



LIZZADRO MUSEUM OF LAPIDARY ART

NEWSLETTER & CALENDAR OF EVENTS SUMMER 2018



Museum Hours

Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Mondays & Major Holidays.
Closed 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 a 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



Volunteer forms are available.



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The Origin of Birthstones

Often the first piece of jewelry a child receives is a tiny ring or locket containing his or her birthstone. Have you ever wondered who invented birthstones and why?

Birthstones are not a modern concept. In ancient times the Romans, Hebrews, and early Arabs also ascribed significance to certain gems in certain seasons. Various stones were thought to possess a variety of powers that could influence lives.

The origin of birthstones can be traced back to the breastplate of Aaron, High Priest of the Hebrews. In about 1250 B.C., according to the Bible (Exodus 28), God told Moses to fashion a breastplate for his brother Aaron. The breastplate measured roughly nine inches square. It was a folded fabric pouch made from twilled linen woven with threads of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet. The face of the breastplate had four rows of three stones each representing the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Each stone possessed a special power for the wearer. It was believed certain stones had special abilities for the person who wore them either by protecting them or bringing them luck. When all the stones were worn together they would make Aaron invincible and protect him from harm.

According to *Gemstones of the Bible* written by gemologist Percy H. Perkins, Jr. the breastplate may have been adorned by the following gems in this order:

- Row 1: emerald, peridot, carnelian
- Row 2: rock crystal quartz, lapis lazuli, garnet
- Row 3: amethyst, agate, zircon
- Row 4: jasper, onyx, citrine



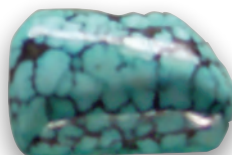
Lapis Lazuli is one of the Biblical stones used in Aaron's Breastplate.

Depending on the translation you read, and there are many different translations, these stones may be interpreted differently or found in a different place on the breastplate. All of the stones on the breastplate are believed to have been cut in cabochon form.

Another reference to the power of gemstones is found in the Bible (Revelation 21) where the construction of the foundation of Jerusalem is described. It too was to be adorned with twelve gemstones, three on each of its four sides. The powerful combined forces of these

twelve gemstones would provide maximum protection for the city of Jerusalem and confer all their virtues on its citizens. According to Percy, a connection between the stones of Aaron's breastplate and the order of the New Jerusalem foundation stones determine the succession of birthstones by month. At that time the first month of the year was March. The numerically listed foundation stones translate as: 1) jasper, 2) sapphire, 3) agate, 4) emerald, 5) onyx, 6) carnelian, 7) peridot, 8) beryl, 9) topaz, 10) chrysoprase, 11) zircon or garnet, 12) amethyst.

In certain translations turquoise is placed as the eighth stone on Aaron's breastplate. But according to the *Jewish Encyclopedia* the eighth stone is translated as a sky blue agate. Prior to scientific tests to determine a gem's composition Biblical names and gem colors were often confused.



Persian turquoise is one of the oldest gems used in jewelry.

One begins to see how the ancient importance of stones and modern translations can vary according to interpretation. However, turquoise was not forgotten, as it became the primary birthstone for December. Bracelets of cast gold and turquoise were found on the 7,500 year old Egyptian mummy of Queen Zer. Excavated in 1900, the bracelets are the oldest known gemstone jewelry.

Astrologers linked gemstones to the twelve signs of the zodiac and believed the stones manifested their greatest influence under their respective signs. However, since the zodiac is not based specifically on the twelve months of the calendar, it proved to be an unwieldy and confusing system for assigning birthstones. Lists of beneficial stones and superstitions were created through the centuries by many cultures and countries which differ from the birthstone rosters.

Through the years changes have been made to our list of accepted birthstones resulting in some months having one or two alternate stones, as well as primary stones. Many of the Biblical stones still hold a position of primary or alternate stones. In some instances



Bloodstone, also known as heliotrope, was named for the spilling of Christ's blood on green jasper during the Crucifixion.

the changes were made to avoid duplication of colors. We see the green of the new leaves and dew-tipped grass of springtime in May's emerald; the soft light of the summer moon in June's pearl; the warm glow of a winter fireplace in January's garnet.

In 1912 the American National Retail Jewelers Association created an "official" list of birthstones. The American Gem Society and the American Association of Jewelers adopted this list in 1952.

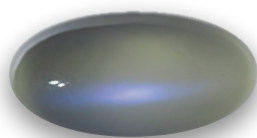
Month	Primary Birthstone	Alternate Birthstone
January	Garnet	Rose Quartz
February	Amethyst	Onyx (banded chalcedony)
March	Aquamarine	Bloodstone Jasper
April	Diamond	Rock Crystal Quartz
May	Emerald	Chrysoprase
June	Pearl	Moonstone and Alexandrite
July	Ruby	Carnelian agate
August	Peridot	Aventurine
September	Sapphire	Lapis Lazuli
October	Opal	Tourmaline
November	Topaz	Citrine
December	Turquoise	Zircon

Gems have come to symbolize many occasions. Gems link us to the treasures of the earth.

Wearing your birthstone or any gem makes one feel special. Perhaps, that is the true power of gemstones. All of the birthstones and alternates listed in this article are on permanent display at the Museum.

*This article was excerpted and re-edited for this newsletter by Dorothy J. Asher from previous Museum articles written by LaVergne Novak and Amanda Hart with source reference from **The Gemstones Of The Bible** by Percy H. Perkins, Jr., G.G., second edition © 1981. For more on birthstones including a description on each month's primary and alternate stones see Lizzadro Museum Publication Winter/Spring 1993.*

Gemologist, Sakina Bharani will present "What is my Birthstone?" at the Museum on September 22 at 2 p.m. Reservations are recommended.



Moonstone is considered a sacred stone in India.

Experience Chakra Stones



This summer, the Museum presents a special exhibit about chakras and associated healing stones. Chakras are energy points connected to the physical body via energetic layers (subtle bodies) commonly known as the auric field. To better understand this exhibit, the Museum is hosting a lecture and two yoga sessions related to the mystical and metaphysical methods of chakras.

On Saturday July 21st and September 8th at 9 a.m., we welcome Ahimsa Yoga Studios -Elmhurst instructor, JoAnn Concialdi. The sessions are geared for all-levels of yoga ability. Each class will focus on connecting to the energies of the chakras. Classes will be held in the peaceful surroundings of the Museum's lower level Rock & Mineral Experience and require comfortable clothes and yoga mat. Space is limited and reservations are required. Call the Museum to register.

Then on September 8th at 2 p.m., Ann O'Malley, RN, HTCP-I, will present a lecture about chakras used in Healing Touch therapy. Ann is a certified Healing Touch Practitioner-Instructor. She has also received training in Native American Medicine and uses many tools to assist in healing including: hands, drum or rattle, feathers, crystals and spiritual counseling. Ann has incorporated energy-based forms of healing in her private practice for over 20 years. Reservations for the lecture are recommended.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2018

SPECIAL EXHIBIT CAMEOS & CHAKRAS THROUGH SEPTEMBER 16, 2018



Explore two exhibits that focus on meditation. Italian shell cameos of Christian themes depict the Stations of the Cross and Saints. The Chakra Stones developed from ancient Indian influences and correspond to one's positive awareness.

JULY 14

Fossil Collecting Field Trip

Travel by motor coach to Irene Quarry in Rockford, Illinois. Collect Ordovician Period marine fossil in dolomitic limestone. This is a working quarry with fresh spoil piles. Collectable fossils include brachiopods, cephalopods, corals, crinoids, gastropods, and more.

Field Trip - Ages 8 years to Adult

Time 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fee: \$45.00 per person

Museum Members \$40.00

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616



Chakra Yoga at the Lizzadro

Join Ahimsa Yoga Studios - Elmhurst instructor, JoAnn Concialdi, for an all-levels yoga class focusing on connecting to the energies of the chakras amidst the peaceful stone exhibits. Please bring your own mat and any props you typically use. Make reservations early as space is limited.

Classes: July 21 & Sept. 8

9:00 a.m. - 60 minutes

Ages 18 and up

Fee: \$10.00 per person

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

JULY 21

Start Your Rockin' Collection

Create your very own, personalized rock collection! Cartons and materials for decoration are provided. Each child can choose several rocks to start or fill in their collection carton. Rocks from home can also be brought in for identification.

Workshop - 2:00 p.m. - 45 minutes

Ages 5 to 10 years

Fee: \$5.00 per person

Museum Members Free

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616



AUGUST 18

Fossil Collecting Field Trip

Travel by motor coach to Mulford Quarry in Rockford, Illinois. There has been recent blasting at this quarry, revealing a new layer of collectable fossils. These dolomitic limestone rocks are Ordovician in age and contain abundant fossils including brachiopods, cephalopods, corals, crinoids, gastropods, and more.

Field Trip - Ages 8 years to Adult

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fee: \$45.00 per person

Museum Members \$40.00

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

AUGUST 25

Volcanoes

Geologist Sara Kurth presents an interactive lecture on volcanoes. Discuss how volcanoes work, and compare different eruption styles. Focus on recent eruptions and explore how volcanoes can affect local and global communities. Hands-on specimens will be available.

Lecture - 2 p.m. - 60 minutes

Youth to Adult

Regular Museum Admission

Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended



LIZZADRO MUSEUM OF LAPIDARY ART

220 Cottage Hill Ave.

Elmhurst, IL 60126

630-833-1616

We would like to hear from you.

Please direct questions or comments

to: info@lizzadromuseum.org



SEPTEMBER 8

Chakra Stones Lecture

Ann O'Malley, RN, HTCP-I, is certified as a Healing Touch Practitioner and Instructor. She presents the colors of chakra and how they relate to one's personal awareness and well-being.

Lecture - Youth to Adult

2 p.m. - 60 minutes

Regular Museum Admission

Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended

SEPTEMBER 15

Rock and Mineral Identification Class

Geologist Sara Kurth presents an introduction to rocks and minerals. Learn to identify minerals through basic hand-on identification including observation skills and hardness tests. Great for rockhounds and scouts, adult supervision is required.

Class - 10:30 a.m. - 75 minutes

Ages 8 years to Adult

Fee: \$5.00 per person

Museum Members \$3.00

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616

SEPTEMBER 15

Rockin' Jewelry for Kids

Children can make their own gemstone jewelry to keep. Choose two different types of jewelry to make with stones from the Museum Shop and learn how to work with jeweler's tools. Completes Girl Scout Jeweler's badge.

Class - 1:30 p.m. - 75 minutes

Ages 8 to 16 years

Fee: \$10.00 per person

Reservations Required: (630) 833-1616



SEPTEMBER 22

What is my Birthstone?

Throughout history, people have given poetic meanings to various gemstones. The birthstones and their meanings vary across cultures. Gemologist, Sakina Bharani presents the historical stories and modern background of birthstones along with the gemological aspects of these gems.

Lecture - Youth to Adult

2 p.m. - 60 minutes

Regular Museum Admission

Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended

