



# LIZZADRO MUSEUM OF LAPIDARY ART

## NEWSLETTER & CALENDAR OF EVENTS SUMMER 2015



### Museum Hours

Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed Mondays & July 4th.

### Admission

\$5.00 Adults, \$4.00 Senior Citizens  
\$3.00 Students & Teenagers  
\$2.00 Children 7 to 12 yrs.  
Free for children under 7 yrs.  
Friday is Free day.  
Members of the Lizzadro Museum and active members of the Armed Forces are admitted free of charge on any day the Museum is open to the public.

### Group Tours

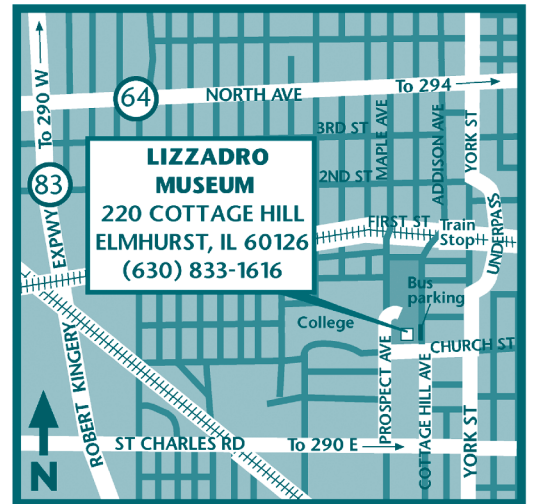
Tours can be arranged for groups with special interests or needs. Reservations are necessary for guided tours.



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

### Visit us and Shop online at: [lizzadromuseum.org](http://lizzadromuseum.org)

Volunteer forms are available.



Smithsonian Institution  
Affiliations Program



This Publication is printed  
in part by a grant from the  
Illinois Arts Council

**“Legendary Diamonds”** tell the fascinating stories of some of history’s most famous diamonds and their equally famous owners. The exhibit blends Scott Sucher’s lapidary art of faceting with the historical figural artistry of George Stuart. Four visual vignettes with accessible QR code audio, trace the most current historical research of the diamonds. Each diamond’s original source is from India, from there the diamonds are sold, traded, looted, recut, and repurposed. Today the diamonds still exist. Maybe the adage is true: diamonds are forever. In the case of these famous diamonds, they have stood the test of time.

The special exhibition “Legendary Diamonds” opens on June 27 and will be on display through January 3, 2016. The vignettes feature 9 famous historical characters from India, to France, Russia and the United States. If you have a group of 8 or more and would like to schedule a personal tour, please call the Museum for reservations.



*The Sun King, Louis XIV kept the Tavernier Blue diamond in his cabinet of curiosities until deciding to recut it for his apparel. In 1678, Louis XIV commissioned the court jeweler to recut the Tavernier Blue, resulting in a 67.125-carat stone which royal inventories thereafter listed as the Blue Diamond of the Crown of France. Later English-speaking historians have simply called it the French Blue. The King had the stone set on a cravat-pin.*



*In 1749, Louis’ descendant, King Louis XV, had the French Blue set into a more elaborate jewelled pendant for the Order of the Golden Fleece. The assembled piece included a red spinel of 107 carats shaped as a dragon breathing “covetous flames”, as well as 83 red-painted diamonds and 112 yellow-painted diamonds to suggest a fleece shape. The piece fell into disuse after the death of Louis XV. The diamond became the property of his grandson King Louis XVI.*





*The Shah Jahan holds the turban ornament containing the Great Table Cut diamond. Taken as plunder by an Iranian Mogul, the diamond disappeared, although there is some evidence it still exists.*

### George Stuart

The Historical Figures are the result of artist George Stuart's life-long dedication to the creation of three-dimensional and one-quarter life size portraits of historic personalities. In 1952, he created his first two Historical Figures: the French royal couple Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette. Over the decades George Stuart elevated his skill to the pinnacle of perfection. To date, he has sculpted over four hundred Historical Figures. They are renowned for their realism, exquisite detail and historical accuracy.

The Museum of Ventura County accepted Stuart's donation of almost 200 Historical Figures in 1979. The Museum's Smith Gallery was built and dedicated to the George Stuart Historical Figures® Collection in 1982. The artist currently owns about 140 additional Figures. They are a promised gift to the Museum. Around 60 of his Historical Figures are in private collections nationwide. To this day, George Stuart creates new Historical Figures. His most recent accomplishments are Shah Jahan and Evalyn Walsh McLean. Much of his time, however, is dedicated to the maintenance and constant improvement of existing Figures because George Stuart is a relentless perfectionist!



### Ariane Karakalos

Curator and exhibit manager at the Museum of Ventura County in California, Ariane Karakalos was born and raised in a small town near Kassel, Germany. She attended the University of Leipzig and graduated with a M.A. in Cultural Studies and American Studies. She has worked for the Museum of Ventura County for 8 years. Each year Ms. Karakalos curates two exhibitions inspired by the Museum's extensive collection of George Stuart Historical Figures®.

On Saturday, June 27 at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Karakalos will present a lecture on the "Legendary Diamonds" exhibit. Learn more about how the exhibit was put together, the tantalizing stories of the famous diamonds replicated in this exhibit and the artistry of George Stuart. Reservations are Recommended.



### Scott Sucher

Over the last twenty years, Scott Sucher has become known as the world's foremost expert on the technology of documenting and replicating famous historical diamonds. His superb private collection of diamond replicas have been displayed worldwide and are described in detail on his website: [museumdiamonds.com](http://museumdiamonds.com). He has appeared on the Discovery Channel and National Geographic Channel, and collaborated with museums on various historic diamond research projects. Mr. Sucher will present two lectures at the Lizzadro Museum in November relating to this Special Exhibit including: The Golden Fleece of Louis XV and The Evolution of Diamond Cutting. Please look for dates and times in our Fall Newsletter.

 **PICK UP YOUR PASSPORT  
TO ADVENTURE HERE!**

Summer is a great time to visit the museums and nature centers in Kane & DuPage Counties. Designed for ages 4 to 12, each site is a unique place to visit and may have an activity for children to complete. Get your passport stamped at each site and see how many you can visit this summer. Get your Passport at participating locations May through August 2015.

# SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015

## SPECIAL EXHIBIT

### “LEGENDARY DIAMONDS”

JUNE 27, 2015 TO JANUARY 3, 2016



See the fascinating stories of some of history's most famous diamonds and their equally famous owners. The exhibit blends the lapidary art of faceting with historic figural artistry to tell each diamond's story including: The Hope, The Orlov, The Table Cut and The Regent.

JUNE 27

### “Legendary Diamonds”

Ariane Karakalos, curator of the exhibit from Ventura, California presents the tantalizing stories of famous diamonds replicated in this exhibit. The artistry of George Stuart brings the owners of the diamonds to life with his historically accurate figures. See famous diamond replicas created in CZ and trace each diamond's legend as they passed through famous royal owners from India to France, the U.S. and Russia. The Special Exhibit “Legendary Diamonds” opens on June 27 with this lecture.

Lecture-Youth to Adult

60 minutes 2 p.m.

Admission: \$10.00 per person,  
Museum Members Free.

Reservations Recommended: 630-833-1616

JULY 17

### “Fossil Collecting Field Trip”

Travel by motor coach to Vulcan Quarry in Sycamore, Illinois. Collect Silurian and Ordovician Period marine fossils in shale and limestone. Collectable fossils include: brachiopods, cephalopods, corals, crinoids, gastropods, and more.

Field Trip - Ages 8 yrs. to Adult

Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fee: \$45.00 per person,

Museum Members \$40.00

Reservations Required: 630-833-1616

## LIZZADRO MUSEUM OF LAPIDARY ART

220 Cottage Hill Ave. Elmhurst, IL 60126  
630/833-1616 [www.lizzadromuseum.org](http://www.lizzadromuseum.org)



### “Rock & Mineral Identification”

Geologist Sara Kurth presents an introduction to rocks and minerals. Learn to identify minerals through basic hands-on identification including observation skills and hardness tests, great for teachers and rockhounds. This program qualifies for Boy & Girl Scout merit badges. Scout groups require adult supervision. Teachers can earn Professional Development credit for this class. For more information regarding P.D. credit contact the Museum Educator at [educator@lizzadromuseum.org](mailto:educator@lizzadromuseum.org).

Class - Ages 8 yrs. to Adult

75 minutes - 10:30 a.m.

Saturday Classes: July 18 and September 19

Fee: \$5.00 per person.

Reservations Required: 630-833-1616

JULY 25

### “Legendary Diamonds Docent Tour”

Join Museum docent, Sakina Bharani on a guided tour of the “Legendary Diamonds” exhibit. Learn more about the historical figures, facts, fiction and mysteries that surround these famous diamonds including the Table Cut, the Regent, the Hope, and the Orlov diamonds and their missing counterparts. If you have a group of 8 or more and would like to schedule a personal tour, please call the Museum for reservations.

Tour Times: 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Regular Museum Admission,

Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended: 630-833-1616

AUGUST 15

### “Start Your Rockin’ Collection!”

Have you ever thought about starting your own rock collection? Or are your rocks looking for a new home? This activity will help you get started creating your very own, personalized rock cartons! Repurposed egg cartons are provided for rock and mineral identification, or you can bring your own collection box. Materials for decoration and personalization will be provided, and each child will choose several rocks to start or fill in their collection. Rocks from home can also be brought in for identification.

Workshop - 2:00 p.m. 60 minutes

Ages 5 to 10 yrs.

Fee: \$5.00 per person,

Museum Members Free.

Reservations Required: 630-833-1616

AUGUST 29

### “Volcanoes”

Geologist Sara Kurth presents an interactive lecture on volcanoes. She will discuss the mechanisms of how volcanoes work, and compare different eruption styles. This presentation will focus on recent volcanic eruptions and explore how volcanoes can both positively and negatively affect local and global communities. Hands-on specimens will be available to see and touch.

Lecture - 2:00 p.m. 60 minutes

Youth to Adult

Regular Museum Admission,

Museum Members Free

Reservations Required: 630-833-1616



SEPTEMBER 12

### “Fossil Collecting Field Trip”

Travel by motor coach to Mulford Quarry in Rockford, Illinois. Collect Ordovician Period marine fossils in dolomitic limestone. Collectable fossils include: brachiopods, cephalopods, corals, crinoids, gastropods, and more.

Field Trip - Ages 8 yrs. to Adult

Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Fee: \$45.00 per person

Museum Members \$40.00

Reservations Required: 630-833-1616

SEPTEMBER 26

### “Celebrate Smithsonian Museum Day”

As a Smithsonian Affiliate, the Lizzadro Museum is offering Free admission to visitors presenting a Museum Day Ticket available on-line at [smithsonianmag.com/museumday](http://smithsonianmag.com/museumday). The Museum Day Ticket provides free admission for one person, and a guest. Join Museum docent, Sakina Bharani on a guided tour of the “Legendary Diamonds” exhibit. Learn more about the historical figures, facts, fiction and mysteries that surround these famous diamonds.

Tour Times: 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Regular Museum Admission,

Museum Members Free

Free with Smithsonian Museum Day Ticket.

We would like to hear from you.

Please direct questions or comments to [info@lizzadromuseum.org](mailto:info@lizzadromuseum.org)