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Shannon White Named Assistant Director

EAST LANSING MI: The Historical Society of Michigan is pleased to announce the appointment of Shannon D. White as Assistant Director. This new position was created to provide additional leadership as the organization expands. In the past year and a half the Society has taken over *Michigan History* magazine, the Centennial Farm Program and earlier this year took on the role as primary sponsor and conference administrator for the *Michigan in Perspective: the Local History Conference* held annually in southeast Michigan.



White was appointed as Education and Awards Coordinator in summer 2008. In her new role she will work closely with Executive Director Larry Wagenaar. White's responsibilities will include a continued focus on leading the Society's educational programs, including Michigan History Day (National History Day in Michigan) and the Mulling Over Michigan educators conference, and the Society's awards and recognition programs as new staff are identified to take over the day to day operation of those programs. She will also provide additional leadership and insight to the circulation and sales components of *Michigan History* magazine, the Society's various conferences, and other aspects of the Society's operations.

"Shannon is an outstanding colleague" commented Executive Director Larry Wagenaar. "Her leadership and project management abilities – as well as her extensive skill set – are an important asset for HSM. She has played a key role in our recent growth and development. I look forward to working with her in this new position as we operate as a senior management team."

Prior to joining the staff at the Historical Society of Michigan White served as Network Services Director at the Nebraska Library Commission and was responsible for management of the statewide projects including Nebraska's OCLC Network, NEBASE, statewide database and digitization programs, NebraskaAccess and Nebraska Memories, as well as coordination of the electronic resources cooperative purchasing program.

Beginning her career in the library and archives field, White served as an archivist in South Carolina and later in a variety of areas in academic librarianship including special collections, interlibrary loan, reference, systems administration and management. Before joining the Nebraska Library Commission she served as Assistant Director of the Library at the University of West Alabama. White received her MLIS from the University of South Carolina in 1997 and her MA in History from the same in 2000.

White assumes her new position as Assistant Director on January 1.

The Historical Society of Michigan is the state's official historical society and oldest cultural organization, founded in 1828 by territorial governor Lewis Cass and explorer Henry Schoolcraft. The Society focuses on publications, education, conferences, historic recognition programs, and support for local historical organizations. For more information on the Historical Society of Michigan visit www.hsmichigan.org or call (800) 692-1828.

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