

YULETIDE AT WINTERTHUR CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF BELOVED DRIED FLOWER TREE, NOVEMBER 21, 2015 -- JANUARY 3, 2016

*Join Us for Holiday Inspiration and Magical Moments Celebrating
du Pont Family Traditions at Winterthur*

WINTERTHUR, DELAWARE—Season's inspirations and magical moments await at *Yuletide at Winterthur*, the annual exhibition celebrating the holiday traditions of Henry Francis du Pont and his family at Winterthur, with a special tribute to the 30th anniversary of the beloved Dried Flower Tree, this year more majestic than ever. *Yuletide at Winterthur* is open to the public November 21, 2015 - January 3, 2016.

Immerse yourself in inspiring holiday décor and enchanting displays on three exquisitely decorated floors of the nine-story museum. Enjoy concerts, caroling, jazz, and wine throughout the season with Winterthur's special Yuletide programming.

In a nod to Winterthur's major exhibition *A Colorful Folk: Pennsylvania Germans and the Art of Everyday Life*, on view in the Galleries through January 3, 2016, the Yuletide Tour will begin with displays exploring holiday practices of the Pennsylvania Germans, who introduced Americans to such seasonal standards as the Christmas tree, the charity bazaar, and the tradition of the Gift-giver. Among the many highlights will be an unusual 19th-century Christmas tree, a sassafras stripped of its leaves and wrapped in cotton batting to form a snowy backdrop for a display of colorful ornaments. Look for this tree in the room where the early Germanic gift-giver *Belsnickle* can be seen arriving to surprise children with his rewards for good behavior.

Several displays will recall winter festivities of the du Pont family in Delaware, including a New Year's gathering in the 1890s where the women of the family displayed the gifts they had received from the male relatives who called on them throughout the day, and the extravagant dinner party that celebrated the family's first 100 years in America, held on New Year's Day, 1900, with over 100 family members attending. Also featured will be special traditions of H. F. du Pont and his family at Winterthur in the 20th century, such as celebrations to honor the staff who worked behind the scenes to make holiday visits to Winterthur so exquisite. Such festivities included annual staff parties held at the Clubhouse through the 1950s, at which all estate families received gifts from the du Ponts before a tree glowing with new-fangled "bubble" lights.

Also new this year is a tree celebrating the Winterthur Garden in autumn, inspired by the colors of the season and H. F. du Pont's boyhood collections of rocks, shells, and other trophies of the natural world that started him on a lifetime of collecting.

Prepare to be further dazzled by the new tree sparkling with stained glass, a tribute to the Winterthur major exhibition *Tiffany Glass: Painting with Color and Light*, also on view in the Galleries through January 3, 2016. Finally, for those visitors who come back year after year to see *Yuletide at Winterthur's* signature creation, the Dried Flower Tree, this magnificent homage to the Winterthur Garden will return to its original venue in the Conservatory for its 30th anniversary, surrounded by a living tribute of flowers and blooming plants that bring the garden to life in the depths of winter.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2015



Yuletide at Winterthur's beloved Dried Flower Tree will celebrate its 30th anniversary this year. Photo Courtesy of Winterthur.

MEDIA CONTACT

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Winterthur—known worldwide for its preeminent collection of American decorative arts, naturalistic gardens, and research library for the study of American art and material culture—offers a variety of tours, exhibitions, programs, and activities throughout the year. General admission includes a tour of some of the most notable spaces in the 175-room house as well as access to the Winterthur Garden and Galleries, special exhibitions, a narrated tram tour (weather permitting), the Campbell Collection of Soup Tureens, and the Enchanted Woods children's garden. \$20 adults; \$18 for students and seniors; \$5 for ages 2–11.

Museum hours

10:00 am- 5:00 pm, Tuesday- Sunday.

Winterthur, located on Route 52, six miles northwest of Wilmington, Delaware, and five miles south of U.S. Route 1, is closed on Mondays (except during Yuletide), Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

Winterthur is committed to accessible programming for all. For information, including special services, call 800.448.3883, 302.888.4600, or TTY 302.888.4907, or visit winterthur.org.



WINTERTHUR

Winterthur, Delaware 19735
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HIGHLIGHTS OF YULETIDE AT WINTERTHUR PROGRAMMING

Daily Hours

Winterthur is open daily (including Mondays) during Yuletide, 10:00 am–5:00 pm. Last Yuletide Tour tickets sold at 3:15 pm. Visitor Center Café and Cottage Café open until 4:00 pm. Galleries and stores open until 5:00 pm. Open New Year's Day. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas. *Yuletide Tour reservations recommended.*

Extended Hours

Enjoy our evening hours on November 25 and December 2, 9, and 16 from 10:00 am–8:30 pm. The last Yuletide Tour tickets of the day will be sold at 6:45 pm. The Galleries will be open until 8:30 pm, and the Winterthur Stores will stay open until 8:00 pm on these dates as well except on November 25, when the Winterthur Stores will close at 5:30 pm. *Receive 10% off on your in-store purchases on December 2, 9, and 16 after 6:00 pm.*

Enjoy Yuletide Jazz & Wine Evenings from 6:00–8:30 pm (see dates and details below under **Concerts**).

Also enjoy extended hours on November 27 and 28 and December 26 and 27. The last Yuletide Tour tickets will be sold on these days at 4:15 pm. The Galleries will stay open until 6:00 pm, and the Winterthur Stores will stay open until 6:00 pm.

Early Closing

December 24 early closing: The last Yuletide Tour tickets will be sold at 2:15 pm. The Galleries will close at 4:00 pm, and the Museum Stores will close at 4:00 pm. The Cottage Café and the Visitor Center Café will close at 4:00 pm.

Shopping & Dining

Yuletide Brunch with Santa: December 12 & 13, 19 & 20, 9:00 am–2:00 pm. Santa will appear from 9:00–11:00 am. \$34.95 per person; children, ages 2–12, half off, children under 2 are free. Members receive 10% discount on parties of up to four. For reservations, call 302.888.4826.

SPECIALS In the Museum Stores

- November 30–December 7: Free shipping on all online purchases. Use code CYBERSHIP.
- December 3–6: Spend \$60 or more and receive a free pashmina.
- December 10: Free silver cuff bracelet with every \$60 purchase at winterthurstore.com
- December 10: Gifts-to-go in the Galleries Reception Area. Pick up last-minute gifts, wrapped and ready for easy gift giving.
- December 26–31: *Free Discover Yuletide at Winterthur* book with every winterthurstore.com order.
- December 26: Annual After-Christmas Sale in the Museum Stores. Half off select Christmas items!

Glass Matters Wine Seminar and Tasting

Hosted by Reidel, The Wine Glass Company, Wednesday, December 16, 6:30–7:30 pm, in Winterthur's Rotunda. Join us for a unique and fascinating wine seminar featuring Reidel crystal and delicious wine. Our speaker will demonstrate how the shape of the glass influences our perception and enjoyment of the wine. Price includes comparative tasting of three different wines and three crystal glasses from Reidel's Veritas Collection to take home (a retail value of \$104). *Option to purchase more wine glass sets at special pricing. \$65 per Member. \$75 per nonmember.* Purchase tickets online or by calling 800.448.3883. *Tickets to this event include admission to Yuletide Jazz & Wine in the Galleries Reception Atrium on that evening.*

Especially for Families

Yuletide Touch-It Room Hours

Monday–Friday, 2:30–4:30 pm; weekends, 12:30–4:30 pm.
Visit the family programs page for more information.

Demos & Workshops

Holiday Workshops in the Brown Horticulture Learning Center:

Making a Bottle Gourd Birdhouse

Sunday, November 29, 2015, 3:30–4:30 pm. We will guide you through the construction of a bottle gourd birdhouse that will attract a house wren to your garden. A dried gourd will be drilled, seeds will be removed, and the house will be painted with nontoxic paints. Please wear work clothes. *Limit 10 families. \$15 per child. Reservations Required.*

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Making a Terrarium

Sunday, December 6, 2015, 3:30–4:30 pm. Learn how to plant a simple terrarium that will grow in a bright location in your house. A small glass terrarium will be filled with soil and gravel, plants and moss will be added, and rocks and wood will be placed for decoration. *Limit 10 families. \$20 per child. Reservations Required.*

Making a Mason Bee Box

Sunday, December 13, 2015, 3:30–4:30 pm. Mason bees are native pollinators of fruit trees and flowers. Learn how to make and manage a simple masonbee box made from recycled materials. Glue and paint will be available. Please dress appropriately. *Limit 10 families. \$10 per child. Reservations Required.*

Concerts

University of Delaware Chorale Performs Carols by Candlelight

December 6, 3:30–4:15 pm

Enjoy a wide variety of musical selections for the holiday season performed by this award-winning ensemble. The UD Chorale is among the most highly regarded college choirs in the eastern United States. In recent years, the choir has been invited to perform on both regional and national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). They have also performed at Carnegie Hall in New York and Verizon Hall in Philadelphia's Kimmel Center for the Arts. In addition to annual regional tours, the Chorale has traveled extensively throughout Europe and Asia. *\$15 per Member. \$25 per nonmember. \$10 per student (ages 12–18). Advance purchase recommended.*

Members-Only Yuletide Family Concert

December 12, 11:00 am, Copeland Lecture Hall

Join us for a joyous family concert with the award-winning Chesapeake Silver Cornet Brass Band as they perform Christmas classics and seasonal favorites including a musical presentation of *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. Perfect for all ages! *Members only. Members free. Reservations recommended.*

Yuletide Jazz & Wine Series

November 25 & December 2, 9 & 16, 6:00–8:30 pm

Relax and celebrate the season with a glass of wine, beautiful decorations, and lively jazz. Cash bar (wine and beer); fruit and cheese for purchase. Enjoy entry to the Galleries and all current exhibitions. *Members free. Included with a Yuletide general admission ticket. For nonmembers who are not purchasing a Yuletide general admission ticket, tickets are \$15 and include live jazz and entry to the Galleries. Yuletide Tour is an additional \$10 fee. Advanced booking encouraged.*

Featured entertainers during the Yuletide Wine & Jazz Series:

November 25: Cartoon Christmas Trio

December 2: Gina Roche

December 9: Sharon and Shawn

December 16: Tony Smith Trio

Special Live Performance of A Christmas Carol

Thursday, December 10, 1:00 and 6:00 pm

This heartwarming one-man show is performed by Gerald Charles Dickens, the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, who depicts 26 characters of the classic tale. *A book signing will follow. The Visitor Center Café will be open until 6:00 pm. Performance-only tickets: \$15 per Member; \$18 per nonmember; and \$10 for children under 12. Package price (performance and general admission): \$35 per nonmember; \$20 per child. For tickets, call 800.448.3883. For more information about Gerald Charles Dickens' performances, visit the Byers' Choice website.*

For more information on *Yuletide at Winterthur* Tours and programming, including updates, please visit the Winterthur website winterthur.org, or call 800.448.3883.

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Yuletide is free for Winterthur Members; \$20 for adult nonmembers. *Reservations are recommended for Yuletide Tours.* During Yuletide, Winterthur is open daily (including Mondays) 10:00 am–5:00 pm. Last Yuletide Tour tickets sold at 3:15 pm. Open New Year’s Day. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas. Winterthur is located on Route 52, six miles northwest of Wilmington, Delaware, and five miles south of U.S. Route 1. Winterthur is committed to accessible programming for all. For information, including special services, call 800.448.3883, 302.888.4600, or TTY 302.888.4907, or visit www.winterthur.org.

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