

## **THE HENRY FORD DEARBORN, MICHIGAN**

Nearly 80 years ago, The Henry Ford was formally dedicated by its founder Henry Ford and his friend and mentor, Thomas Edison. The institution opened in 1929 as a school and was driven by Ford's belief that the "real" story of America and the genius of the American people were not being taught in textbooks.

Ford began assembling his own "living" textbook by collecting the objects that ordinary people designed, produced and used. The early stages of his collection included plain old wagons, threshing machines and grease lamps. He later sought objects that reflected industrial progress and also paid homage to his heroes—Edison, Abraham Lincoln and the Wright brothers—by collecting relics of their lives and examples of their work.

Ford laid the groundwork for authentic recreations and reenactments that would bring American stories to life and allow people of all ages to discover the many facets of the American experience for themselves.

Today, the collection of The Henry Ford is the primary tool and resource for providing authentic, effective history-based experiences.

### **WHO WE ARE**

With a rich and diverse offering of exhibits, demonstrations, programs and reenactments, The Henry Ford—America's premiere history destination—celebrates yesterday's traditions and today's innovations. It is the place where the personal experiences of ordinary and extraordinary individuals, the people we call our heroes, are celebrated and shared—people like Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, Rosa Parks, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, the Wright brothers and others. Here, visitors of all ages can discover and explore the richness of our American heritage.

The Henry Ford's mission is to provide unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, stories, and lives from America's traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation. Our purpose is to inspire people to learn from these traditions to help shape a better future.

Five distinct attractions at The Henry Ford captivate and inspire our more than 1.6 million visitors annually.

**Henry Ford Museum** showcases the American ideas and innovations, technological and social, that have fired our imaginations and changed our lives. Here, visitors explore the first 40 years of flight in the *Heroes of Sky* exhibit and walk past awe-inspiring vehicles in *Automobile in American Life* including Henry Ford's first automobile, the Quadricycle and the presidential limousine in which John F. Kennedy was assassinated. *With Liberty and Justice For All* showcases American freedom and features an amazing array of artifacts representing powerful change agents such as the bus on which Rosa Parks took a stand for Civil Rights, the camp bed George Washington used during his tour of Revolutionary War sites and the chair in which Abraham Lincoln was sitting the night he was shot.

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**Greenfield Village** visitors experience 300 years of American history through 83 authentic, historic structures, four living history farms, and nationally-renowned artists creating one-of-kind 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>-century pieces in pottery, tin and glass. While it is filled with amazing authentic structures such as the Wright brothers' cycle shop from Dayton Ohio, Thomas Edison's Menlo Park Laboratories and George Washington Carver's memorial cabin, Greenfield Village is also home to nationally-renowned programming including our signature Holiday Nights program and the oldest car show in the country, our Old Car Festival held every September and currently in its 57<sup>th</sup> year.

**The Ford Rouge Factory Tour**, a joint partnership between The Henry Ford and Ford Motor Company, offers visitors the opportunity to tour the rich history of the Rouge, the birthplace of the Model A, the V-8, Mustang and the Thunderbird while bearing witness to the future of manufacturing through the assembly of the new F-150.

**The Henry Ford IMAX® Theatre** is the largest IMAX theatre in the state of Michigan with a screen six stories high and eight stories wide.

**Benson Ford Research Center** holds more than 25 million documents including the world's largest collection of automotive and truck product literature.

The Henry Ford is also home to **Henry Ford Academy**, a public charter high school founded in partnership with Ford Motor Company and Wayne County Public Schools, which educates 485 students a year on our campus.

In addition to our high school and five visitor attractions, The Henry Ford has more than 26 million 2D and 3D artifacts in our collection. We have six restaurants, nine retail shops, a full-service catering operation and five historic rides on our grounds. We serve more than 40,000 member households and receive more than 20 million web site hits per month.

## **DETAILS**

Located at 20900 Oakwood Boulevard at Village Road in Dearborn, Michigan, 48124, (313) 982-6001. Visit [www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org) for hours, show times and ticket prices.

## **CONTACT**

Wendy Metros, The Henry Ford, (313) 982-6125, [Wendyme@thehenryford.org](mailto:Wendyme@thehenryford.org)