such as both Library of Congress trainings and the Great Lakes War of 1812 Historic Sites tour. Please feel free to share any of this info with your colleagues and also edit to use as you wish.

May May be a great month for you!

Dr. Jim McConnell, Editor, MCHE E-Notes

Attachments:

1. Macomb ISD & Eastern U.P. ISD Library of Congress Application
2. Great Lakes War of 1812 Historic Sites tour, July 16-25.

NOTE: The pdf attachment contains the same content as the message below. It is sent for those of you whose

machines mess up the text of the E Notes. I hope this is helpful.

\*\*\*\*\*

Check out the recent postings at [www.michiganhistoryed.org](http://www.michiganhistoryed.org) Be sure to follow developments in History Education in Michigan on MCHE's website: <http://www.michiganhistoryed.org>!

- (A) Library of Congress Workshop Offered for Summer
  - (B) NCHE Call to Action for Teaching American History Grants
  - (C) MCHE and NCHE Memberships at a Low Price!
  - (D) "After Tippecanoe" Symposium Set for November 8, 2011
- AND MORE at [www.michiganhistoryed.org](http://www.michiganhistoryed.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

Table of Contents

1. Library of Congress Training Applications Due May 20th; \$500 Honorariums to be paid!
2. Will "Will & Kate" Join the Great Lakes War of 1812 Historic Sites Tour in July?
3. TAH Funding approved by Congress!
4. Start Planning Now for the 2012 NCHE Conference In Kansas City!  
Join us at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, MO, March 22-24, 2012
5. "Great Michigan Read" to be announced soon by Michigan Humanities Council
6. Discovering the Civil War Exhibit @ The Henry Ford, May 21 - September 5, 2011
7. MCHE Annette & Jim McConnell Award Nominations Due May 15th
8. DNIE Weekly News - Check out "This Week in History"
9. Mackinac Passage: Pirate Party & A Pitch In Time are great books for students
10. Wed., May 4 7:30 p.m., "Dearborn Historical Museum: Past, Present, Future"
11. StoryLiving Presentations are Available for Your School
12. Mon.-Thurs., August 1-4, Michigan Studies Workshop, Michigan Historical Museum, Lansing
13. Check out the MotorCities National Heritage Area Story of the Week
14. Great tours in May, June
15. Fri.-Sun., June 17-19, 62nd Annual Upper Peninsula History Conference Marquette
16. "Community Connections With Geography and the Newspaper"
17. Center for Michigan says "Let's talk redistricting!"
18. Keep up-to-date on Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Plans, Programs
19. Look: (from the Archives of Michigan
20. MI Test for Teacher Certification: SS Test Developers Needed
21. Sun.-Thurs., May 1-5, HATEFUL THINGS: A Traveling Exhibit 22. The Civil War Project

- 23. . News from Kathleen Marcaccio's Weekly E-Calendar of Detroit History & Culture
- 24. Grand Rapids to Ghana
- 25. Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers: Education Workshop, Tues., July 12- Sat., July 16
- 26. Ron Chernow Wins Pulitzer Prize For Washington Biography
- 27. Do you know who Jeffery Amherst was? (RESPONSE)
- 28. What's the Constitution? Don't bother asking 70% of Americans
- 29. Mon.-Tue., June 6-7, MI-ACE Network Annual Conference
- 30. Selected Info from History News Network ([www.hnn.us](http://www.hnn.us))
- 31. Great Michigan Read Kicks Off for Partners

\*\*\*\*\*

### 1. Library of Congress Training offers \$500 Honorariums

TWENTY classroom teachers and media specialists are sought for EACH of two summer training programs at Macomb ISD and at the Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD. A \$500 honorarium is paid to all participating educators.

\*\*The Macomb ISD workshop will be held 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Tuesday-Wednesday, July 12/13, & Tuesday-Wednesday, July 26/27, 2011. All sessions will be at Macomb Intermediate School District, 44001 Garfield Road, Clinton Township MI 48038, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

\*\*The Eastern U.P. ISD workshop will be held 9 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, June 27-29, 2011. All sessions will be at Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, 315 Armory Place, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

#### Library of Congress Training

Application must be RECEIVED no later than Friday, May 20th. Application MUST be accompanied by fully refundable DEPOSIT of \$25 payable to "MCHE" to reserve your place. Deposits will be returned upon completion of workshop or, if not accepted, with letter of regret in mid-June. Applicants will be notified of their selection by Friday, June 10th For info, contact Dr. Jim McConnell, 734-525-2962 or [jam1776@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jam1776@sbcglobal.net), Project Co-Director. Applications are available at [www.michiganhistoryed.org](http://www.michiganhistoryed.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

### 2. Will "Will & Kate" Join the Great Lakes War of 1812 Historic Sites Tour in July?

Rumors have begun flying that the Royal Couple, as part of their July visit to Canada, have added the MCHE & Michigan War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission tour of War of 1812 historic sites to their itinerary. The tour, set for Sat., July 16, to Mon., July 25, features more than 30 key forts, battlefields, and other war of 1812 events. Certainly the royal couple will want to immerse themselves in this conflict that helped forge two nations: Canada and the United States. The price, \$1812, is certainly within the royal budget. In fact, Detroit Free Press travel writer Ellen Creger selected this tour as the "Best Deal of the Week." For details, visit [www.michigan.gov/war1812](http://www.michigan.gov/war1812) or email Dr. Jim McConnell t [jam1776@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jam1776@sbcglobal.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

### 3. TAH Funding approved by Congress!

Thanks to our NCHE membership, the Teaching American History Grant Program has been preserved for FY2011! We stood together to fight to keep the program funded for this year. It was cut to \$46 million; however, it was not eliminated. Hundreds of teachers, university and college faculty, museums and archives and library staff came together in 35 states to reach out to U.S. House and Senate members and to talk about

the value and importance of the Teaching American History Grants AND THE RESULTS WERE We Saved the Program! We look forward to working with our team to restore full funding!

Peter S. Seibert, Executive Director, NCHE, [peter@nche.net](mailto:peter@nche.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

### 4. Start Planning Now for the 2012 NCHE Conference In Kansas City!

Join us at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, MO, March 22-24, 2012

NCHE and the National Archives in Kansas City are proud to announce the FIRST ENRICHMENT EXCURSION of 2012! Let the National Archives-Chicago introduce you to Al Capone and let the National Archives-Kansas City take you inside Leavenworth Penitentiary. More Tours Coming Soon so Watch for Them!

\*\*\*\*\*

5. "Great Michigan Read" to be announced soon by Michigan Humanities Council

Be certain to check [www.michiganhumanities.org](http://www.michiganhumanities.org) in mid-May for the announcement of the exciting book to be

featured in the "Great Michigan read" project sponsored by the Michigan Humanities council. Sworn to secrecy, I cannot reveal the title, but can say the book is an amazing story. MCHC members, with current dues, will learn about the book in the upcoming issue of "Ends & Beginnings," the group's printed newsletter. NOTE: TITLE ANNOUNCED! See final article in this issue of MCHC E-Notes!

\*\*\*\*\*

6. Discovering the Civil War Exhibit @ The Henry Ford, May 21 - September 5, 2011

Exhibit Preview May 9, Lectures May 21 - July 23 - Sept 3; The Original Emancipation Proclamation on display June 20-22\*\* Civil War Remembrance Weekend, May 28-30; For more info, visit [www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

7. MCHC Annette & Jim McConnell Award Nominations Due May 15th

Special recognition given to outstanding elementary, secondary, and preservice history teachers. Application information available at [www.michiganhistoryed.org](http://www.michiganhistoryed.org) DEADLINE: MAY 15th!

\*\*\*\*\*

8. DNIE Weekly News - Check out "This Week in History"

Diversity, multiculturalism, worldwide events. You'll find plenty for classroom discussions in this listing of events. Get This Week in History at <http://nieonline.com/detroit/calendar.cfm>

\*\*\*\*\*

9. Mackinac Passage: Pirate Party & A Pitch In Time are great books for students

Noted local author Bob Lytle's books, Mackinac Passage: Pirate Party & A Pitch In Time are creative fiction stories of major historical events now observing key birthdays. With the War of 1812 poised to mark its bicentennial, many of your students (and you) will enjoy Mackinac Passage: Pirate Party. Using a time traveler strategy, much of the story takes place in the Mackinac area during the War of 1812. It is great for middle scholars studying about this time period. Additionally, Lytle's book - A Pitch In Time is set in the era before the Civil War and is a great account of the Underground Railroad experience and is also a great book for middle scholars studying about the Civil War. For more info or to order, contact Edna C. Stephens, EDCO Publishing, Inc., 2648 Lapeer Rd., Auburn Hills, MI 48326, 248-475-4678, [www.edcopublishing.com](http://www.edcopublishing.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

10. Wed., May 4 ,7:30 p.m., "Dearborn Historical Museum: Past, Present, Future"

After five years sitting vacant, the Quality Inn Motel on Michigan Avenue and Brady is gone! Now with a clean slate, the Dearborn Historical Museum has the opportunity to rethink the future of persevering our city's past. Join Chief Curator Kirt Gross for a presentation on the history of the museum site and the museum's plans and goals for future redevelopment. Donations Accepted Presented by the Dearborn Historical Museum as a community service at the McFadden-Ross House, 915 S. Brady street, Dearborn, Michigan 48124, For information call (313) 565\_3000

\*\*\*\*\*

11. StoryLiving Presentations are Available for Your School

Led by a professional storyteller, StoryLiving Presentations take your students back in time to discover history through drama, group pantomime, role playing, songs and creative problem-solving. Choose from two options: • The Underground Railroad: This immersive presentation focuses on the experience of African Americans during the 1800s that escaped from slavery and passed through Detroit on their way to Canada. Students will discover the role that the Detroit River, and the people of Detroit, played in the Underground Railroad. • The Fire of 1805: In 1805, a fire threatened to destroy Detroit. In this

presentation, your group will become 19th century firefighters who must work together to save the community. StoryLiving Presentations are available for \$350 at your location. Contact Detroit Historical Society at 313.833.1733 to schedule your presentation today!

\*\*\*\*\*

12. Mon.-Thurs., August 1-4, Michigan Studies Workshop, Michigan Historical Museum  
Spend four days immersed in learning how Michigan's economy has changed through time, and explore the places where some of our state's historically important industries developed. August 1 and 4 take place here at the Michigan Historical Museum; on August 2 and 3, you will travel to Hartwick Pines Logging Museum in Grayling, the Straits of Mackinac and Sault Ste. Marie. This workshop is designed for third and fourth grade teachers. • Registration deadline: June 1, 2011 For more info, please send us an e-mail or call (517) 373-1685. or visit [www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463\\_54464\\_18628-237443--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463_54464_18628-237443--,00.html) The Michigan Studies Workshop is presented in cooperation with the Ingham Intermediate School District & the Michigan History Foundation The Michigan Historical Museum—flagship of the Michigan Historical Museum System—is located inside the Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing.

\*\*\*\*\*

13. Check out the MotorCities National Heritage Area Story of the Week at <http://www.motorcities.org/Story+of+the+Week/This+Weeks+Story-3.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

14. Great tours in May, June

Detroit Historical Society June Tours

(A) Sat., June 11, 10 a.m., Woodmere Cemetery

(B) Sat., June 18, 10 a.m., Historic Fort Wayne

Each "Behind the Scenes Tour" is \$20 for Society members & \$30 for Guests. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (313) 833-1801 or visit [www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org).

Preservation Wayne Walking Tours; May - September Saturday tours begin at 10 am; Tuesday tours begin at 5:30 pm. Each tour runs 2-3 hours. Tickets are \$10; \$8 for seniors, students, and PW members. For a schedule and registration info, please visit [www.preservationwayne.org](http://www.preservationwayne.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

15. Fri.-Sun., June 17-19, 62nd Annual Upper Peninsula History Conference Marquette

The 62nd Annual Upper Peninsula History Conference will be held June 17-19, 2011, in Marquette, MI. View the conference brochure at [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org) for a detailed listing. The Ramada of Marquette is the conference hotel. A special rate of \$69.00 is available for conference attendees. Call the hotel at (906) 228-6000. When reserving, please ask for the "UP Conference Rate" to get the special room rate. Register online at [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

16. "Community Connections With Geography and the Newspaper"

A free curriculum now available from the NAA Foundation, which focuses on community, its shape, history and future. Lessons and supplementary organizers target the heart of any newspaper and its sense of place. Level One, "Understanding Maps and Communities," consists of 11 lessons. Level Two, "How Communities Are

Created," consists of seven lessons. Format notes in each level explain the lesson structure. To download Level

One, visit [www.naafoundation.org/docs/Foundation/Curriculum/NIE/Geo\\_LevelOne\\_F.pdf](http://www.naafoundation.org/docs/Foundation/Curriculum/NIE/Geo_LevelOne_F.pdf) or for Level two, visit [www.naafoundation.org/docs/Foundation/Curriculum/NIE/Geo\\_Level2\\_F.pdf](http://www.naafoundation.org/docs/Foundation/Curriculum/NIE/Geo_Level2_F.pdf)

\*\*\*\*\*

17. Center for Michigan says "Let's talk redistricting!" Lansing, May 10; Grand Rapids, May 19; Traverse City. May 21

This week, the head of a key legislative panel on redrawing Michigan's election districts says he's happy to look at maps drawn up by members of the general public. And starting in May, the Center for Michigan is co-

sponsoring a series of public meetings on, yep, redistricting. For details and to register, visit [www.thecenterformichigan.net](http://www.thecenterformichigan.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 18. Keep up-to-date on Michigan Civil War Sesquicentennial Plans, Programs

Be certain to visit and bookmark the Michigan Sesquicentennial Civil War History Partners' website::

<http://www.7thmichigan.us/conference/MiCWSesquiHP.htm>

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 19. Look: (from the Archives of Michigan)

##### (A) Look!: Native American Civil War Unit

The Civil War began 150 years ago in April 1861. In observance, Look! presents a special article on Michigan's Native American Civil War unit: <http://seekingmichigan.org/look/2011/04/12/native-american-sharpshooters>

##### (B) Look!: 1st Michigan Cavalry

The Civil War began 150 years ago this month. This week, Matt VanAcker looks at the First Michigan Cavalry, its heroic charge at Gettysburg and the fate of its battle flag. To read the article, click here:

<http://seekingmichigan.org/look/2011/04/19/brodhead>

(C) All are encouraged to visit "Plowshares into Swords," a new exhibit focusing on the Civil War. It opens today at the Michigan Historical Center in Lansing. For more info, click the following links -Plowshares into Swords exhibit: [www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463\\_54464\\_40016-251621--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463_54464_40016-251621--,00.html)

Plowshares into Swords grand opening events: <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463-253600--,00.html> (from Bob Garrett, Archives of Michigan, DNRE, [garretr1@michigan.gov](mailto:garretr1@michigan.gov))

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 20. MI Test for Teacher Certification: SS Test Developers Needed

Here is your chance to have a voice in the development of the MTTC! New test development is being done for:

•History •Social Studies (Elementary) There are many opportunities for Michigan educators to participate in test development and bias review work. To Find out more or to fill out an application, please go to:

<http://www.mirecruit.nesinc.com>. Christine Conlon, Project Manager, Evaluation Systems, Pearson, (866) 613-3279 or [Christine.Conlon@pearson.com](mailto:Christine.Conlon@pearson.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 21. Sun.-Thurs., May 1-5, HATEFUL THINGS: A Traveling Exhibit from the Jim Crow

Museum of Racist Memorabilia, Ferris State University, Art Center of Battle Creek

Dear Colleagues, We invite you to the Art Center of Battle Creek (265 E. Emmett Street) to view a traveling exhibit from the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at Ferris State University. "Hateful Things" will

be displayed from May 1-5. "Hateful Things" is a collection of Jim Crow era artifacts from the late 19th century to present day. Images of violence against African Americans as well as the Civil Rights struggle for racial equality are included. The exhibit provides an educational resource for scholars and teachers at the state, national, and international level. The exhibit also serves as a resource for civil and human rights organizations, promoting racial understanding and healing. Teachers bringing students to the Art Center will

be given an instructional packet prior to their visit. The exhibit may also be previewed at [www.ferris.edu/jimcrow/menu.htm](http://www.ferris.edu/jimcrow/menu.htm) Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Scott Durham

<[SDurham@lakeviewspartans.org](mailto:SDurham@lakeviewspartans.org)>

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

#### 22. The Civil War Project

Welcome! This site was created to give a day-by-day account of the American Civil War, 150 years later, in "real time." Daily blogs are provided to give a summary of the days events, along with links providing additional topic information. As time goes by the content will grow on the site, remember to come visit for daily updates. Go to: <http://thecivilwarproject.com/>

Thanks to Ed McGovern, Social Studies Teacher, Stevenson Middle School for sharing this with me.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

23. . News from Kathleen Marcaccio's Weekly E-Calendar of Detroit History & Culture

June 4 – Indian Village Home & Garden Tour [www.indianvillagedetroit.org/events/home-and-garden-tour](http://www.indianvillagedetroit.org/events/home-and-garden-tour)

June 5 – Corktown Home Tour <http://corktownhistoric.org/index.php/corktown-historic-home-tour-June>

6 - Historic Houses of Worship Tour (Detroit Historical Society) [www.detroithistorical.org/](http://www.detroithistorical.org/)

June 8 - "Historic Fort Wayne" by Jim Conway (Downriver Genealogical Society)

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~midrgs/drgsmeeting.html](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~midrgs/drgsmeeting.html)

June 11 – Behind the Scenes: Woodmere Cemetery (Detroit Historical Society)

[www.detroithistorical.org/main/upcoming/behind\\_scenes.aspx](http://www.detroithistorical.org/main/upcoming/behind_scenes.aspx)

To subscribe to Kathleen's Weekly eCalendar of Detroit History and Cultural Heritage Events, email Kathleen Marcaccio, [dkosh@msn.com](mailto:dkosh@msn.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

24. Grand Rapids to Ghana

"I am a stay-at home mom of a 3 year old daughter and 14 year old son. My husband Scott Stabler is a professor at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. He won a fulbright scholarship to research and teach at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana. So we are headed to Africa. I've lived in Michigan my whole life and never lived more than an hour's drive away from my parents and brothers and sisters but now we are packing up the kids and headed to Ghana, Africa (with a quick 10 days in Europe on our way). This blog journals our adventures." from Molly Stabler; Visit her at [grandrapidstoghana.blogspot.com](http://grandrapidstoghana.blogspot.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

25. Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers: Education Workshop, Tues., July 12- Sat., July 16

The workshop's mission is two-fold: to be immersed in the simple living of an early 20th century Great Lakes family and to share Great Lakes themed educational materials and hands on activities available to today's teacher of State studies. Where: St Helena Island (Near Mackinac Island.) Cost: Workshop fee will be \$275.00. Additional fees for 2 hours Grad Credit from Central Michigan University and 3.0 SB-CEU's from Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD. For info, contact: MaryAnn Moore, Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association, 231-436-5580 (office) 734-934-0170 (cell)

\*\*\*\*\*

26. Ron Chernow Wins Pulitzer Prize For Washington Biography

SOURCE: NPR (4-19-11) The worlds of journalism and literature turned their attention to the prestigious Pulitzer Prizes when the committee announced the 2011 winners. Ron Chernow won the prize for biography, for his book "Washington: A Life." Washington the man we know, the man we learned about in grade school, is more myth than fact, Chernow argues. Instead of the steady, calm, stabilizing force we think about, Washington was a passionate leader behind a cool facade.

\*\*\*\*\*

27. Do you know who Jeffery Amherst was? (RESPONSE)

Got an immediate response after sending this questions last month: "Jim, Every Smith College graduate (and probably Mt. Holyoke as well) knows that "Lord Jeffrey Amherst was a soldier of the king, To the French and the Indians he never did a thing. . ." Have a good day! Maria Quinlan Leiby, Education Coordinator Michigan Historical Center, DNRE Stay tuned for an answer in the May issue of MCHC E-Notes.

\*\*\*\*\*

28. What's the Constitution? Don't bother asking 70% of Americans: Alarming number of U.S. citizens don't know basic facts about their own country

By Rachel Quigley. To read the article, visit [www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1368482/How-ignorant-Americans-An-alarming-number-U-S-citizens-dont-know-basic-facts-country.html](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1368482/How-ignorant-Americans-An-alarming-number-U-S-citizens-dont-know-basic-facts-country.html) (Information from historical researcher Matthew Christian Wayne )

\*\*\*\*\*

29. Mon.-Tues., June 6-7, MI-ACE Network Annual Conference

The Michigan American Council on Education (ACE) Network for Women Leaders in Higher Education will hold their 2011 gathering at the James B. Henry Center for Executive Development at Michigan State University.

Online registration is now available Sandy Soifer Executive Director Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame ssoifer@michiganwomen.org Website: www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org  
Registration Open at www.wmich.edu/miace to register \$169 regular attendee (\$189 after June 1.)  
•\$120 graduate student

\*\*\*\*\*

### 30. Selected Info from History News Network (www.hnn.us)

HNN is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. We feature articles by historians of all political views. TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE HTML EDITION OF THIS NEWSLETTER GO HERE: <http://hnn.us/articles/20883.html>\*

(A)Can't We Afford to Teach Civics Any Longer? Can We Afford Not To? RICHARD DREYFUSS

<http://www.hnn.us/articles/137980.html>

(B) \*New Research Questions Who in the Confederacy Had the Most War Dead

<http://hnn.us/roundup/41.html#137929>

(C) Thomas J. Sugrue: Detroit: A Dream of Integration Still Deferred

<http://hnn.us/roundup/entries/137948.html>

9D) \*How Many Presidential Doctrines Have There Been? <http://hnn.us/articles/377.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

### 31. Great Michigan Read Kicks Off for Partners

(FULL DETAILS from [www.michiganhumanities.org](http://www.michiganhumanities.org))

The Michigan Humanities Council is proud to announce the 2011-12 Great Michigan Read, Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age. The Council's early announcement allows statewide educators ample time to review and prepare for fall curriculum.

Written by Detroit native Kevin Boyle, Arc of Justice tells the story of African American Dr. Ossian Sweet and the chain of events that occurred after he purchased a home for his family in an all-white Detroit neighborhood in 1925. The book won the 2004 National Book Award for nonfiction, was named a 2005 Michigan Notable Book, and was selected for the Great Michigan Read by a group of nearly 50 librarians, teachers, students, professors, authors and more from across the state.

"It has all the elements of a great story. I mean, really fascinating figures. ... I'm from Michigan, from Detroit, and it's a place I care an enormous amount about. It was a chance to write about a place I love. It's not

the most flattering picture of Detroit, but I tried to give the most honest one."-Author Kevin Boyle,

The Great Michigan Read is a free statewide humanities initiative inviting Michiganians to read and participate in book discussions and events in their hometowns. Intended for young adults to senior citizens, the Great Michigan Read aims to make literature more accessible and appealing, while also encouraging residents to learn more about their state. In the fall the Council will host an author tour, where Boyle will visit selected communities to discuss the book.

The Council invites libraries, schools, colleges, museums, book clubs and other organizations to register and work with the Council over the next few months to implement supporting programs in their community. In September, the Council will begin a major public relations initiative that will push these programs into the public. "We recognize that this is a challenging time, which is why we provide all program resources free of charge," Parker said. "We're preparing reader guides, teacher guides and free discussion kits that will include copies of the book. For communities that want to take on bigger programs, we can provide financial support as well as opportunities to host the author."Supporting programs can include book discussions, classroom exercises, exhibitions, lectures, oral history projects and more.

"Partners can register online, and there will be a streamlined application process for those applying for book discussion kits. We want to make participation as easy as possible," Parker said. In addition, partners can indicate if they would like to partner with the Council to host the author or engage in larger community initiatives.

For more info on how you can join the Great Michigan Read, please email [contact@mihumanities.org](mailto:contact@mihumanities.org), call 517-372-7770, or visit [www.michiganhumanities.org](http://www.michiganhumanities.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

Be sure to follow developments in History Education in Michigan on MCHÉ's website:

<http://www.michiganhistoryed.org>!

\*\*\*\*\*