

EXPERIENCE THE HOLIDAYS THROUGH A CHILD'S EYES DURING YULETIDE AT WINTERTHUR

Magnificent Dollhouse Will Debut In Compliment to Exhibition, Nov. 19, 2016 -- Jan. 8, 2017

WINTERTHUR, DELAWARE—In celebration of the extraordinary dollhouse recently gifted to Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, *Yuletide at Winterthur 2016* will highlight the holidays through a child's eyes in the 19th and 20th centuries and feature the exquisite house-in-miniature as a central attraction. Winterthur received this remarkable gift from Jack D. McDaniel, husband of the late Nancy B. McDaniel (1932--2015), designer of the dollhouse, which will be on display in the Galleries Stair Hall from November 19, 2016, through January 8, 2017.

To celebrate the house's debut, *Yuletide at Winterthur* will highlight the holidays as experienced by children from 1850 to 1950 and feature museum room displays that include Winterthur's own collections of miniature objects. In a nod to Winterthur's current exhibition *Lasting Impressions: The Artists of Currier & Ives*, *Yuletide* will explore why a "Currier & Ives Christmas" is so beloved and still resonates with people today.

"In the era of 19th-century Currier & Ives, the notion that 'Christmas is for children' began to take lasting hold in the mind of Americans. This year, *Yuletide* will explore several scenes of a holiday made special for – and by – children," said *Yuletide* Curator Deborah Harper. "In addition, a special attraction that will make *Yuletide* truly magnificent is the extraordinary dollhouse filled with exquisite miniature furnishings generously gifted to Winterthur. This remarkable dollhouse compliments Winterthur's collection of 18th- and 19th-century miniature objects that H.F. du Pont acquired and displayed, while the meticulous arrangement of the dollhouse rooms reveal Nancy McDaniel shared du Pont's keen eye for detail and design."

The late Nancy McDaniel of Connecticut and Florida was an interior decorator who operated her own home decorating and holiday design company. During a family trip to England, she was captivated by Queen Mary's dollhouse at Windsor Castle and inspired to have her own. The dollhouse, custom built in England in 1985 to McDaniel's specifications, is impressive: 6'4" x 3'9", slate-roofed, and fully electrified. It houses over 1,000 objects lovingly assembled by creator McDaniel over 30 years. These include over 100 pieces of sterling silver, and a rug in each room that McDaniel needlepointed herself. Just in time for the holidays, the 18-room house is fully decorated with wreaths, candles, trees, and more miniature delights.

As visitors tour *Yuletide*, they will experience how the rising popularity of the Christmas tree resulted in a new industry of commercially made ornaments and discover a new way of distributing gifts via a giant "spider's web," with packages caught in its gleaming tangle of ribbons. A very special Christmas in the White House in the early 1900s saw the President's son decorating a Christmas tree in secret to surprise his family – including the family pets!

Several displays will recall holiday festivities enjoyed by children at Winterthur in the first half of the 20th century. These include H.F. du Pont's classic 1930's Christmas tree awash with colorful lights and glittering glass ornaments. Baskets under the tree, one for each person, held a personal treasure trove of gifts. Christmas Eve brought "Mr. Harry's Party," the holiday event the du Ponts hosted for their staff, with a Christmas tree, professional entertainers, ice cream made from the rich milk of the Winterthur dairy herd, and gifts personally selected by H.F. du Pont for all of the children of Winterthur's estate workers.

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October 19, 2016



The magnificent dollhouse created by the late Nancy B. McDaniel will be featured in Yuletide at Winterthur. Courtesy of Winterthur, Photo by Jim Schneck.

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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. \$22 adults; \$20 for students and seniors; \$5 for ages 2–11.

Museum hours

10 am- 5:30 pm, Monday- Sunday
During Yuletide.

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.

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Christmas dinner shows us a table specially decorated with miniature trees, reindeer, and paper doll Santas – clearly designed with children in mind.

Leaving Christmas behind, *Yuletide* will showcase a holiday celebration very special to the du Pont family -- the annual New Year's Calling. This yearly visitation found the ladies gathering in family homes to await the gentlemen who spent the day making the rounds, bestowing small gifts in exchange for the hospitality the ladies offered in punch cups and wine glasses. Little girls learned to be gracious hostesses while receiving with their mothers, while the little boys in the du Pont family gallantly made the rounds with their fathers.

As always, the rooms will be enhanced with the floral displays so essential to du Pont's decorating, and with special Christmas trees inspired by the beauty of the Winterthur garden – including the popular Dried Flower Tree in the Conservatory.

About the Dollhouse

The dollhouse is planned for display each year during the Yuletide season, and there is every expectation it will become an eagerly anticipated part of Winterthur's holiday offerings. Its restoration was completed by Karissa Muratore and Amanda Kasman, University of Delaware Art Conservation undergraduates doing a summer internship at Winterthur, whose time was generously funded through the University of Delaware Undergraduate Summer Scholars Program. During their time at Winterthur, these interns built a following for the house through their popular blog posts, and they welcomed many repeat visitors returning to check on the house's progress. The public is invited to hear them speak about the dollhouse and their involvement with it at a talk in Winterthur's Copeland Lecture Hall on Saturday, December 17, at 12:00 pm. The lecture is included with admission; free to Members.

YULETIDE PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

YULETIDE JAZZ & WINE SERIES

Wednesdays: November 23 & 30; December 7, 14 & 28, 6:00–8:30 pm

After an evening Yuletide tour, relax and celebrate the season with live jazz and a glass of wine in the festive atmosphere of Winterthur's Galleries Reception Atrium. *Cash wine and beer bar; fruit and cheese for purchase. Members free. Included with Yuletide tour general admission ticket. For nonmembers who are not purchasing a Yuletide general admission ticket, tickets are \$15 and include live jazz and entry to Galleries.*

Cartoon Christmas Trio

November 23, 6:00–8:30 pm, Galleries Reception Atrium

This jazz trio plays the classic holiday jazz of Vince Guaraldi, composer of the *Peanuts* soundtracks. Jeff Knoettner on piano, Jimmy Coleman on drums, and Rob Swanson on double bass violin have played to sell-out crowds at the best regional venues (including Philadelphia's Kimmel Center) for over 20 years.

Ron Cole Trio

November 30, 6:00–8:30 pm, Galleries Reception Atrium

The Ron Cole Trio is Joe Holt on piano, Cliff Kellum on bass, and Ron Cole on guitar. This jazz trio plays a wide range of styles—from jazzed-up versions of pop tunes and straight-ahead jazz to holiday favorites. Don't miss this chance to experience real jazz at Winterthur.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Live Performance of *A Christmas Carol*

December 7, one performance, at 1:00 pm; December 8, two performances, at 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm. All performances are in Copeland Lecture Hall.

A spellbinding one-man show of the timeless classic performed by Gerald Charles Dickens, great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens. Reservations required. Cost: General Admission and performance for Adults, Seniors, and Students, \$34; General Admission and performance for children, \$18; Performance only for Adults, Seniors, and Students, \$22; Performance for Members, \$19; Performance only for children under 12, \$19. Please visit the Winterthur website for additional details, winterthur.org.

A Glass Matters! Riedel Wine Seminar & Tasting

December 14, 6:30 pm

Unique and fascinating wine seminar featuring Riedel crystal and delicious wine. Speaker will demonstrate how the shape of the glass influences your enjoyment of the wine. Four different types of wine: two white and two red, plus four different shape glasses. Cost: \$90.00; \$80.00 for Members. Includes four Riedel crystal glasses to take home (\$138 value).

Yuletide Buffet with Santa

December 17 & 18; 9:00 -- 2:00 pm. Children ages 1--12 are 50 percent off Yuletide Buffet with Santa. \$34.95 per adult. Members receive a 10 percent discount on up to four members of their party. Reservations can be made by emailing ccater@winterthur.org, or by calling 302.888.4826.

Dollhouse Lecture: *Nancy's Dollhouse: Conserving a Miniature Mansion*

Saturday, December 17, 12:00 pm, Copeland Lecture Hall

Karissa Muratore and Amanda Kasman, undergraduate students at the University of Delaware, with an introduction from Deborah Harper, Curator of Education, Winterthur. In 2015, Nancy B. McDaniel gifted her custom-crafted dollhouse (6' Wide x 3' High) to Winterthur Museum. The need to perform treatments on a wide variety of materials, including paper, silver, wood, ceramics, textiles, stone, metal, and plastic, resulted in the adaption of standard conservation methods. To facilitate the relationship between the house and the public, an "open door policy," in addition to blog submissions, acted as ways to foster excitement about its Yuletide debut. The hope is that this work has added to the limited documented research and treatment of miniature conservation while preserving the legacy of Mrs. McDaniel.

Yuletide Tour Package

Yuletide Tour tickets are honored for two consecutive days and include access to the garden, a garden tram tour (weather permitting), the Galleries and special exhibitions, and a Yuletide house tour. Tours available daily, last tickets sold at 3:15 pm. Reservations are recommended.

Member	Free
Adult	\$22
Child (2-- 11)	\$5
Infant (under 2)	Free
Senior (62)	\$20
Student (with valid ID)	\$20
Groups of 15 or more	\$19

Daily Hours

Winterthur is open daily **including Mondays** during *Yuletide*, 10:00 am–5:30 pm.

Extended Hours

Winterthur will have extended hours on the following dates: November 25 and 26; and December 26 and 27. On these days, the last *Yuletide* Tour tickets will be sold at 4:00 pm; visitors may start the tour as late as 5:00 pm. Galleries, Stores, and the Cottage Cafe' will be open 10:00 am -- 6:00 pm. In addition, the Cottage café will be open 10:00 am -- 5:30 pm on New Year's Eve (December 31) and New Year's Day (January 1).

Enjoy holiday shopping during regular hours on Monday and every day during *Yuletide*, plus late shopping until 8:00 pm November 30 and December 7, 14, and 21. Stores will close at 5:30 pm on Thanksgiving Eve (November 23). Winterthur Bookstore only will be open until 8:00 pm December 8. This year, the Stores will be selling dollhouse furniture and dollhouse kits so you can create a new *Yuletide* tradition in your family.

Closings

Winterthur is closed Thanksgiving Day (November 24) and Christmas Day (December 25). Winterthur is OPEN regular hours New Year's Day (January 1).

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

***Yuletide* tour reservations are recommended.**

For information on *Yuletide at Winterthur*, please visit the Winterthur website winterthur.org, or call 800.448.3883.

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