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MIDSTORY DEBUTS INTERACTIVE VIRTUAL GALLERY, "MADE IN TOLEDO"

Midstory is pleased to announce the release of an interactive exhibit in partnership with the Toledo History Museum.

Toledo, Ohio (August 1, 2025) — "Made in Toledo" is a multimedia project created in partnership with the Toledo History Museum that explores Toledo's manufacturing history from pre-founding to present. Showcasing both major and lesser-known industries that shaped Toledo, it incorporates unique insights from experts, vivid archival images and local museum artifacts.

"This project is important now because, as we celebrate the nation's semiquincentennial, we also remember the hard work and innovation that built our nation to be what it is today," Logan Sander, project director, said. "Toledo has had a long history of both success and struggle, and the city today continues to grapple with the post-industrial age. We hope that a project like this can inspire our own communities to appreciate our city's past, and also to see hope for the future."

"Made in Toledo" used ArcGIS StoryMaps to animate images and artifacts from the past. Interviews from local historical experts Tedd Long, Lou Hebert and Kyle Sword added key insights and context on obscure facts, filling in the gaps in Toledo's story.

"The Toledo History Museum is pleased to be able to use the latest technology to take the Toledo story to more people," London Mitchell, president of the Toledo History Museum, said. "History is more than nostalgia or a list of significant names and dates. History reflects our heritage and culture and accomplishments. The Made in Toledo exhibit shows how products manufactured in Toledo helped change the American lifestyle. We can all take pride in what Toledo contributed and continues to contribute."

You can explore our virtual exhibit here.

This project was funded in part by a grant from the America 250-Ohio Commission. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of the America 250-Ohio Commission.

About Midstory: Midstory is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to progressing the Midwest narrative through multimedia storytelling, solutions-oriented research and community programming. You can learn more at www.midstory.org.

About the Toledo History Museum: The Toledo History Museum (THM) was founded in 2006 with the creation of a board and incorporation with the Ohio Secretary of State. It acquired its 501(c)(3) status in 2007. The Museum founders wanted to build a museum to preserve the physical artifacts of Toledo's history which would be exhibited to highlight and present the large and rich tapestry of Toledo's story. Industrial history plays a large part of Toledo's story, but THM also showcases social, cultural, and ethnic parts of the city's past.