Home for the Holidays

Whether you are looking for a respite from holiday activities or seeking to entertain visiting relatives, come home to the Art Institute for the holidays. We have a full slate of offerings for you, from rousing choirs to special gallery talks to a mini-tour of our new acquisitions—our holiday gifts to the city. Plus once again the Thorne Miniature Rooms take center stage for the season. Featured last year on NBC’s Today show and one of the Art Institute’s most popular attractions, these absorbing period rooms don specially made holiday finery that showcases historical traditions and offers a window into holiday festivities of the past. New to the decorating tradition this year is the Pennsylvania Dutch (German) room. And, for the first time in 50 years, an original German Rococo room will be displayed. So come in out of the cold and delight in the pleasures of the season with us.

Member Workshop: Holiday Thorne Rooms

DECEMBER 8, 2:00–4:00
DECEMBER 13, 6:00–8:00
RYAN EDUCATION CENTER • •
$30 ADULTS AND CHILDREN AGES 12 AND UP

Meet Lindsay Mican Morgan, the caretaker of the Thorne Rooms, and learn about the process of decorating the tiny spaces for the holiday season. Then create your own fanciful Victorian-inspired holiday decoration to deck the halls of your home! Call (312) 499-4111 to make your reservation.

Celebrate with us throughout the season!

21st Annual Wreathing of the Lions
NOVEMBER 23 AT 10:00
MICHIGAN AVENUE ENTRANCE
Start the holidays with a roar as our beloved lions don traditional evergreen wreaths.

Holiday Hot Chocolate
BEGINNS NOVEMBER 1
MEMBER LOUNGE
Stop by the Member Lounge for complimentary hot chocolate this season.

Cooking Demonstration: More Modern Twists on Holiday Classics
NOVEMBER 11, 3:00–5:00
TERZO PIANO
$76.50 MEMBERS, $85 NONMEMBERS
Spice up your favorite holiday dishes with fresh ideas from the Terzo Piano chefs. For reservations, call (312) 443-8650.

Chicagoland High School Choirs
DECEMBER 3–7 AND 10–14
12:00
GRAND STAIRCASE AND GRIFFIN COURT
Song fills the museum with holiday cheer as area high school choirs sing medleys of carols.

Gallery Talks:
The Christmas Story
DECEMBER 4 AT 12:00
DECEMBER 21 AT 2:00
GALLERY 100
This favorite talk returns as lecturer Jeff Nigro brings the oft-told story to life using works of art in the galleries.

31st Annual Treasure Hunt and Tea Party
DECEMBER 9
10:45, 12:00, OR 1:30
(YOUR CHOICE OF TIMES)
MODERN WING ENTRANCE
$30 MEMBERS; $35 NONMEMBERS;
$15 CHILDREN (AGES 4–10)
Tickets for this popular family event go on sale November 1. Call (877) 307-4242, stop by any admission counter, or visit www.artic.edu.

Luminary Walk and Family Festivities
DECEMBER 13, 5:00–7:00
LURIE GARDEN AND RYAN EDUCATION CENTER
Experience the winter beauty of the Lurie Garden filled with glowing luminary lanterns. Then, warm up in the Ryan Education Center with a drop-in workshop, where you can make your own luminous ornament, and enjoy a family gallery walk at 6:00.

Build Your Own Gingerbread House
DECEMBER 15–16, 11:00–4:00
MILLENNIUM PARK ROOM
FAMILY OF FOUR: $50 MEMBERS;
$60 NONMEMBERS
Create an edible dream home with your family. Call (312) 553-9675 or visit www.artic.edu/calendar to make your reservation.

Carolyn Tea
DECEMBER 15–16, 2:00–4:00
STOCK EXCHANGE TRADING ROOM
$20 MEMBERS; $25 NONMEMBERS;
$15 CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER
Join a holiday sing-along while enjoying complimentary snacks and desserts. For reservations, call (312) 553-9675 or visit www.artic.edu/calendar.

Express Talks:
Masterpiece of the Day
DECEMBER 17–24 AND 26–31
12:00
GALLERY 100 OR GRIFFIN COURT
Reconnect with some of the museum’s most iconic artworks at these 30-minute noontime gallery talks. See the calendar on pages 22–23 for featured artworks and meeting places.

Family Festival: Holly Days
DECEMBER 27–30
DROP IN 10:30–3:00
RYAN EDUCATION CENTER
Visit the exhibition Picturing Poetry; then create an illustration of your own poem. Stop by the Little Studio, an activity space designed for our youngest visitors (ages 3–5); take a guided family gallery walk; and on December 27 only, meet the Art Institute’s mascot, Artie the Lion.

Gift Memberships
Wrap up the museum’s world-renowned collection with a gift membership. Free admission, exhibition previews, discounts to the shops and restaurants, access to the Member Lounge, and so much more—it’s the gift that keeps giving all year long. Be sure to purchase your gift by December 9 to ensure holiday delivery.

For more gift ideas and special savings at the museum’s shops, see pages 25 and 35.