

For Immediate Release

**Contact: Adam Lewis
alewis@historydc.org
202-393-1420**

**Historical Society To Reopen Kiplinger Research Library
*Jennifer Krafchik Named Library Director***

Washington, D.C.— October 4, 2012: The Historical Society of Washington, D.C. announced today it will reopen the Kiplinger Research Library to the general public on a twice-weekly basis starting November 5, 2012. The library will be open by appointment on Mondays and open to the public with regular hours on Wednesdays.

The library, housed in the historic Carnegie Building on Mt. Vernon Square, suspended operations for several months last year while the Society resolved financial challenges and developed a strategy for sustaining its operations. Recently, access to the library had only been available on a limited basis.

“This is great news for the society’s members, researchers, the people who live and work in the city, and all who visit the nation’s capital,” said Julie Koczela, who chairs the Society’s board of trustees. “Our world-class library is home to one of the largest private collections of Washington images, documents, maps, records and other historic materials. It serves a wide variety of audiences from academic scholars to amateur genealogists.”

The Society also announced the hiring of Jennifer Krafchik as director of the library. She comes from the historic National Woman’s Party, now the Sewall-Belmont House & Museum, where she served for over 10 years in a variety of positions including education and collections coordinator, collections manager, director of collections and, most recently, assistant director.

“Jennifer brings a wealth of experience in library services, non-profit management and administration, collections management, fund raising, education and public programming and exhibition development,” said Koczela.

As the Sewall-Belmont Museum’s first assistant director, Krafchik helped create a new strategic plan for the museum. She also managed full-time staff, part-time museum assistants, interns and volunteers. She has developed and implemented grants for several major initiatives including a \$2-million collections digitization project, the complete overhaul of the museum’s public spaces (exhibition, program and visitor center), the creation of a brand new website and the organization and rehousing of the entire permanent collection of more than 30,000 objects, images and archives.

In addition to her professional experience, Krafchik holds a master’s degree in library and information science from The Catholic University of America.

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The Historical Society of Washington, D.C. is a community-supported non-profit organization founded in 1894 that collects, interprets and shares the history of our nation's capital city. The Society serves a diverse audience as a window into Washington's past, present and future through its collections, exhibits, publications and educational programs.