



Summer 2025 Programs

Museum Hours

Walk-Ins are welcome!

Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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

The Museum is closed on Mondays

Holiday Hours

Closed Friday July 4

Receive up-to-date info on programs and exhibits, shop online, and sign-up for Museum e-news at lizzadromuseum.org

Museum Memberships and Museum Rental information available on our website and at the Reception desk.



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



Smithsonian
Affiliate



Active-duty military personnel and their families
receive free admission through September 1st, 2025

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



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The Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council.

The Lizzadro Museum Free Day
is partially sponsored by:



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Special Exhibit Ends August 31, 2025

Fan Favorites

We asked and you chose! On display are the Fabergé-style flowers and Fabergé-style animals, all carved in Idar-Oberstein, Germany; the stone butterflies created in Oregon using stones from the Pacific Northwest; and Sylvia's Rock Café – a collection of rocks and minerals that look like food! Come see your favorites by Labor Day!

Regular Museum Admission – Regular Museum Hours

Lizzadro Museum Programs

July through September 2025



Saturday July 12 **Mysterious Geodes**

Did you know that ordinary looking rocks can hide dazzling crystal worlds inside? Geodes are nature's hidden treasures – spherical, hollow wonders lined with sparkling crystals! Join us as we explore the fascinating theories behind how geodes form and discover where these natural marvels are found around the world. After the presentation, you'll get to crack open your very own geode and uncover the mystery within! Bring your own rock hammer and an old sock to collect the pieces. Each participant receives two geodes to crack open.

Lecture/Activity – 2:00 p.m. – 75-minutes – Ages 7 and up

Fee: \$10 per Person – Museum Members \$5

Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org



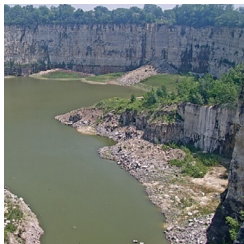
Saturday July 19 **The First Cut: Soap Carving for Future Stone Artists**

Many great stone carvers begin with soap. Join Jyl Bonguro, Italian marble carver from Chicago, for this hands-on workshop. Jyl will introduce the basics of carving using soap a soft, accessible material. Learn essential techniques, practice tool control, and start developing the skills used by professional sculptors—all while creating your own mini masterpieces

Workshop 2:00 p.m. – 60-minutes – Ages 8 and up

Fee: \$25.00 per Person – Museum Members 10% off

Limited Capacity – Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Friday August 8 **Where Water Leads: A Geoheritage Tour of the Elmhurst Quarries and Oak Brook Water Ways**

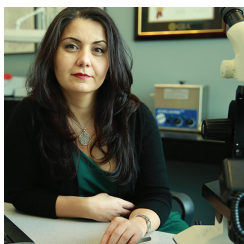
The Museum is partnering with SCARCE of Addison for a unique geoheritage tour exploring how water shapes and sustains our local environment! Discover how the Elmhurst quarries stores stormwater to prevent flooding, learn about the DuPage Water Commission's vital role in treating and distributing clean water, and explore how Fullersburg Woods Forest Preserve protects the Salt Creek watershed. This engaging trip blends science, history, and environmental stewardship. Perfect for nature lovers, students, and anyone curious about our community's connection to water!

PLEASE NOTE: This is not a collecting trip.

Field Trip – 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Ages 8 years and older

Fee: \$65 per Person – Museum Members 10% off

Registration Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday August 16 **Exploring Gemstones: An Introduction to Gemology**

Gemstones have dazzled humanity for centuries, symbolizing wealth, status, and personal expression. But what gives them their allure? Discover the science of gemology - the scientific journey into origins, properties, and mysteries of these natural treasures. Join Dr. Cigdem Lule for an introduction to the tools, techniques, and scientific scope of gemology. With strong interest, a series of in-depth workshops will be offered this winter, providing participants with practical experience using professional gemological equipment.

Lecture/Activity – 1:00 p.m. – 90 minutes

Students and Adults – Regular Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday August 23 **Volcano Day**

Volcanoes in Illinois?! Not recently, but come make your own volcanic eruption, watch a trash can volcano, and see the microscopic components of what makes up volcanic ash. Museum scientists will discuss eruption types and styles, as well as the benefits and hazards associated with volcanoes. At 2 p.m. geologist Sara Kurth will present "Minerals of Minecraft™: An Exploration of Obsidian." A vital piece in the world of Minecraft™, obsidian is formed through volcanic processes. Sara will discuss how obsidian forms, the variations of obsidian, and maybe dispel some myths surrounding this interesting rock. (*Not approved by or associated with Mojang)

Drop-in Activities – 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Lecture – 2:00 p.m. – 45 minutes

All Ages Welcome – \$5 per child – Regular Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday September 13 **The Fossil Record in the Far Future: Looking Back at the Anthropocene and the Sixth Extinction**

Paleontologists have identified five major extinction episodes in the fossil record, where over 75% of species went extinct. This has led to the modern biodiversity crisis being called the Sixth Extinction. It is extremely difficult, however, to compare the data used to measure extinctions in the geological past with that used to measure current extinctions. Join us as Dr. Roy Plotnick, author and professor emeritus of paleontology at University of Illinois, explores the hypothetical future fossil record and what it may look like.

Lecture – 2:00 p.m. – 60 minutes – Students and Adults

Regular Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday Sept 20 **Rock & Mineral Identification Class**

Join geologist Sara Kurth for a hands-on rock and mineral identification class. Learn to classify minerals using observation and hardness testing. Perfect for curious rock-hounds or scouts working on Earth Science badges, this class will deepen your understanding of earth science and teach you to identify rocks and minerals like a pro!

10:30 a.m. – 75-minutes – Ages 8 yrs. & up – \$10 per person – Museum Members Free

Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday Sept 20 **Rockin' Jewelry for Kids**

Unleash your creativity in this fun, hands-on jewelry-making workshop! Design your own unique gemstone creations—including a necklace, a keychain, and a pin. All materials are provided. Afterward, explore the Museum and enjoy a fun scavenger hunt. This workshop is the perfect way to delve into the world of stone jewelry.

1:30 p.m. – 45-minutes – Ages 8 yrs. & up – \$15 per person – Museum Members 10% off

Reservations Required – Register at www.lizzadromuseum.org



Saturday Sept 27 **West Suburban Lapidary Club Meetings**

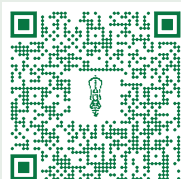
Curious about the craft of cutting and polishing stones? Join the West Suburban Lapidary Club (WSLC) for monthly meetings at the Museum, where you'll explore the fascinating world of lapidary art! Each session includes presentations and expert guidance on transforming rough stones into polished masterpieces. Check the Museum's digital newsletter for details on upcoming programs.

Club Meeting at 1:00 p.m., Program at 2:00 p.m. – 60-minutes

Teens to Adults Welcome – Regular Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended – Sign up at www.lizzadromuseum.org

Field Trip Assistance Grant



Applications for the **Field Trip Assistance Grant** are now available online at lizzadromuseum.org/field-trip-assistance or scan the QR code. This program will provide transportation and tour costs to eligible students in the Chicagoland area. Wintrust Bank is providing \$10,000 for eligible Title 1 schools and a Museum Board Member is sponsoring field trips for schools of the Diocese of Joliet.

Interested teachers and school districts should reach out to our Educator, Sara Kurth at educator@lizzadromuseum.org using the Subject Line: Field Trip Assistance Grant.



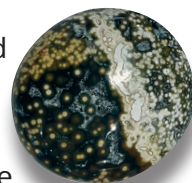
What's in a Name? The Many Faces of "Quartz"

by Sara Kurth

Quartz is one of the most well-known and beloved minerals, making up about 20% of the Earth's crust. While simple in composition, just silicon and oxygen, it is incredibly varied in appearance. While many recognize quartz as "rock crystal," amethyst, or citrine, it also forms the foundation of other popular stones like jasper and agate, a variety called chalcedony. Chalcedony is formed when water rich with dissolved silicon and oxygen flows through rocks, precipitating out microscopic quartz crystals into cavities within the rocks. Jaspers are opaque to slightly translucent chalcedony, typically colored by miniscule amounts of other chemical elements. Agates are a banded variety of chalcedony characterized by their distinctive concentric color bands. While most mineralogy classes lump chalcedony into one category, rock and mineral dealers have come up with clever titles to distinguish these stones from each other. These trade terms are commonly recognized in rock shops, including our Museum Shop! To help dispel the confusion, we have selected a few of the most common trade terms for popular "jaspers" and "agates" to explore their formation and appearance.

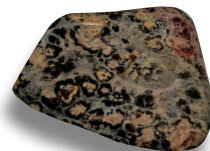
Ocean Jasper

Ocean jasper is mineralogically described as orbicular chalcedony that occurs in volcanic tuff and rhyolite flows. Spherical aggregates called spherulites form as mineral-rich fluids flow through the volcanic rocks and change the volcanic glass into orb-shaped crystals. Mineral impurities including iron oxides and manganese oxides give ocean jasper unique colors, including blue, green, brown, red, and yellow. While there are many so-called jaspers that demonstrate these orb-like patterns, Ocean Jasper is specific only to Madagascar.



Leopardskin Jasper

While similarly formed as Ocean Jasper, Leopardskin Jasper is not a jasper at all as it lacks chalcedony. It is a spherulitic rhyolite. Glassy particles in the rhyolite form spherulites and give the stone its spotted appearance.



Dalmatian Stone

"Dalmatian Stone," also called "Dalmatian Jasper," is a white to cream-colored material with black spots. It is an igneous rock, composed of a small amount of quartz and albite, a white plagioclase feldspar. The black spots are an amphibole mineral called Arfvedsonite. Scientists debate whether the stone forms in an intrusive or extrusive igneous setting. Although commonly referred to by its trade name, Dalmatian Stone is not considered a true jasper because it lacks chalcedony.



Crazy Lace Agate

Crazy Lace Agate, also called Mexican Agate, Dogtooth lace agate, and Red Lace Agate, all originate in Chihuahua, Mexico. The lace agates found in this area formed during the Cretaceous Period 90-65 million years ago. The intricate patterns appear as delicate pieces of lace, along with tubes, bands, and eyes. Pieces of calcite can be seen as inclusions, broken off during formation of the agate. It is found primarily in veins where water passed through the rock.



Moss Agate

This agate looks like moss growing within the stone. The tubes and holes within the agate are filled with the quartz polymorph cristobalite. Cristobalite has the same chemistry as quartz, but forms spherulites in obsidian (snowflake obsidian) and the dendritic tubes found in agates. While the colors of Moss agate can be highly varied, green is the most preferred color to collectors.



The names given to stones can often be misleading. Commonly used classifications don't always reflect how the stones were formed. At the Lizzadro Museum, we use trade names for many of our specimens, but we strive to be as clear as possible about the nature of each stone and to translate every unique story they represent. Come see our collection of specimens and bring home a piece from the Museum Shop!

References

Parting Shots: A Closer Look at Ocean Jasper, *Mineralogical Society of America Elements*, 2014, 10(5): 398. 5/29/2025.
Powolny, T. and Dumariska-Slowik, M. True Colors of Dalmatian Stone. *Gems & Gemology*, Fall 2017, V. 53, N. 3.
Zenz, Johann. Agates II. 2009.