



For Immediate Release

Contact: Kara O’Keeffe

608-261-9596

kara.okeeffe@wisconsinhistory.org

September 20, 2017

Celebrate 100 Years of the Current Capitol with the 2017 Wisconsin State Capitol Holiday Ornament

Madison, Wis. - The 2017 Wisconsin State Capitol ornament, presented by the Wisconsin Historical Foundation, celebrates the 100th anniversary of the current Wisconsin State Capitol building and Lew Porter, who supervised the day to day work of constructing the Capitol between 1906-1917.

“The Capitol ornament celebrates our monument of democracy and adds to the year-long celebration that has included a rededication ceremony, concert and special tours,” said Speaker Robin Vos.

“As we kick off our Holiday tradition with a Capitol ornament, this year we are reminded of our Capitol’s history,” said Senate President Roger Roth. “How it has stood through 100 years and will continue to stand as a beckon of hope and optimism for Wisconsin citizens.”

The ornament’s beautiful design captures the Capitol building as it looks today and how it looked during construction. The middle section of the ornament spins bringing the past together with the present.

“This year’s ornament is a great way to celebrate the centennial of the building that holds so much history for the state of Wisconsin,” said Dave Wilder, executive director of the Wisconsin Historical Foundation. “It will also make an impact that goes directly back to the Capitol with proceeds supporting the State Capitol Restoration Fund.”

Since 2004, the proceeds from ornament sales have supported over \$75,000 in restoration projects around the Capitol building. Previous ornament sales have helped to fund the visitor’s bird’s eye view from the glass perch inside the dome of the State Capitol.

The ornament is set in a special gift box and will be available for purchase while supplies last at Orange Tree Imports, Wisconsin Historical Museum, State Capitol Tours, Monona Terrace, The Bruce Company and the Executive Residence. Online ornament purchases may be made by visiting <http://bit.ly/CapitolOrnament2017>.

A bi-partisan Centennial Commission was put together in January to plan other events related to the 100th anniversary. Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and Senate President Roger Roth are co-chairs of the 13-member commission. Other upcoming events include an essay contest for K-12 students, antique car

Collecting, Preserving and Sharing Stories Since 1846

816 State Street Madison, Wisconsin 53706

wisconsinhistory.org



show and a gala which will be taking place in November. For more information about these and other centennial events visit capitol100th.wisconsin.gov.

About the Wisconsin Historical Foundation

The Wisconsin Historical Foundation exists to advance the mission of the Wisconsin Historical Society: to help people connect to the past by collecting, preserving and sharing stories. The Wisconsin Historical Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, receives grants and private contributions benefitting the Society and administers the membership program. Visit wisconsinhistory.org for more information.

###

Collecting, Preserving and Sharing Stories Since 1846

816 State Street Madison, Wisconsin 53706

wisconsinhistory.org