



THE CHARLES HOSMER
MORSE MUSEUM
of American Art

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Morse Museum Continues to Celebrate Independence Day
With the City of Winter Park on July 5**

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

WINTER PARK, FL—On July 4, 1995, The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art opened at its current location on Park Avenue, and a coinciding citywide celebration marked the occasion together with Independence Day. This year, the Morse continues to observe the holiday in this tradition with the City of Winter Park. Admission to the Museum is free on Monday, July 5, subject to capacity limits. The Museum remains closed Sunday, July 4.

The Morse Museum's free admission is held in conjunction with Winter Park's Fourth of July Celebration in Central Park, which has been modified to ensure the safety of attendees, advising all at city gatherings to keep a safe social distance from others; wash hands at the hand-washing stations made available; and, although no longer mandated by the state, wear face masks or coverings for the protection of yourselves and others at your comfort level. To get into the holiday spirit, the City of Winter Park encourages face coverings in patriotic colors at its festivities. As a reminder, no pets, bicycles, motorized scooters, or skateboards are allowed inside the event areas. For any updates regarding City of Winter Park events, please visit its website at cityofwinterpark.org.

On **Monday, July 5**, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., family and friends may visit the Morse Museum free of charge without an appointment. Entry to the Museum will be on a rolling basis, first-come, first-served, allowing for visitor safety guidelines to be followed. Wearing face masks while in the Museum and Museum Shop is requested.

On display during the Independence Day celebration on July 5, and only for this special time, a 1798 cream jug by American silversmith and patriot Paul Revere (1735–1818) will be featured along with a baseball signed by Babe Ruth (1895–1948), Ty Cobb (1886–1961), and Lou Gehrig (1903–41), legends of America’s pastime.

Two new spring shows, *Watercolors from Louis Comfort Tiffany’s “Little Arcadia”* and the *Chinese Blue and White Porcelain* vignette, offer never-before-seen acquisitions and even more details about Tiffany’s workshops and inspirations. The exhibition *Watercolors from Louis Comfort Tiffany’s “Little Arcadia”* features watercolor studies by Alice Carmen Gouvy (1863–1924) and Lillian A. Palmié (1873–1944), Tiffany designers who were selected to work in an idyllic workshop, often somewhat enviously referred to as “little Arcadia.” The vignette *Chinese Blue and White Porcelain* exhibits precious and still avidly collected 18th- and 19th-century Chinese export porcelain drawn from the recent donation to the Morse Museum by the family of lifelong Orlando residents Dr. Benjamin L. Abberger Jr. and Nancy Hardy Abberger.

For those who would prefer to celebrate with the Museum at home, the Morse offers many opportunities. The Morse Museum’s website includes online activities, videos, and an audio tour, all free. The Museum actively posts images and information about featured works of art on its [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#), and [Twitter](#) pages.

The Morse Museum is home to the world’s most comprehensive collection of works by American designer and artist Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848–1933), including the chapel interior he designed for the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago and art and architectural objects from Tiffany’s celebrated Long Island home, Laurelton Hall. Installed in the fall of 2020, Tiffany’s remarkable fireplace hood is now on view in the wing dedicated to Laurelton Hall. The Museum’s holdings also include American art pottery, late 19th- and early 20th-century American paintings, graphics, and decorative art.

The Morse Museum, founded in 1942 by Jeannette Genius McKean (1909–89) and led for nearly a half 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.

Outside of the Morse Museum's Independence Day celebration, the Museum is currently open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. All visits are by appointment only.

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

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