Since 1846, the Wisconsin Historical Society has been Wisconsin’s place for history and one of the world’s most respected historical institutions.

Limitations of our current museum —located in a former hardware store on Wisconsin’s Capitol Square—prevent us from properly sharing and displaying our state’s stories and world-renowned collections.

The idea of a new history museum has existed for nearly two decades, with support and planning by Governors Tommy Thompson, Jim Doyle and Scott Walker. Thanks to a public-private partnership, now is the time to seize this long-awaited opportunity to transform how history is shared in Wisconsin.

The museum footprint will expand to 100,000 gross square feet, and is estimated to cost $120 million. The State of Wisconsin has committed $70 million to the project if the Society raises $50 million in private donations.
WITH YOUR HELP THE NEW MUSEUM WILL . . .

- **GREET** 150,000 guests annually in a lively, spacious environment
- **ENGAGE** and inspire nearly twice as many students each school year (doubling the current student visitation to more than 50,000 annually)
- **SHOWCASE** our state’s world-class collections, and display its largest artifacts
- **UNITE** people in all 72 counties in real time with modern distance learning technology
- **ENHANCE** local history partnerships by sharing more collections and stories from around our state
- **REVEAL** our state’s distinct identity by sharing stories that find common ground across all cultures and ethnicities
- **ILLUMINATE** the importance of history in our everyday lives