



Spring 2021 Programs

Museum Hours

Covid-19 mitigations remain in place. Physical distancing and face coverings are required at the Museum.

Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Mondays.

Closed April 4, Easter Sunday.

Visit us and shop online at
lizzadromuseum.org

1220 Kensington Road, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523
630-833-1616 | info@lizzadromuseum.org



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Smithsonian
Affiliate

Admission

\$10.00 Adults, \$8.00 Seniors

\$5 Students, Teenagers, Children 7-12

Free for children under 7 yrs.

Wednesday is Free Day.

Members of the Lizzadro Museum and
active members of the Armed Forces
are admitted free of charge any day
the Museum is open to the public.

Accessibility

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

Volunteering

Volunteering forms are available online.



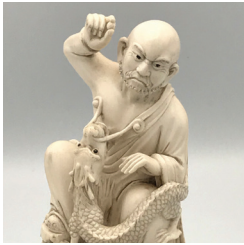
[@lizzadromuseum](https://www.instagram.com/lizzadromuseum)

The Lizzadro Museum Free Day
is sponsored by:



Wealth
Management

Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity
Business Interruption Grants Program (BIG)



Special Exhibit

Fan Favorites from the Lizzadro Collection continues through August 29, 2021

Missing some of your favorite pieces in the Museum? Re-visit the "Jade" Bi, the 18 Lohans, and the Rock Café! See works by American lapidaries and the jadeite table screen from the Chang Collection. Learn fun facts about each piece in the exhibit.

Upcoming Programs at the Lizzadro

April through June 2021



Saturday, April 10th and Saturday June 19th Virtual Class: **Rockin' Jewelry**

Children can make their own gemstone jewelry with the Rockin' Jewelry kit and virtual class. Purchase your \$15.00 kit to reserve your space and get your link. Learn to make a necklace, key-chain and pin. Completes the Jewelry Badge for Girl Scouts.

1:30 p.m. – 60 minutes - Live Virtual Class with Instructor – Ages 8 yrs. & up

Limited class size: Purchase your kit online or pick-up at the Museum Shop.

Register for class at <https://lizzadro-museum.ticketleap.com/virtual-rockin-jewelry-class/>



Saturday, April 24th and Saturday June 19th Virtual Class: **Rock & Mineral ID**

Geologist, Sara Kurth teaches the techniques for rock and mineral identification. Purchase your 10 specimen \$15.00 kit to reserve your space and get your link. Join us from home to learn how to identify your rocks and minerals. Completes the earth science badges for Cub and Boy Scouts.

10:30 a.m. – 60-minutes - Live Virtual Class with Instructor – Ages 8 yrs. & up

Limited class size: Purchase your kit online or pick-up at the Museum Shop.

Register for class at <https://lizzadro-museum.ticketleap.com/virtual-mineral-identification-class/>



Saturday, May 8

Virtual Lecture: **All that Glitters is Not Gold: Alchemy and the Origins of Chemistry**

Science historians have been delving into original alchemical texts and are upending the view of alchemists as mere occultists or frauds. Many alchemists made systematic studies that prefigured what is now modern chemistry. Join Dr. Kathleen Martin as she explores the world of alchemy from a historical science perspective.

2 p.m. – 60-minutes - Live Presentation Virtual Lecture - Free Program - Recommended for Students and Adults

Join the Zoom lecture on our website calendar: <https://lizzadromuseum.org/calendar/>



Saturday, May 22 On-site Activity: **Reading the Rocks**

Interpretive in-person program outdoors in the Museum's rock garden with our educator Geologist, Sara Kurth, focuses on the different types of rocks and minerals commonly found outside. Then explore inside the Museum and take the scavenger hunt quiz. Physical distancing and face coverings are required.

10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 30-minute outdoors (weather permitting) and 30-minute indoor scavenger hunt.

Ages 6 and up – Limited Capacity - General Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Register online: <https://lizzadro-museum.ticketleap.com/reading-the-rocks/>



Saturday, June 5 On-site Activity: **Stone Hunt**

This hands-on activity allows children and adults to search for gems and minerals among more common rocks. Learn the difference between rocks and minerals and how to distinguish between them. Each rock or mineral found is identified and can be taken home. Rocks from home can be brought in for identification.

10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – 45 minutes - Limited Capacity - Outdoor program (weather permitting).

Ages 5 and up – \$5.00 per child, General Museum Admission for Adults and Seniors – Museum Members Free.

Register online: <https://lizzadro-museum.ticketleap.com/stone-hunt/>

Rockhounding in the Midwest

by Sara Kurth, Museum Educator

Last year we had to cancel all of our fossil collecting trips and most likely again this year too. If you're missing rockhounding as much as we are, we have some hot tips for collecting on your own right here in the Midwest!



Mazon Creek fern fossil, *Alethopteris*.

Of course, there's the ever-popular Mazon Creek fossils! The Mazonia-Braidwood State Fish and Wildlife Area is the site of historic Pit 11, where many Mazon fossils have been found. The mounds are remnants of coal mining days, some full of fossil concretions. A day permit is required and fossil hunters can bring a 5-gallon bucket to haul out fossils. Digging is strictly prohibited in this area. Fossil collecting is available between March 1 and September 30. The road out to prime fossil areas is restricted to authorized vehicles only. Due to the site's popularity, as well as the difficult terrain, fossil collecting at Pit 11 can be quite daunting with little success; however other cool rocks and minerals can be found. Folks with boats may have an easier time reaching more remote locations in the area, but strict rules are in place. For more information about Mazonia-Braidwood SFWA or to obtain a permit, visit: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/Parks/Activity/Pages/Mazonia-Braidwood.aspx>.

If you've been driving east on 294/80 towards Indiana, you have driven over one of the world's largest aggregate quarries, Thornton Quarry. This limestone quarry is 450-feet deep, 1.5 miles long, and half a mile-wide. Formed during the Silurian age, approximately 440 million years ago, the limestone is a product of a tropical sea that covered the Chicago region. Within the rocks, ancient sea creatures including coral, crinoids, trilobites, cephalopods, brachiopods, and gastropods have been encased. Thornton Quarry and other Chicago area and Wisconsin quarries have been utilized for construction purposes. Thornton alone produces over seven million tons of rock products (sand, gravel, slag, etc.) a year¹. This is the only quarry that is "open" for general tours, although tours happen only on the first Saturdays of June and October and are fully booked through 2022. In order to visit other limestone quarries in the area, folks need to be part of a group, like the tours hosted by the Lizzadro Museum and ESCONI. Most quarries have strict policies regarding individuals who collect in their facilities. Whether or not you live near a quarry, fossils can be found nearly everywhere in Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin and lower Michigan. Just get a good fossil book, look closely at sedimentary rocks, and you will start to see remnants of creatures from long ago.



Rockford quarry fossil of a gastropod.



Hamilton, Illinois geode.

If you're willing to travel a bit, the Keokuk geodes in Iowa, Illinois, and Missouri are a rockhounds treasure chest! There are over 300 outcrops, mostly in streambeds, where geodes have been found within 100 miles of Keokuk, Iowa. The Warsaw Formation is a dolomite-rich limestone and mudstone, formed during the Mississippian period, approximately 350 million years ago². It is still unclear as to why geodes formed, although many interesting ideas abound. The book "Geodes: Nature's Treasures" gives an excellent interpretation. The Keokuk geodes have inclusions of all varieties, including calcite, pyrite, kaolinite, malachite, and even gas and oil! If you go geode-hunting, you will need to make sure to check with the site you're visiting as most of the hunting locations are on private property and have specific rules about bringing out geodes. For free collecting sites, Google geode collecting in Illinois and Iowa.

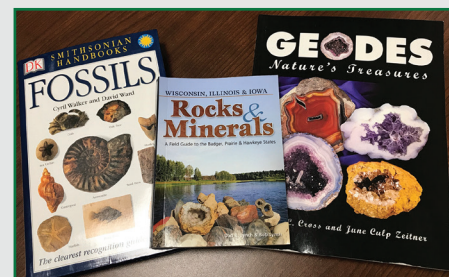
Our neighbor to the north, Wisconsin, is home to some amazing rocks and opportunities for collecting. If you dig spelunking, then Cave of the Mounds is for you! Less than an hour from Madison, this limestone cave features awesome stalactites and stalagmites, as well as gorgeous hiking trails to see karst topography – the landscapes shaped by cave systems.

Once you're in Wisconsin, you might as well take a trip to Lake Superior to look for Lake Superior agates! These agates were formed when a volcanic rift began opening in the middle of the United States. This rift produced lava, which covered the basin that is now Lake Superior. Within that lava, vesicles, or air bubbles formed. Over time, those vesicles filled in with silica-rich water, leaving a coating of silica, or quartz within the cavity. These quartz-filled cavities eventually led to the formation of beautiful agates, known as Lake Superior agates. For rock hunters taking a trip along the shores of Lake Superior, spotting an agate can take time and patience, but it is great fun picking through all the other interesting stones along the lakeshore. Due to the glacial activity, Lake Superior agates can be found in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan's Upper Peninsula, northern Iowa, and even in gravel deposits along the Mississippi River basin.



Lake Superior agates and beach stones.

At first glance, a lot of folks overlook Illinois and the surrounding Midwest as “boring” due to the lack of mountains, earthquakes, and volcanoes. But the geologic history of the upper Midwest is one not left unexplored. We hope to be back to rockhounding again soon, but in the meantime, get out there and explore this amazing area!



More collecting books available in the Museum Shop.

References

1. Eisenberg, Paul. “Thornton Quarry transformation part of ‘largest civil engineering project on Earth.’” *Northwest Indiana Times*, 2015.
2. Cross, Brad L. and June Culp Zeitner. “Geodes: Nature’s Treasures.” *Gem Guides Book Co.*, 2006.

15 Days in May *Members Sale!*

Looking for a gift for Moms, Dads and Grads?
Members can double their 10% discount to 20% off
from May 1- May 15, 2021.
Come in to the Museum Shop or shop online!

As of March 1, 2021, Dr. Tongyun Yin has left the Lizzadro Museum. We are grateful for her in-depth research of the Lizzadro Collection and help in opening our new location in Oak Brook. We wish her all the best in her new position as Asian Arts curator at the Harn Museum of Art in Gainesville, Florida.