



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

THE FRICK ART & HISTORICAL CENTER PRESENTS

HOLIDAYS AT THE FRICK

*Holiday programs for all ages offered
November 19, 2009 – January 2, 2010*

Holidays at the Frick: November 19, 2009–January 3, 2010

Regular site hours: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday

Extended hours: 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. on December 9, 11, 16, and 18

PITTSBURGH, PA, November 1, 2009— The Frick Art & Historical Center in Pittsburgh's historic East End has a special charm during the holidays. Visitors to the Frick this holiday season will experience Clayton transformed with lavish greenery, family gifts and an elegant table setting. Those who take the holiday tour of Clayton will learn about customs of calling and receiving visitors during the Gilded Age. Visitors to the Frick during the holidays may also enjoy distinctive holiday dining and shopping experiences—the Museum Shop offers unusual gift options, and The Café at the Frick serves delectable holiday fare, with extended hours and a special menu on December 9, 11, 16 and 18 with the last seating at 7:30 p.m.

AT HOME AT CLAYTON: CHRISTMAS AND THE TRADITIONS OF CALLING

When should a lady first call upon a new and desirable acquaintance? How and when should one leave a calling card? This year, the holiday tour at Clayton answers these questions as it takes a closer look at the customs of calling and receiving visitors during the

Gilded Age. Family Christmas celebrations and New Year's Day visiting—when gentlemen called on ladies—have a special significance in this new tour. Etiquette books from the late 19th century, archival documents and museum artifacts help illustrate calling protocol, correct attire, proper topics of conversation, and appropriate refreshments.

The focal point of the Frick's 2009 seasonal display will be a holiday "kettledrum." An informal tea for men as well as women, the kettledrum's curious name derives from a number of sources: "drum" is an old-fashioned word for entertainment and "kettle" connotes tea. The lively chatter at this late-afternoon gathering reminded participants of the rumble of a kettledrum, or timpani. Beginning with a tea setting in the parlor, the theme of calling and hospitality will be discussed throughout the first floor of the house.

A very special addition to Clayton is the loan of *The Last Gleanings* by Jules- Adolphe Breton from The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California. This painting was once in the collection of Henry Clay Frick, and archival photographs show that it hung above the fireplace in the dining room, where it will return this holiday season. The dining room table setting reflects the subtle golden and pastel hues of this harvest scene while sideboards and tables shimmer with grand serving pieces like a cut-glass punch bowl, brass samovar and enameled Russian tea set from Tiffany.

The kitchen setting anchors discussion of the household staff's holiday duties and their opportunities to call and visit at this festive time. In the breakfast room, a fanciful chocolate party for children mimics the adult goings-on, while upstairs, Christmas in the nursery and toys in the sitting room give a glimpse of family life. Also displayed are Mrs. Frick's lovely visiting jacket, or visite, and one of her ruffled and beribboned tea gowns.

Stories of past Pittsburgh holiday celebrations, fragrant hearth plants and the traditional Clayton Christmas tree—decked with ornaments created by students participating in our afterschool community programs—are all part of this holiday tour.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS FOR KIDS, ADULTS AND FAMILIES

Holiday Hours and Tours

November 19, 2009 –January 3, 2010

Clayton and the site are open from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Docent-led holiday tours are available with the last tour beginning at 4:00 p.m. Please see additional date information below.

November 27, 2009

Clayton and the site are open from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. This is a special tour-at-your-own-pace day, with the last admission to Clayton at 4:30 p.m.

December 9, 11, 16, and 18, 2009

The site is open from 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. The Café is open until 9:00 p.m., with the last seating at 7:30 p.m. Clayton is open until 8:00 p.m., with the last tour beginning at 7:00 p.m.

November 26, December 24 and 25 and January 1

The entire site is closed.

Clayton tours fill quickly during the holidays and advance reservations are strongly recommended. Please call 412-371-0600.

Golden Tidings Gallery Talks

Thursdays, December 3, 10, 17

2:00 p.m.

The Frick Art Museum

Free and open to the public.

In these brief gallery talks in The Frick Art Museum's Italian Gallery, discover decorative and mystical early-Renaissance works from Siena, where artists used gold and precious pigments to embellish their devotional paintings.

Kick Off the Holidays! Kettledrum Tea

Sunday, November 22

1:30–4:00 p.m.

Clayton, Lexington Education Center

Ages 12–adult

\$25 members; \$30 non-members and guests.

Advance registration and prepayment required.

Begin your holidays in grand style with a kettledrum tea that was all the rage in Victorian society. Find out about the etiquette of visiting and hosting these elegant teas. Your afternoon includes a tour of Clayton dressed for the holidays and a kettledrum tea with savories and sweets.

CarKids: One Horse Open Sleigh

Saturday, December 5

11:00–11:45 a.m.

Family program, kids ages 4–8

Car and Carriage Museum

Free program, includes take-home activity.

Check out our real jingle bells and sleigh, and learn how people made wintertime fun with sleighs, sleds and skates one hundred years ago. Make your own wearable jingle bells.

Family Workshop:

Pretty Paper

Sunday, December 6

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Ages 6–12, with accompanying adult Lexington Education Center

\$5 child members; \$7 child non-members and guests.

Free to accompanying adults.

Advance registration and pre-payment required.

Wrapping paper, gift tags, cards, and bows—get started on your list (and your holiday fun!) with an afternoon of creativity. Make a cheery selection of paper items for your own use or for gifts. Hot chocolate and cookies make your time together complete!

Coffee and Culture:

Expressions of Belief

Wednesday, December 9

10:00 a.m.

Lexington Education Center

\$8 members; \$10 non-members and guests.

Artists in late-Middle-Ages Italy favored a jewel-toned and gilded decorative style in their depictions of figures of the Christian faith. By the early 15th century, more naturalistic styles heralded the beginnings of the Renaissance. Join Assistant Curator of Education Beth Braughler over coffee as she explores Helen Clay Frick’s collection of 14th- and 15th-century Italian art.

Holiday Greens Workshop:

Della Robbia Centerpiece

Saturday, December 12

1:00–4:00 p.m.

Lexington Education Center

\$35 members; \$40 non-members and guests.

Advance registration and pre-payment required.

Space is limited; this program fills quickly.

Renaissance artist Luca della Robbia, noted for his terracotta roundels, created sculptures adorned with garlands of fruit. Gaining inspiration from holiday decorations in Clayton, learn to design a one-of-a-kind table centerpiece of lush, fresh fruits and fragrant holiday greens in the spirit of Florence during the Renaissance.

A Cool Yule: Family Fun Day

Saturday, December 12

12:00–4:00 p.m.

Site-wide activities

Free, drop-in program.

Join us for our annual family celebration of the season. Families with kids of all ages will enjoy stories, interactive tours and holiday art-making. Take away not only a hand-made ornament and family photo in a frame you create, but also memories of a few fun hours spent together.

Clayton tours are free on December 12 for kids 16 and under; reservations are suggested since spaces fill quickly.

THE CAFÉ AT THE FRICK

Regular Hours: Tuesday–Sunday

Lunch: 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Tea Service available daily after 2:30 p.m.

One of the many benefits of membership at the Frick Art & Historical Center is the opportunity to make reservations at The Café. Non-members may also call for reservations as available. Call 412-371-0600. All guests are welcome on a first-come, first-served basis.

At this festive time of the year, indulge in culinary works of art, choice wines, attentive service, and The Café's intimate ambiance! The Café's creative and masterful approach to food includes a philosophy of culinary excellence and a dedication to preparing its entire menu from scratch in our kitchen on the historic Frick grounds.

The Café's distinctive menu changes often and includes:

- a choice of fresh seasonal soups
- refreshing gourmet salads
- creative sandwiches
- exciting entrées
- vegetarian dishes
- a Sunday brunch special
- delectable and award-winning desserts
- classic cocktails, martinis, craft beer, and an expanded premium wine list
- tea service offering a wide variety of tea sandwiches, scones and pastries

The Café is open until 9:00 p.m. on selected dates in December.

Celebrate the holidays on December 9, 11, 16, and 18 when The Café serves from a special menu from 11:30 a.m.– 9:00 p.m. Last seating on those dates is at 7:30 p.m.

In addition to the holiday dinners listed above, the following special dinners are also planned at The Café. Please call 412-371-0600 now to make your reservations.

Craft Beer Dinner

Thursday, November 19

One seating at 7:00 p.m.

A gourmet, four-course Café tasting menu will be paired with the award-winning beers from Great Lakes Brewery, located in Cleveland, Ohio.

Cost: \$65 per person includes taxes and gratuity. Reservations and pre-payment are required.

Wine Dinner

Thursday, January 14, 2010

One seating at 7:00 p.m.

Enjoy selected wines and a gourmet, four-course menu. Cost: \$90 per person includes taxes and gratuity. Reservations and pre-payment are required.

ABOUT THE FRICK ART & HISTORICAL CENTER

Located on the Pittsburgh estate of late-19th-century industrialist Henry Clay Frick, the Frick Art & Historical Center is the steward of collections left as a legacy to the people of Pittsburgh by Frick's daughter, Helen Clay Frick. The permanent collections include fine and decorative arts, cars, carriages, and historic objects (including buildings).

Built by Helen Clay Frick in 1969, The Frick Art Museum displays an exquisite permanent collection of European paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts from the 13th to 18th Centuries, and presents outstanding temporary exhibitions from some of the world's finest collections and museums.

Clayton, the Henry Clay Frick family mansion, is one of the most intact Victorian homes in the United States and possesses general significance as an artifact of American social history and a document of American and regional architecture. Restored to its original glory and opened as a house museum in 1990, an astonishing ninety-three percent of Clayton's artifacts are original.

The Frick family's carriages and automobiles provided the inspiration for the development of the Car and Carriage Museum, formerly the Frick's carriage house, and today home to a collection of more than twenty vintage automobiles. A museum of transportation design and history, the Car and Carriage Museum also presents temporary exhibitions throughout the year.

Also included on the Frick's five-acre site of beautifully landscaped lawns and gardens are the Frick children's playhouse, designed by renowned architects Alden & Harlow, which currently

serves as a Visitor Center and Museum Shop, a large working greenhouse (also designed by Alden & Harlow), an education center, and The Café at the Frick.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Frick Art & Historical Center is located at 7227 Reynolds Street in Pittsburgh's Point Breeze neighborhood. Free parking is available in the Frick's off-street lot or along adjacent streets. The Frick is open 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday and closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission to the Frick is free, however there are charges for docent-led tours of Clayton and some educational programs. Admission to The Frick Art Museum's permanent collection galleries is always free. Occasionally, voluntary donations are requested to view special exhibitions.

More information about the Frick is available online at *TheFrickPittsburgh.org*, or by calling 412-371-0600 Monday – Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For additional information or images, please contact Greg Langel, Media and Marketing Manager, at 412-371-0600 ext. 524 or GLangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

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The Frick Art & Historical Center is a museum, historic site and cultural center with a mission to serve the public through preservation, presentation, and interpretation of the fine and decorative arts and historically significant artifacts for all residents of and visitors to Western Pennsylvania