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Highlights of Morse Museum's 2012–2013 Season Include Lockwood de Forest, Art Nouveau, and Free Admission on Friday Nights

Note to editors: High-resolution images are available by contacting us at pubaffairs@morsemuseum.org.

WINTER PARK, Fla. — In its 2012–2013 season, the Morse Museum draws from new acquisitions as well as its permanent collection to provide further perspective on the art of the *fin de siècle* and deeper insights into the Museum's collecting activities. Highlights include a focus exhibition on a recent gift, an Orientalist painting by Lockwood de Forest; a special show celebrating the mesmerizing “line” of Art Nouveau objects; and a vignette on the art of fountain pens.

Public programs will include free admission, live music, and more during Friday Nights at the Morse November through April; a two-day holiday open house in December; and the 34rd annual Christmas in the Park display of Tiffany windows on December 6.

Selections from the Morse Museum's renowned collection of works by Louis Comfort Tiffany—including his chapel from the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition and objects and architectural elements from his Long Island estate—are always on view. The following are new exhibitions from the Morse collection and public events scheduled for the upcoming season:

Focus Exhibition: Lockwood de Forest's *The Wreck*

Opening October 23, 2012

Lockwood de Forest's oil painting, *The Wreck*, c. 1880, is the subject of this Morse focus exhibition. The large Saharan landscape (36 x 48 inches) depicts five Bedouins riding their camels across a distant horizon at dawn and in the foreground, the skeletal remains of a camel—the wreck of the painting's title. The desert has challenged and fascinated people since the beginning of time and was of particular

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interest to the Orientalist painters of the late 19th century. A friend and business partner of Louis Comfort Tiffany's, de Forest (1850–1932) was a fine and successful painter as well as an importer and decorator. The exhibition will be accompanied by de Forest oil studies of other desert scenes and explanatory wall panels designed to help the viewer develop a full appreciation of this powerful painting. *The Wreck* is a recent bequest from the estate of Lisa de Forest, Lockwood de Forest's great-granddaughter.

Secrets of Tiffany Glassmaking

Opening October 23, 2012

The Museum will relocate and update this popular teaching exhibition that explains the techniques and processes Louis Comfort Tiffany's designers and artisans used to create mosaics, blown-glass vases, and leaded-glass windows and lamps. The exhibition includes art objects, tools, photographs, and artifacts essential to understanding how Tiffany was able to produce some of the most beautiful and extraordinary glasswork of all time.

Vignette: New Acquisitions

October 23, 2012–January 6, 2013

This informal installation of recent acquisitions shows how the Morse Museum's collection continues to develop. Highlights include Blue Magnolia pottery from Roseville, a late 19th-century oil painting attributed to James Henry Beard (1812–93), a 1908 gold wristwatch from Tiffany & Co., and blown-glass vases from Arthur J. Nash (1849–1934), who Louis Comfort Tiffany hired to develop his signature glass.

Art Nouveau from the Morse Collection

Opening February 12, 2013

Art Nouveau was an art phenomenon that found enthusiastic support virtually everywhere in Europe and, to a lesser extent, in America in the decade or so immediately surrounding 1900. It touched art and architecture, as well as ceramics, furniture, and the other decorative arts. In French, Art Nouveau literally means “new art,” and at the turn of the 20th century, this new art looked different, felt different, and reflected different values and ideas. Art Nouveau artists and craftspeople assigned a dramatic emphasis to line and its expressive possibilities. In the work of these artists, line frequently seems driven by its own internal life force—swirling and whipping, swerving and curving, creeping along one minute then racing forward the next, creating a pattern that leads the viewer's eye on a merry chase. The exhibition explores this once new and different line and the prominent Art Nouveau themes of nature, women, and metamorphosis through objects in the Museum's collection—works that are certain not only to enlighten but to delight.

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Vignette: The Art of Fountain Pens

February 12, 2013–October 6, 2013

Before the electronic stylus and tablet, before the laser printer, before fiber- and ceramic-tipped pens and even before the ballpoint, fountain pens were everyone's writing instrument. Developed in the late 19th century, fountain pens—the kind filled from a bottle of ink—were ingenious, often beautifully designed and handcrafted, and ubiquitous until the 1970s. Today, though still used by a few, they are collected and cherished as little works of art. In this exhibit, the Morse presents some of the fountain pens in its collection, giving these beautiful, functional objects much-deserved attention. Dating from 1875 to 1975, the pens are a gift from Dr. J. Peter Kincaid and Mrs. Poppy Deliyanni Kincaid.

Public Events: *(Each event is free to the public.)*

Curator Tours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Morse Curator Donna Climenhage provides visitors to the Morse with an overview of the history, design, and artistry of Louis Comfort Tiffany's Laurelton Hall in guided tours through the new Tiffany wing. Tours are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, and space is limited. Free with Museum admission.

Friday Nights at the Morse: Free admission on Fridays, 4 p.m.–8 p.m., November 2, 2012 through April 26, 2013. The Museum provides live music from 5 p.m.–8 p.m. on the second Friday night of the month and for six consecutive Friday nights during the holidays: November 23, 2012 through December 28, 2012. Other Friday night programs include occasional art demonstrations, family tours, and curator tours.

Christmas in the Park: Thursday, December 6, 2012, 6:15 p.m.–8 p.m. The 34th annual lighting of century-old Tiffany windows in Central Park in downtown Winter Park with a free outdoor concert of holiday favorites by the Bach Festival Society Choir, Youth Choir, and Brass Ensemble.

Holiday Weekend Open House: Free admission December 22–23, 2012, 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m.–4 p.m. Sunday.

Easter Weekend Open House: Free admission March 29–31, 2013, 9:30 a.m.–8 p.m. Friday; 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m.–4 p.m. Sunday.

Summer Family Tours and Films: June–August 2013. These free family programs include gallery tours on select Tuesdays with a take-home activity for children and films on select Fridays. Reservations required.

Independence Day Open House: Free admission Thursday, July 4, 2013, 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m. The Museum provides this open house in conjunction with the City of Winter Park's Olde Fashioned 4th of July celebration in Central Park.

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The Morse Museum is open 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday and 1 p.m.–4 p.m., Sunday with additional Friday hours of 4 p.m.–8 p.m. November through April. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, \$1 for students, and free for children under 12. For more information about the Morse, please visit www.morsemuseum.org or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/morsemuseum.

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