

Driehaus Museum presents rare *Wizard of Oz* collection, plus the return of Santa and the Holiday Market for month-long “Drie-cember” celebration



CHICAGO (October 2, 2025) – The **Driehaus Museum**, centrally located at [50 E. Erie Street](#) just steps off Michigan Avenue, puts its own ‘gilded’ spin on the holiday season with “Drie-cember,” its month-long celebration of holiday programs for the entire family to enjoy. This year, the Museum invites visitors to step into a world of wonder with *The Land of Oz: Beyond the Page*, an installation showcasing rare objects and memorabilia from *The Wizard of Oz* film including a replica of Dorothy’s Ruby Red Slippers and the Cowardly Lion’s Medal of Courage, all from the private collection of Richard H. Driehaus.

In the bedecked halls of the Museum, visitors can also view the current exhibition *Tiffany Lamps: Beyond the Shade* and attend various holiday offerings ranging from the ever-popular Santa Saturday to Yuletide-themed ghost stories by Ghostlight Ensemble. Returning this year is a festive free Holiday Market inside the Murphy Auditorium featuring artisanal wares from local vendors.

Executive Director **Lisa M. Key** says, “One of the most popular movie quotes of all time is from *The Wizard of Oz*-- ‘There’s no place like home,’ and this season, your home is the Driehaus Museum. Whether you’re a Tiffany lamp lover, a classic movie buff, or someone who loves to celebrate the spirit of the season with friends and family, we’re waving our wands this *Drie-cember* to make the season as magical as possible.”

Installation: *The Land of Oz: Beyond the Page*

November 13, 2025, to March 15, 2026

Timed with the release of the sequel to last year’s blockbuster film, *Wicked*, *The Land of Oz: Beyond the Page* takes visitors back to the original 1939 inspiration. The installation will be on view in two galleries on the Museum’s third floor. Curated by Laura Woolley, a memorabilia expert and consultant known for her appearances on *Antiques Roadshow* and her work at The Collector’s Lab, *The Land of Oz: Beyond the Page* explores the imaginative artistry required to turn the classic children’s story into a beloved movie. Divided into three sections—Writing, Costume, and Production Design—the installation reveals how designers brought L. Frank Baum’s world to life.

Highlights include a replica of Dorothy’s Ruby Red Slippers, an early draft of the script that describes the slippers as silver rather than ruby, a prototype of the iconic Flying Monkey costume, a character costume from Emerald City, and a replica of the Cowardly Lion’s Medal of Courage. Visitors will also see

a rare depiction of the Emerald City, the very one that ended up on the screen. Families, film lovers, and design enthusiasts alike will find something to spark their imaginations.

The Land of Oz: Beyond the Page deepens the natural partnership between the Driehaus Museum and the Richard H. Driehaus Art Exhibition Lending Foundation. This support cements the Museum's role as a cultural steward of the Richard H. Driehaus Collection and extends its ability to tell new stories through exceptional design.

According to **Cynthia Van Osdol**, the President and CEO of the Driehaus Trust Company, "From a young age, the Land of Oz presented a fantasy world for our founder, Richard Driehaus. He found great escape in the purpose and teamwork of its characters, and the Yellow Brick Road held a particularly vivid allure for him. As he expanded his art collection, he acquired texts, costumes, and production design originals from the 1939 film. These included, of course, our pair of Ruby Red Slippers, and a series of brilliant watercolors by Jack Smith Martin which were instrumental in the creation of the film. Equally influential is a spectacular pastel of the Emerald City, with its pair of concentric deco-styled white halos and the white light that radiates from its core. As a champion of late 19th and early 20th century architecture, it's easy to imagine why this piqued Richard's imagination. By sharing these treasures--some for the first time--we hope the public will be equally inspired. "

Exhibition: *Tiffany Lamps: Beyond the Shade*

Through March 15, 2026

From the 1890s to the 1920s, Tiffany Studios created a captivating range of decorative lighting fixtures that evolved to meet the changing styles and tastes of the Gilded Age as consumers embraced the broader technological shift from oil lamps to electricity. Drawn from the expansive collections of the Museum and its founder Richard H. Driehaus, the exhibition provides an unprecedented context to explore how the artisans at the Studios used a range of materials—including bronze, enamel, ceramic, and glass—to bring Tiffany's innovative lighting designs to life.

Programs in chronological order:

Drie-cember Market

Saturday, December 6, 11:00am-5:00pm

Free

Shop local this holiday season at the Driehaus Museum's annual Drie-cember Market, featuring dozens of vendors from the Chicagoland area. Visitors can find unique gifts, vintage jewelry, handmade crafts, and local art in addition to a selection of special holiday-themed products from the Driehaus Museum Store. Step into the holiday spirit with the museum's sparkling decorations and seasonal activities for all ages.

Santa Saturday

Saturday, December 6 and 13, 9:00am-12:00pm

Tickets \$25 / \$13 children [HERE](#)

Drie-cember is here with Santa's annual visit to the Driehaus Museum! Join him in the museum's Front Parlor to share your Christmas wish list and snap selfies with jolly old St. Nick. In addition to photos with Santa, families can enjoy festive activities for kids and explore the Drie-cember Market featuring seasonal treats and holiday gifts. This magical, family-friendly event will fill up fast—advance registration is encouraged.

Holiday Spirits: A Collection of Victorian Yuletide Ghost Stories

Thursday and Friday, December 11 and 12, 6:00-8:00pm

Tickets \$40 [HERE](#)

As the December skies darken, join [Ghostlight Ensemble](#) by the Museum's majestic fireplace as they revive the Victorian tradition of telling ghost stories at Yuletide with a multi-story (and multi-storied) immersive twist.

Third Wednesday | Hygge Silent Book Club

Wednesday, December 17, 6:00-7:30pm

Free; registration recommended [HERE](#)

Visitors are invited to bring a book of choice and get 'hygge' with the Driehaus Museum in this silent book club inspired by Scandinavia's cozy yule traditions. Cookies and warm beverages will be served. After an hour of cozy quiet, stick around to chat and meet fellow readers.

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Images L-R: Santa Saturday at the Driehaus Museum, Courtesy the Driehaus Museum; "The Emerald City," 1939, pastel on board, The Richard H. Driehaus Collection; Holidays at the Driehaus Museum, Courtesy the Driehaus Museum

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