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Appreciating the Art in Our Homes
Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites to Safely Reopen the Kemerer Museum for New Exhibit

BETHLEHEM, PA, March 2021 – Distance truly makes the art grow fonder. Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites (HBMS) eagerly welcomes visitors back to a refreshed museum space with a new exhibition titled Art At Home. Closed since March 2020, the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts is set to reopen Thursday, April 8th where it will unveil the new exhibition alongside museum improvements thanks to generous donor support. The exhibition will dive into the 28-year history of HBMS’ signature event: The Holiday Dinner & Art Auction. The display features rarely exhibited artworks on loan from private collections of individuals in our Lehigh Valley community and spotlights the local artists who have given their time and talents in support of Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites’ mission.

Welcoming visitors back to a museum focused on style and design, Art At Home honors the personal connection and impact artwork has when creating a home, and how it benefits those who live there. Artwork on loan will be presented alongside stories about the owner’s connection to the work and images of the art displayed in their residence. Like the auction, the exhibition will incorporate a comprehensive display of both 2D and 3D artworks, including paintings, mosaics, sculptures, drawings, pastels, and other mixed media works.

HBMS welcomes co-curator Sandra Corpora, who has worked closely with HBMS each year for the Holiday Dinner & Auction. Her painting “Sunset at the Sisters’ House” was the featured artwork for the Holiday Dinner & Auction in 2012 and the work appeared on that year’s holiday greeting card. Director of Collections & Programming, Lindsey Jancay, emphasized Corpora’s contribution to the exhibition: “We are so fortunate to have Sandra Corpora’s guidance and input as curator for Art At Home. Her dedication to the arts in the Lehigh Valley, her continued support of HBMS’s mission, and her history with the event has highlighted that this exhibition is not only about beautiful art, but also about the dedicated community members who have grown this premiere event from a small auction 28 years that was held on the third floor of the 1869 Luckenbach Mill to the can’t miss event that it is today.”

Through Art At Home, HBMS asks visitors to consider what art means in their own homes. With so much time spent indoors over the last year, HBMS asks you to share your favorite work of art in your home. Whether it is a professional painting, a poster, or something your children have made, HBMS wants to see it and learn more about why it is your favorite. Submissions can be sent to Carly Cheponis at ccheponis@historicbethlehem.org and will be posted online using #MyArtAtHome.
An opening reception for *Art At Home* will take place on April 8 from 5:00-8:00 pm at the Kemerer Museum, 427 N. New Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. HBMS members are free, and non-members are $15. Entrance tickets due to COVID-19 are required in advance and can be secured [online](#). For more information about the exhibit and how to visit safely please visit the [HBMS website](#).

Throughout 28 years of Holiday Dinner & Auction, Historic Bethlehem Museums & Sites supporters have welcomed over 600 works of art from local artists into their homes across the region and country, and a few works have even found residence in other countries. If you have purchased artwork through HBMS and are interested in loaning it to be exhibited, you can fill out the [online form](#).

*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’s 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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