

See the Morse Museum's New Tiffany Wing for Free on Easter Weekend

More than 30,000 people have visited the Morse since the new wing's debut

WINTER PARK, FL, April 4, 2011—Easter weekend, April 22 through 24, brings three days of free admission to the Morse Museum and three new reasons to visit the Museum's new 6,000-square-foot Tiffany wing.

Public hours for the open house are 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday; 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Easter Sunday.

Since the long-anticipated opening of the new wing on February 19, a record 31,152 people have flocked to the Morse. Attendance in this six-week period represents almost half of visitation for all 12 months of 2010 (67,177 people).

The \$5 million addition has expanded public exhibition space at the Morse by about 50 percent. The 10 new galleries provide, for the first time, permanent public access to the recently restored Daffodil Terrace from Louis Comfort Tiffany's celebrated Long Island estate, Laurelton Hall, and 250 art and architectural objects from or related to the destroyed estate. Highlights include surviving leaded-glass windows, lamps, art glass and custom furnishings from Laurelton Hall's dining room, living room and reception hall as well as other rooms.

The opening of the new wing prompted extensive media coverage of the Morse and Winter Park not only by Central Florida media but by every major newspaper in Florida and by such national

publications as *The New York Times*, *Newsday*, the *Washington Post*, and *Architectural Digest*. The following is representative of the coverage:

- The recreated [Daffodil] terrace will have glass on three sides, a river of glass tile on the floor, and views of palm and citrus trees; the scenery is meant to evoke Tiffany's fountains and beds of petunias, phlox and wisteria.—*New York Times*, August 6, 2010
- For art lovers who make a special trip to Winter Park or casual fans who want a break from the nearby theme parks, the new wing provides a fascinating look at the versatile artist.—*Miami Herald*, Feb. 27, 2011.
- Among the more heroic efforts in the art world of late is the new Laurelton Hall Galleries at the Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art in this small town north of Orlando. They celebrate Louis Comfort Tiffany and the penultimate expression of his aesthetic, the vast home he named Laurelton Hall.—*St. Petersburg Times*, March 12, 2011
- In the past 10 years, crews of curators, conservators, ironworkers and marble workers have restored much of the dining room, fireplace, rugs, lamps and most magnificently Laurelton's "Daffodil Terrace."—*Florida Trend*, March 2011
- After five minutes in the new Laurelton Hall wing of the Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art in Winter Park, Fla., part of the greater Orlando area, my eyes are bugging out of my head as much as those of any kids in Disney World.—*Washington Post*, March 20, 2011

The Morse Museum's collection of works by Tiffany includes objects from virtually every medium the artist explored—from leaded-glass windows and lamps to elegant art jewelry and pottery—as well as such singular artistic achievements as the chapel interior Tiffany designed for

the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Tiffany installed his chapel in an outbuilding at Laurelton Hall in 1916.

Jeannette McKean (1909–89), who founded the museum in 1942, and her husband, Hugh McKean (1908–95), the museum's director until his death, rescued objects from Laurelton Hall after a devastating fire in 1957 and continued to build the Morse's Tiffany collection over the next four decades.

The Museum is owned and operated by the Charles Hosmer Morse Foundation and receives additional support from the Elizabeth Morse Genius Foundation. It receives no public funds.

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Note to Editors: Attached is a high-resolution image of the new gallery at the Morse that features objects from the dining room at Louis Comfort Tiffany's Long Island estate, Laurelton Hall. Highlights from the dining-room installation include: a 13.5-foot-high, mosaic-decorated marble mantelpiece that is one of Tiffany's most forward-looking designs; a 25-foot-long wool rug; a domed leaded-glass chandelier 6.5 feet in diameter; and a suite of six leaded-glass wisteria transoms.

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