Where the past is present DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Sarah Murphy
313.833.1262 or
sarahm@detroithistorical.org

RARE CHRYSLER TURBINE CAR NOW ON DISPLAY AT THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM!

DETROIT- See the striking space age car that was powered by an adapted jet engine! Our 1963 Chrysler Turbine is one of 10 remaining from a research test program that was conducted by Chrysler between 1964 and 1966. It is returning home after being away on loan for many years, and is now on display in the Warner, Norcross & Judd Automotive Showplace. Museum admission is always free.

About the Chrysler Turbine: Chrysler had been experimenting with turbine engines as a replacement for piston-driven motors since before Work War II, hoping to bring their many advantages to passenger cars. Turbine engines require 80% fewer parts than a traditional engine and are able to run on anything combustible, including gasoline, diesel, kerosene and peanut oil. They last longer and eliminate the need for tune-ups, oil changes and a cooling system.

In the 1960s, Chrysler hand-built 50 turbine-powered vehicles at their Highland Park Design Studio for an intensive two-year research test program. The identical cars featured an eye-catching “turbine bronze” metallic paint job and aircraft-inspired styling by designer Elwood Engle and Italian body fabricator Ghia. Consumers across the country were given the opportunity to drive the revolutionary cars for their day-to-day needs and then report their findings. When the test program concluded in 1966, the cars were rounded up and crushed. Only ten exist today.

Specifications:

- Engine: A-831 Regenerative Gas Turbine
- Horsepower: 130
- MPG: 17.25
- Weight: 3,900 lbs.
- Color: Turbine Bronze
- Units Produced: 55

Also new at the Detroit Historical Museum, look for the following recently opened exhibitions:

- ***Re-Documenting Detroit* in the Booth Auditorium (lower level).** This multi-semester collaboration with the College for Creative Studies tasks student photographers with documenting changes to Detroit’s environment and culture. Images from Fall 2016 and Winter 2017 students will be on display.

- ***Detroit's Prismatics Club Celebrates 150 Years*** **in the Detroit Artists Showcase (2nd floor).** This exhibition highlights the history, art and literature of the Prismatic Club, which was formed by five Detroit gentlemen in 1867 to discuss literature, art, science, travel, politics and society's accomplishments and continues to this day.

The **Detroit Historical Museum**, located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Midtown Detroit, is open to the public Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free for all, all the time. Parking in the Museum's lot is $7 at all times. Group tour pricing and information is available by calling 313.833.7979. Permanent exhibits include the famous *Streets of Old Detroit*, the *Allesee Gallery of Culture*, *Kid Rock Music Lab*, *Doorway to Freedom: Detroit and the Underground Railroad*, *Detroit: The "Arsenal of Democracy,"* the *Gallery of Innovation*, *Frontiers to Factories*, *America's Motor City*, and *The Glancy Trains*. For more information, call the Museum at 313.833.1805 or check out our website at detroithistorical.org.

# # #