



Spring 2024 Programs

Museum Hours

Walk-Ins are welcome!

Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Mondays. Closed Easter Sunday, March 31.

Receive up-to-date info on programs and exhibits,
sign-up for Museum e-news at lizzadromuseum.org

Visit us and shop online at lizzadromuseum.org

Museum Memberships and Museum Rental information
available on our website and at the Reception desk.



1220 Kensington Road, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523
630-833-1616 | info@lizzadromuseum.org



*Active-duty military personnel and their families receive
free admission from May 18th through September 2nd, 2024*



*This program is partially supported by
a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.*



**Wealth
Management**

Admission

\$10.00 Adults, \$8.00 Seniors

\$5 Students, Teenagers, Children 7-12

Free for children under 7 yrs.

Wednesday is Free Day.

Members of the Lizzadro Museum and
active members of the Armed Forces
are admitted free of charge any day
the Museum is open to the public.

Accessibility

The Museum has facilities to provide
access for physically disabled visitors.

Volunteering

Volunteering forms are available online.

   
[@lizzadromuseum](https://www.facebook.com/lizzadromuseum)



The Lizzadro Museum Free Day is sponsored by:



Special Exhibit Extended through August 31, 2024
The Richard H. Driehaus Lapidary Collection

Chicago philanthropist Richard Driehaus left a rich legacy of art objects to his Foundation. The Lizzadro Museum is the recipient of his lapidary collection including a variety of unique stone objects from around the world and two 19th century Roman micromosaics on loan.
Regular Museum Admission – Regular Museum Hours

Lizzadro Museum Programs

April through June 2024



Saturday April 13 & May 18 **Rock & Mineral Identification Class**

Geologist Sara Kurth teaches the techniques for rock and mineral identification. Learn to identify minerals through basic hands-on identification including observation skills and hardness tests. Great for rockhounds and scouts, this class completes the earth science badges for Cub and Boy Scouts

*10:30 a.m. – 75-minutes – Ages 8 yrs. & up – \$10 per person – Museum Members Free
 Limited Capacity – Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org*



Saturday April 13 & May 18 **Rockin' Jewelry for Kids**

Children can make their own gemstone jewelry! Learn to make a necklace, a keychain, and a pin. All materials included in individual kits. After the class, tour the Museum and complete a scavenger hunt. Completes the Jewelry Badge for Girl Scouts.

*Classes 1:30 p.m. – 45-minutes – Ages 8 yrs. & up
 \$15 per person includes the Jewelry Kit – Museum Members 10% off with code
 Limited Capacity – Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org*



Sunday, April 14 **Community Music Program: Bravura Ensemble**

Spirito Singers' high school treble ensemble, Bravura, is thrilled to present *Where the Light Begins*, a concert that tells the story of hope in the face of grief and joy in the face of despair. It will feature music from around the globe and across the centuries. Bravura singers hail from dozens of communities across Chicagoland, and the ensemble has performed with the Joffrey Ballet, the Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest, and at Carnegie Hall.

*Performance 2:00 p.m. – 60-minutes – Ages 8 yrs. & up
 \$15 per person – Museum Members Free
 Limited Capacity – Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org*



Saturday April 27 **West Suburban Lapidary Club**

Interested in the lapidary arts? Find out more at the WSLC meetings at the Museum. The Club will host a program each month, including presentations, demonstrations, and information on cutting and polishing stones! Programs to be announced in the Museum's digital newsletter each month.

*Club Meeting at 1:00 p.m., Program at 2:00 p.m. – 60-minutes
 Teens to Adults Welcome – Regular Admission – Museum Members Free
 Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org*



Sunday May 5 **Chicago Mosaic School: A Contemporary Perspective**

The Chicago Mosaic School is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of mosaic education. Join us as members of the school present a lecture on the world of mosaics and their mission to support learning and share expertise, all while developing the medium within a contemporary context.

Lecture – 2:00 p.m. – 60 minutes

Students and Adults – Regular Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday June 1 **Stone Hunt**

This hands-on activity allows children and adults to search for gems and minerals among more common rocks on the Museum’s outdoor patio. Learn the difference between rocks and minerals and how to distinguish between them. Each rock or mineral found is identified and can be taken home. Rocks from home can be brought in for identification.

1:30 p.m. – 45-minutes – Ages 5 and up – Outdoor program (weather permitting)

\$5.00 per child – General Museum Admission for Adults and Seniors – Museum Members Free

Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday June 8 **Carved Gems: Inspiration & Expertise**

Helen Serras-Herman, acclaimed gem artist with over 40 years of experience, will be demonstrating her gem carving techniques and the tools she prefers to use. Helen will discuss the essential gem carving procedures, lapidary steps, and workmanship quality factors to look for in a gem carving. She will also do a short reading from her recently published book “**Carved Gems - Inspiration & Expertise.**”

Lecture – 2:00 p.m. – 60 minutes

Students and Adults – Regular Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Sunday June 23 **Rocks on the Beach: Geology 101 in Sandals**

Beachcombing for rocks along the shores of Lake Michigan is not only fun, but also serves as a study into the geologic story of the Great Lakes region. Discover how sedimentary limestone containing fossils indicate that the Midwest was once a tropical ocean and learn how the igneous and metamorphic rocks show the movement of glaciers during the Ice Age. Join Dave Dolak for this presentation and better appreciate your next stroll along the beaches of Lake Michigan.

Lecture – 2:00 p.m. – 60 minutes

Students and Adults – Regular Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org

15 Days in May

Looking for that perfect gift for that special someone?
Mom looking for new jewelry? Dad tired of the power tools? Graduations galore?
The Museum Shop has unique items for everyone on your shopping list!

Museum Members double your discount to 20% off

May 4 through 18, 2024!



Pick Up Your KDRMA Passport to Adventures Here!

Discover wonderful museums and nature centers right around the corner!

This program runs year-round and is open to anyone and everyone!

Passports will be available starting May 1st, 2024 at the Lizzadro Museum.

Calcite: The All-Seeing Mineral

by Sara Kurth



Blue calcite pair with staff.

As you enter the Special Exhibit Hall, you can't miss the pair of blue calcite slabs on display. This impressive specimen was donated from the Richard H. Driehaus Lapidary Collection to the Lizzadro Museum in 2023. Discovered in an Argentinian mine, this specimen comes by its color naturally – it has not been treated to enhance coloration. Blue calcite is only found in a few places on earth, most notably Mexico and South Africa. The color comes from trace amounts of impurities present while the mineral was forming. The mine this piece originated from has only a small vein of blue calcite, making this piece rare as well as unique for its size. Although the slab has been cut and polished, the edges were left in their natural state to show the original boulder form.

While the blue calcite on display is rare and unique, the mineral calcite, a calcium carbonate, is a very common mineral. It can be found in over 300 crystal variations. It is the main component of the limestone bedrock in our area. Calcite also makes up shells and bones. Calcite composes a significant portion (about 4% by weight) of earth's crust and can be found worldwide, mainly as a mineral within sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. Calcite, with a hardness of just 3 on the Mohs scale, is not typically used in lapidary work nor recognized as a gemstone due to its softness. However, it does serve many other everyday uses. Limestone and marble are mainly calcite. These stones have been used as building and construction materials for thousands of years, including the pyramids of Egypt. Calcite is employed in environmental remediation efforts to clean streams that have been contaminated with drainage from mining activities. Medications such as antacids which contain calcium carbonate from pure limestone sources work in a similar way in the body neutralizing acids. Iceland spar, more commonly called optical calcite, is thought to have been used by Vikings to navigate. It is possible to discern the sun's position, even on cloudy days, by utilizing calcite's double refraction property. This optical calcite also formed the lenses of the compound eye for Paleozoic-aged trilobites.

The Lizzadro Museum has many samples of calcite on display. In the Rock and Mineral Experience Hall, two pieces stand out, the Houndstooth Calcite from the historic lead mining district of Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma and the Angel Wing Calcite from Mexico. Both pieces are on permanent display and show two examples of calcite's varied crystal forms.

References

- Clarkson, Euan. "The Eyes of Trilobites: The Oldest Preserved Visual System." *Arthropod Structure & Development*, October 23, 2006. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asd.2006.08.002>.
- Dietrich, R.V. "Calcite." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, January 20, 2024. <https://www.britannica.com/science/calcite>
- Lagomarsino, James. *A pocket guide to rocks and minerals*. Bath, England: Parragon, 2009, 50-53.6
- Ropars, Guy, et al. "A Depolarizer as a Possible Precise Sunstone for Viking Navigation by Polarized Skylight." *Proc. R. Soc. A*.468671–684. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.2011.0369>.

Correction from the Winter Newsletter:

George William Satterwhite donated the Japanese netsukes and gemstone spheres.