**SPIRIT OF DETROIT STATUE
FACT SHEET**
 **History**

**Sculptor:** Marshall Fredericks.
 [www.marshallfredericks.com](http://www.marshallfredericks.com)

 **Material:** Bronze.

Cast in Oslo, Norway (Largest cast bronze statue since the Renaissance period).

The statue was commissioned in 1955 for an original cost of $58,000.

Originally dedicated in 1958.

# Location

* The Woodward Avenue entrance of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center in Detroit, Michigan.

# Dimensions

* The statue sits on a 60-ton marble slab.
* Backdrop: 36 by 45 foot Vermont marble backdrop.
* Dimensions: 16-feet high, arm-span of 22 feet and weight of 9 tons.

# Image

* 24-karat gold leaf figures in each hand. One depicting a cradled family and the hand other holding a spire representing a higher power.

# Message

* According to Marshall Fredericks: “The statue represents the spirit of man. In his left hand he holds a symbol of God and in the right hand, a family group.  It expresses the concept that God, through the spirit of man, is manifested in the family, the noblest relationship.”

# Damage

* Acid rain/age caused green patina coating to dull and chip.
* Gilded orb lost its luster.
* Longest ray from orb lost a bracket causing damage to the Spirit’s shoulder.
* Limited waxing and weather elements caused staining and chipping of the marble base.

**Restoration**

* Chezcore, Inc. of Detroit served as the general contractor.
* Venus Bronze Works, Inc. in Detroit worked on the statue restoration.
* CASO-IMPEX in Birmingham, Michigan, handled the restoration of the Vermont marble backdrop and base.
* The restoration process began in March 2008 and was completed in August 2008.