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## **Historical Museum to Offer Free Cultural Series in Conjunction with *Miami Beach: America's Tropical Resort***

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

MIAMI, FL (September 11, 2006) – The undeniable success of Miami Beach as a popular world-class tourist destination can be attributed to the following: savvy marketing, strategic development plans, diverse inhabitants, fashionable lifestyles and eclectic architecture. A distinguished panel of authors and experts will lend their knowledge of the beach as part of the Historical Museum's free *Live On The Plaza* cultural series, presented in conjunction with *Miami Beach: America's Tropical Resort*, an exhibition of over 100 artifacts telling the glamorous story of how a mangrove-covered sandbar became America's Year 'Round Playground. On select Thursday evenings during the months of October and November, culture vultures can enjoy the series, tour the exhibition, sample appetizers and a cash bar.

#### **October 12**

6:30 – 8:30pm

##### **PANEL DISCUSSION *It's June In Miami!***

Hear "Mr. Miami Beach" Michael Aller, Director of Tourism for the city of Miami Beach and public relations gurus Charlie Cinnamon and Dindy Yokel discuss the marketing of Miami Beach through the decades.

#### **October 19**

6:30 – 8:30pm

##### **AUTHORS PANEL *From Barrier Island to Best-known Beach City***

Listen to authors Seth Bramson (*Images of America: Miami Beach*), Dr. Abraham Lavender (*Miami Beach in 1920: The Making of a Winter Resort*) and Michele Oka Doner (*Miami Beach: Blueprint of an Eden*) discuss how Miami Beach developed from a barrier island in to a world-class tourist destination.

#### **November 9**

6:30 – 8:30pm

##### **LECTURE "*Always a View, Never a Jew*"**

Enjoy a lecture and slide presentation by Marcia Zerivitz, Founding Executive Director of the Jewish Museum, on the history of Jews in early Miami Beach and their contributions to this world-class resort city.

#### **November 16**

6:30 – 8:30 pm

##### **LECTURE *The Undressing of America: History of the Swimsuit***

Enjoy an insightful lecture by historian Lena Lencek, a professor at Reed College, as she discusses her book *Making Waves: Swimsuits and The Undressing of America*. View video footage of early bathing beauties provided by the Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archive.

**November 30**

6:30 – 8:30 pm

**PRESENTATION Disappearing Landmarks I Miami Beach Hotels & Motels**

View photos of old Sunny Isles Beach motels during a presentation by Dr. Elliot Salloway. Enjoy a discussion about vanishing Miami Beach landmarks by Howard Kleinberg, author of *Miami Beach: A History*, and the Historical Museum's Dr. Paul George about the quickly disappearing landmarks of this city.

For more information about *Live On The Plaza* or *Miami Beach: America's Tropical Resort*, contact the Historical Museum of Southern Florida at 305.375.1492 or visit [www.hmsf.org](http://www.hmsf.org).

**About the Historical Museum of Southern Florida**

The Historical Museum of Southern Florida tells the stories of South Florida and the Caribbean. The museum promotes understanding of the past in order to inform the present and create a better quality of life. The Historical Museum hosts a permanent exhibition gallery and a special gallery with several changing exhibitions each year. In addition, the museum houses the Research Center, a non-circulating library and archives open to museum visitors, and The Indies Company, the museum's store, which offers a unique array of Florida-themed books and gifts. The Historical Museum is located in downtown Miami in the Miami-Dade Cultural Center, across the street from Metrorail's Government Center Station at 101 West Flagler Street, Miami, Florida 33130. Hours are Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., select Thursdays 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Sunday noon - 5 p.m. Admission for adults is \$5, children (ages 6-12) is \$2, and children under 6 are free. Saturday is free admission, and Sunday is by contribution.

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