



**The Richard H. Driehaus Museum Announces 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala  
Architect and Preservationist – Joe Antunovich – To be Honored  
*\*\*September 13, 2018\*\****

**CHICAGO (June 4, 2018)** – In celebration of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, The Richard H. Driehaus Museum will host a gala honoring award-winning Chicago architect and preservationist Joseph M. Antunovich, FAIA.

The black-tie event is an opportunity for members of Chicago’s thriving philanthropic, cultural, and preservation communities to come together in support of an institution that has quietly become one of the city’s most popular museums. Proceeds will support exhibitions, educational and cultural programming, as well as the ongoing care of the historic building.

The Driehaus Museum is one of the few remaining examples of the palatial homes erected in during Chicago’s Gilded Age. The building was originally commissioned in 1879 by Samuel and Matilda Nickerson, whose lives touched many of the most significant events in Chicago’s early history, including the Great Chicago Fire, the founding of the Art Institute of Chicago, and the World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893.

“When I met Joe in the late 1980s, he had already left the office of the famed Lohan Associates to venture out on his own,” said Museum Founder and Board President Richard H. Driehaus. “I was restoring the Ransom Cable House, where my offices are headquartered. Hiring Joe and his firm proved transforming. They not only completed the project on time, they did it on budget. Later when I purchased the Nickerson Mansion, I naturally wanted Joe on the restoration team.”

Founder and president of Antunovich Associates, a 125-person architecture, planning and interior design firm, Antunovich has stewarded numerous significant preservation projects across the nation. In Chicago, this includes the Platt Luggage Building relocation, the Reliance Building (now home to the Hotel Burnham) and the downtown DePaul campus housed in the former Goldblatt’s department store.

“Joe helped save the iconic Farnsworth House. If not for his leadership, Mies van der Rohe’s masterpiece would have been disassembled, packed up, and carted away at auction,” said Driehaus. “Not surprisingly, Landmarks Illinois recognized him with its prestigious Legendary Landmark award in 2014.

I am proud the Museum is bestowing this honor on a great collaborator, teacher and friend,” said Driehaus. “The journey of restoring the building, opening the Museum, and then watching it being enjoyed by the public has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.”

“The Driehaus Museum’s objective is to continue to play a key role in stewarding Chicago’s remarkable artistic and architectural legacy,” said Executive Director Richard P. Townsend. “This event is a great opportunity to celebrate the Museum’s last 10 years and provide the platform for what we hope to achieve in the next 10.”

The gala opens the Museum’s major fall exhibition, *Beauty’s Legacy: Gilded Age Portraits in America*, organized by the New-York Historical Society. It will be complemented by two exhibitions organized by the Driehaus Museum, *Gilded Chicago: Portraits of an Era* and *Treasures from the White City: Chicago World’s Fair of 1893*.

The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a cocktail reception and exhibition viewing in the Museum, followed by a 7 p.m. presentation, including a live auction and dinner, in the adjoining 1926 Murphy Auditorium. The live auction will feature exclusive travel opportunities donated by Mr. Driehaus, including vacation homes in the Virgin Islands and Palm Springs. The Gala is co-chaired by Driehaus Museum Trustees Patricia Besser of U.S. Trust Bank of America Private Wealth Management and Gary Metzner of Sotheby’s and is coordinated by Lisa Wagner of IETSO.

**When:** Thursday, September 13, 2018, 6-9 p.m.

**Where:** The Richard H. Driehaus Museum, 40 East Erie Street, Chicago

**Attire:** Black Tie

**Information and Tickets:** [DriehausMuseum.org/support/10th-anniversary-gala](http://DriehausMuseum.org/support/10th-anniversary-gala)

#### **About the Richard H. Driehaus Museum**

The Richard H. Driehaus Museum explores the art, architecture and design of the late 19th and early 20th centuries with a focus on the Gilded Age. Located just steps from the Magnificent Mile, the Museum is housed within the meticulously restored Nickerson Mansion, renowned as Gilded Age Chicago’s “Marble Palace.” The Museum presents a permanent collection of period decorative arts as well as featuring objects drawn from the collection of Richard H. Driehaus, resulting an immersive art experience. The Driehaus Museum further illuminates the period through temporary special exhibitions and educational and cultural programs.

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**Website:** [driehausmuseum.org](http://driehausmuseum.org)

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