



THE CHARLES HOSMER
MORSE MUSEUM
of American Art

October 22, 2012
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Catherine Hinman
Director of Public Affairs
(407) 645- 5311
chinman@morsemuseum.org

**MORSE ANNOUNCES 34TH ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK CELEBRATION**

Note to editors: A high-resolution image of the Julia Henop memorial window, one of nine Tiffany leaded-glass windows installed at our Christmas in the Park event, is attached to this message. For more images, please e-mail pubaffairs@morsemuseum.org.

WINTER PARK, FL — Start the holiday season off with a festive evening of art, music and friends at the The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art's 34th annual Christmas in the Park event on Thursday, Dec. 6, in Central Park.

Nine illuminated Tiffany windows from the Morse Museum's collection will cast a warm glow as the 150-voice Bach Festival Choir, one of America's premier oratorio ensembles, performs a free outdoor concert of seasonal favorites. The almost two-hour program begins at 6:15 p.m. when the signal will be given to turn on the window lights. This year's event will be broadcast for the first time on WMFE 90.7 FM.

Hugh and Jeannette McKean, who together built the Morse Museum's collection, began Christmas in the Park in 1979 to share a part of their rare Tiffany collection with the public in an informal setting. The event quickly became a community favorite. Hugh McKean especially liked the idea of getting art out into public places.

“By placing Tiffany windows among live oaks and tall pines and inviting all the community to walk among them, we hope to make this a night many will remember with happiness,” McKean said in 1989.

Eight of the windows featured at Christmas in the Park are memorials with religious themes designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany and installed in the chapel at the Association for the Relief of Respectable Aged Indigent Females (1814–1974) in New York City. (1814–1974). Tiffany Studios’ *Christmas Eve* window, c. 1902, will be on view at the event and in the Morse Museum following Christmas in the Park. The window—in which a figure resembling Father Christmas holds the Christ child—was designed by Thomas Nast Jr., son of the famous political cartoonist, for his sister’s home in New Rochelle, New York.

The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art, 445 N. Park Avenue, Winter Park, Florida, is home to the world’s most comprehensive collection of works by Louis Comfort Tiffany. The Morse 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. For more information, please visit www.morsemuseum.org.

###