FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: LoriAnn Wukitsch, Vice President and Managing Director
Email: lwukitsch@historicbethlehem.org
Office: 610-882-0450 ext. 16
Date: July 2020

Big Fun In the World of Miniatures with Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites
Me & My Dollhouse Summer Camp to be Offered at Kemerer Museum

BETHLEHEM, PA, July 2020 – The styles of our time are often reflected in the toys we hand our children: porcelain dolls with a full petticoat turn into plastic dolls with a miniskirt, toy kitchens change into toy cellphones. Dollhouses, too, reflect the interior design and architecture trends of our era. Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites (HBMS) invites your children to experience the world of dolls and dollhouses in a new way this summer with the brand-new Me & My Dollhouse Summer Camp! Campers will spend a week at the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts exploring the dollhouse collection of Elizabeth Johnston Prime and creating their own dollhouses.

Dollhouses serve as miniature models of our values and taste by capturing a 3D snapshot of contemporary homes; Elizabeth Johnston Prime understood that. The collection of Elizabeth Johnston Prime is one of the largest in the United States, with over 40 buildings and 6,000 additional pieces. American and European made, these houses exemplify the designs of well-known manufacturers including Christian Hacker and Moritz Gottschalk. These elegantly embellished dollhouses showcase the transformation of architecture, clothing, and furniture over a century.

Me & My Dollhouse Summer Camp is every doll lover’s dream! Children will get an exclusive in-depth look at Ms. Prime’s collection, and then apply what they learned to designing and decorating their very own dollhouse. Each day will focus on a different component of the house, from blueprints and furniture to textiles and wallpaper with lesson plans by Rachel Sherk and Aaron Rourk of music.art.puppet.sound (MAPS). On the last day, parents are welcome for a dollhouse show and tell, and all campers will be able to take their finished dollhouses home.

To keep staff and campers safe, all persons entering the grounds of the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts will be required to wear a face mask. Campers will be given their own supplies to use throughout the week, with surfaces sanitized after every station. Weather permitting, craft stations will be set up outside in the Kemerer Museum garden.

Camp is limited to just 15 children aged 7-12. We still have room in our house for more campers, so be a doll and tell all of your friends!

DATES & TIMES
Monday, August 10 – Friday, August 14, 8:00am – 12:00pm

Cost: $150 per child; $125 per child for HBMS members at the Family level and above. Price for the week-long program includes dollhouse, crafting materials, and daily snack. Full camp scholarships
available through the generosity of the Jones Children Fund. To apply for a scholarship please fill out the form on our website.

The Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts is located at 427 N. New Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. For more information about and to register for the camp, please visit the HBMS website at historicbethlehem.org/dollhouse-summer-camp.

Me & My Dollhouse Camp made possible by the Jones Children Fund and Elizabeth Johnston Prime Fund.

Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites is a not-for-profit institution that brings to life three centuries of American history. Historic Bethlehem tells the story of a small town of great influence, home to some of our nation’s early settlers, to the first pumped municipal water system in the American colonies, and to one of the world’s greatest industrial companies. Historic Bethlehem is located in eastern Pennsylvania, only an hour drive north from Philadelphia and 2 hours west of New York City. Historic Bethlehem is an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, part of a National Historic Landmark District, and a designated site on the US Tentative List.

###