BRINGING THE OUTDOORS IN
28th Annual Rooms to View House & Garden Tour Goes Digital

BETHLEHEM, PA, May 2020 – For 27 years, the Rooms to View House & Garden Tour has been the premiere Spring fundraising event at Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites (HBMS). This year, the tour takes on a new digital format – Rooms to View Virtual Outdoor Room & Garden Tour beginning Friday, June 5.

The Rooms to View Virtual Outdoor Room & Garden tour begins with the opening of the HBMS online store and a “sneak peek” of the outdoor living areas and striking gardens on Friday, June 5. The online store features home accessories, artwork from prominent local artists, planters from Scott Rothenberger’s PLACE specially curated for HBMS, wine from Boos Rock Winery, and menu samplings from Historic Hotel Bethlehem. Merchandise will be available for pre-order and safe curbside pickup on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays in June from 1:00-6:00 pm at the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts, 427 North New Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

A live Zoom event featuring the beautiful estate of Tom and Chris Motamed kicks off the two-part video series on Friday, June 12 at 6:00 p.m. Patrons will enjoy touring the Motameds’ beautiful outdoor room and pool house, along with a cooking demonstration by the Historic Hotel Bethlehem, a signature cocktail presentation by Black River Farms, and wine pairings from Boos Rock Winery. Rooms to View guests will be able to purchase their wine and food-to-go items on the HBMS online store prior to the live event. The live segment wraps up with tours of an environmentally friendly garden at the home of Barry Pell in Fountain Hill and Tim Shannon in historic downtown Bethlehem.

The full series of outstanding garden tours will be released on Vimeo on Friday, June 19. Explore well-designed pools, patios, and gardens from nine homes owned by Peggy and Frank Baker of Saucon Valley, John and Susan Blair of Saucon Valley, Carol Dorey and John Berseth of Springtown, Karen and Steve Hampton of North Bethlehem, Mary Ann and Michael Hilton of Saucon Valley, Pat and Matt Millen of Durham, Judy Siegfried of Riegelsville, Rudy and Annette von Watzdorf of Downtown Historic Bethlehem, and Joe and Brenda of Saucon Valley. The tours are coupled with must-see demonstrations from Allium Floral Design, Ornithea House of Flowers, a paint along with local artist Elena Shackleton, and herb garden tips from HBMS volunteer Sharon Donchez.

Access to the live event, virtual tour, and demonstrations is $30 for HBMS members and $40 for future members. Tickets are available on the HBMS website. All proceeds help Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites to maintain 20 historic landmarks in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.
The Rooms to View Virtual Outdoor Room & Garden Tour is made possible through the generosity of our sponsors: Presenting Sponsor Quadrant Private Wealth, Premier Sponsor Argyle Capital Management, and Innovation Sponsor ASR Media Productions. The full list can be found on the Rooms to View webpage.

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.

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