

# YULETIDE AT WINTERTHUR TEMPTS WITH IRRESISTIBLE *FEAST FOR THE EYES*

*Glimpse at Winter Holidays Past Designed to Inspire Visitors to Create Their Own Dazzling Celebrations*

**Winterthur, DE**—Themed *A Feast for the Eyes*, Yuletide at Winterthur is designed to tempt visitors with enchanting visions of holidays past and spark ideas for their own spectacular celebrations. Guests can explore how Americans have celebrated the winter social season from the 1800s to the present during this dazzling tour, open November 17, 2012 through January 6, 2013.

In celebration of Winterthur's major exhibition *Uncorked! Wine, Objects & Tradition*, several displays explore customs of drinking and dining as they pertain to the holidays.

The Courtyard invites visitors to take a step back in time to a 19th-century market square where a variety of goods necessary for winter festivities are sold. The setting and mood evoke images of people from all walks of life strolling through cold cobblestone streets to select greens, gifts, and special foods for their holiday celebrations.

Guests proceed upstairs to see how those goods were used to create memorable holiday displays and experiences in different time periods. Visitors can explore how the ideal holiday meal evolved from the heavily-laden "groaning board" of the colonial era to the sophisticated elegance of the early national period. A lavish Victorian-era setting foregoes the food entirely to focus on the festive trappings, a glittering tree, and a table arrayed with towers of gaily wrapped gifts.

Yuletide would not be complete without recalling the winter festivities of the du Pont family in Delaware. The special traditions of Henry Francis du Pont and his family at Winterthur in the 1930s and '40s included a spectacular tree in the Conservatory, awash with glittering glass ornaments and complemented by flowers specially selected to echo the colorful lights on the tree.

The Winterthur Garden always is a source of inspiration during Yuletide. In addition to highlighting signature showpieces like the dried flower tree, this year's Yuletide features an entire room devoted to Winterthur's version of a winter wonderland. A re-created woodland path leads guests on a captivating stroll to the vistas of the Winterthur Garden enveloped in snow.

Weeknight and weekend concerts, extended Museum Store hours and special offers, Yuletide Brunch with Santa, and much more will help make this holiday season extra special. Visitors also can enjoy Winterthur's latest exhibitions, *Uncorked! Wine, Objects & Tradition* and *A Lasting Legacy: Sixty Years of Winterthur Graduate Programs*, among others.

-- more --

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## **MEDIA CONTACT**

Liz Farrell  
lfarrell@winterthur.org  
Phone: 302.888.4803  
Fax: 302.888.4950

Winterthur—known worldwide for its preeminent collection of American decorative arts, naturalistic garden, 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. \$18 adults; \$16 for students and seniors; \$5 for ages 2–11. Tickets are valid for two consecutive days.

## **Museum hours**

10 am–5 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 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](http://winterthur.org).

Among the exciting new offerings this season are floral arranging and other holiday decorating demonstrations and workshops in the newly completed Brown Horticulture Learning Center.

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF SPECIAL PROGRAMMING AND ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDE:**

### **DEMONSTRATIONS & WORKSHOPS**

#### **Family Floral Arranging**

Saturday, November 17, 1:00–3:00 pm

Brown Horticulture Learning Center

Bring the family and learn how to make sensational Christmas wreaths and other holiday decor from Winterthur's experts. Take home beautiful additions for your holiday celebrations. Make a Thanksgiving centerpiece! \$50 per Member family. \$60 per nonmember family. Register by November 12.

#### **Design Your Own Holiday Wreath**

Wednesday, November 28, 5:00–7:00 pm

Create a stunning wreath with materials we provide. \$60 per Member. \$70 per nonmember. Register by November 21. Space is limited.

#### **Holiday Greens from your Garden**

Friday, December 7, 2:00–4:00 pm

Our horticulture staff will share some simple ideas for incorporating gathered greens into your holiday decorating and show you how to properly harvest greens and other materials from your garden to protect the health of your trees and shrubs. Class will be outside and indoors. Please dress for the weather. Participants will be allowed to take home a selection of harvested material. \$10 per Member. \$20 per nonmember.

#### **Make Your Own Dried Flower Tree**

Sunday, December 9, 1:00–3:00 pm

For the first time, Winterthur's floral experts will show you how to make your own dried flower tree, just like the magnificent dried flower tree that graces the museum every year at Yuletide! Each student will be provided with a small pre-lit tabletop tree and dried materials. The mechanics of drying flowers will be discussed as well, so you can add to your tree every year. Learn how to make a marvelous tree for your house or as a gift for a special person. Students should bring clippers. Price includes materials. \$125 per Member. \$150 per nonmember. Register by December 3. Space is limited.

#### **Holiday Arrangement**

Wednesday, December 12, 5:00–7:00 pm

The holidays are just around the corner and this is a perfect opportunity to create a beautiful holiday arrangement for your dining table, center hall, or coffee table. The arrangement will be primarily mixed greens and flowers appropriate for the season. With the proper care, it will be long lasting and provide scent and merriment through most of December. Students should bring clippers. Price includes materials. \$60 per Member. \$70 per nonmember. Register by December 5. Space is limited.

#### **Teacher Workshop: A Feast for the Eyes**

Saturday, December 1, 9:30 am–12:30 pm

Rotunda

Learn about the role of food in our holiday celebrations. Active teachers only; registration required. Members free. \$15 per nonmember. Credit available for Delaware teachers through the Delaware Teacher Center. Call 800.448.3883. Visit the teacher resources page on Winterthur's website for more information, at [winterthur.org](http://winterthur.org).

## **CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES**

### **Yuletide Jazz & Wine**

Wednesdays, November 21 and 28; December 5 and 12, 6:00–8:30 pm

There is no better way to relax and celebrate the season than with a glass of wine, beautiful decorations, and lively jazz in the Galleries Reception Area after an evening Yuletide tour. Cash wine and beer bar; fruit and cheese for purchase. Members free. \$10 tickets for nonmembers include live jazz, entry to Galleries to view *Uncorked!*, and a \$2 drink ticket for your first drink.

November 21: Cartoon Christmas Trio

November 28: E. Shawn Quassaunee

December 5: Phyllis Chapell and Siora

December 12: Ron Cole Trio

### **Weekend Music & Entertainment**

Saturdays and Sundays, 1:00–3:00 pm

Galleries Reception Area

Enjoy seasonal tunes by various ensembles.

December 1: Tri-State Homeschool Madrigals Chorale

December 2: Blue Rock Chorus

December 8: Chorus of the Brandywine

December 9: First Presbyterian Church (Newark) Hand Bell Choir

December 15: Saengerbund Chorus

December 16: Ken Sikes on keyboard

### **Special Live Performances of A Christmas Carol**

Thursday, December 13, 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 and gift signing will follow. The Visitor Center Restaurant 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): \$30 per nonmember; \$15 per child. For tickets, call 302-888-4600, ext. 7029.

## **MUSEUM AND GARDEN HOURS DURING YULETIDE**

Yuletide is open from November 17, 2012 through January 6, 2013. The museum and garden will be open daily during this time (including on Mondays) from 10:00 am–5:00 pm, with the last tour tickets sold at 3:15 pm.

In addition, Winterthur will be open for extended hours on the following Wednesdays: November 21 and 28, and December 5, 12, 19, and 26. During extended hours, the last tour tickets will be sold at 6:15 pm, and guests can enjoy dining until 6:30 pm in the Visitor Center Restaurant. Winterthur stores also will be open late on select Wednesdays, including November 28, and December 5, 12, 19 and 26. Enjoy 10% off any store purchase after 5:30 pm, except December 26.

Whether taking in the breathtakingly decorated trees, the colorful and exquisite room and food displays, the array of special events and performances, or the winter wonderland of the garden, Yuletide at Winterthur is sure to be a feast for the eyes. Admission is free to Members; \$20 per nonmember adult; \$5 per child (ages 2 to 11). For additional information, call 800.448.3883 or visit [winterthur.org/yuletide](http://winterthur.org/yuletide).

###