



THE CHARLES HOSMER
MORSE MUSEUM
of American Art

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Emily Sujka
Cell: (407) 907-4021
Office: (407) 645-5311, ext. 109
esujka@morsemuseum.org

Morse Museum's Independence Day Open House Goes Digital

Note to editors: For images, email pubaffairs@morsemuseum.org.

WINTER PARK, FL—Twenty-five years ago, the Morse Museum's Independence Day open house marked the opening of its location on North Park Avenue, where it stands today. Regretfully, the Museum remains temporarily closed out of caution during the pandemic. To fulfill the Morse Museum's responsibility to the community, the Museum invites family and friends to engage digitally with the Morse when celebrating Fourth of July from home.

The citywide celebration of the holiday, that originated with the Morse Museum's participation in 1995, will be virtual this year. The City of Winter Park's Virtual 4th of July Celebration will be posted at 9 a.m. on July 4 on the city's official website cityofwinterpark.org.

The Morse Museum's new *Create and Explore* webpage offers several activities for families and friends to do together during the digital celebration. Other online ways to experience the Morse and its collection include introductory videos, about the Museum's history and its installation of Louis Comfort Tiffany's 1893 chapel interior, and a virtual walk through of the Museum's spring exhibition *Selected Portraits from the Morse Collection*. The Morse's online audio tour also highlights objects from the Museum's

collection with narrations and insights from Museum staff on leaded-glass windows, paintings, pottery, lamps, and more.

The Morse actively posts images and information about featured works of art on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and Twitter.

The Morse Museum and Museum Shop closed to the public on Friday, March 13. The Museum is diligently monitoring coronavirus developments as reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), and other agencies. The decision to reopen the Morse Museum will be formally announced once public safety can be assured. We expect to make an announcement soon.

The Morse Museum, founded in 1942 by Jeannette Genius McKean (1909–89) and led for over half a century by her husband, Hugh F. McKean (1908–95), is owned and operated by the Charles Hosmer Morse Foundation. The Museum receives additional support from the Elizabeth Morse Genius Foundation. It receives no public funds.

For more information call (407) 645-5311 or visit the museum's website at morsemuseum.org.