

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF SURGICAL SCIENCE



*North America's Only Museum
Devoted to Surgery*

 International Museum of Surgical Science
A Division of the International College of Surgeons



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HOURS

Monday – Friday:
9:30am – 5pm

Saturday and Sunday:
10am – 5pm

ADMISSION

\$17 for adults

\$13 for students,
educators, military, and
seniors w/ID

\$9 for youth (4-13)




Free admission on
Tuesdays for IL residents

CONTACT

1524 N Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60610

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 Follow us
 @surgicalmuseumchicago
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Discounted validated parking is available at the following locations:

- 1 1445 N State Pkwy (entrance on E Burton Pl)
- 2 1350 N Lake Shore Dr (entrance on E Banks St)
- 3 N Clark St and LaSalle (entrance on N Stockton Dr)

EDUCATION

The Museum's collections, appropriate for grades 5 and up, include art and artifacts that deal with surgery as well as history, science, health, and cultural studies. A field trip to the Museum can be used to complement classroom topics ranging from human anatomy to medical careers and history.

Activities include: Guided and self-guided tours, amputation demonstrations, surgical tool identification activities, scavenger hunts and more! School and adult programs are available for groups of 10 or more and receive a group rate.

HOST YOUR EVENT

The International Museum of Surgical Science is a distinctive venue available for your next private event, lecture, meeting or filming shoot. Events hosted at the Museum offer guests an elegant setting, interesting exhibits and breathtaking views of Lake Michigan just minutes from Downtown Chicago. Few other venues offer such an opulent setting in this beautifully preserved early 20th-century mansion.



SUPPORT THE MUSEUM

The Museum is a great place to visit all year long. Become a Museum Member today to receive FREE admission on return visits, and many more benefits! All members also receive ASTC Passport Program benefits.



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\$2 OFF ADMISSION

One coupon applies to whole party.
Cannot be combined with any other discounts or offers.



HISTORIC HOME

The historic lakeside mansion that is now the International Museum of Surgical Science was constructed in 1917, under the careful direction of Eleanor Robinson Countiss to house her family. The elegant structure was designed to follow the historic lines of the famed Le Petit Trianon of Versailles, France. The noted Chicago architect, Howard Van Doren Shaw, was hired to design the Countiss Mansion.

Original interior finishes of polished limestone, Italian marble, decorative plaster, brass fixtures and hardware, eight stone fireplaces, and a gilded metal staircase are among the features which have been preserved.

One of the few remaining lakefront mansions in Chicago, and the only one open to the public, the building received historic status in 1988, and is listed in the National Register and the Illinois Register of Historic Places and is a City of Chicago Landmark.

GIFT SHOP

The Museum Gift Shop is stocked with medical related and humorous apparel, plushies, cards, gifts, books and much more!

Visit imss.ecwid.com for our online shop.



Photography by Ryan Robinson/Michael Robinson and Chrissy Deming Photography

MISSION

The International Museum of Surgical Science, a division of the International College of Surgeons (ICS), maintains over 10,000 square feet of public galleries committed to the history of surgery, and an exquisite permanent collection of art and artifacts from the history of Medicine. The Museum supports its Mission through medically themed exhibitions and programs, in addition to a strong contemporary art exhibition program.

The Mission of the Museum is to enrich people's lives by enhancing their appreciation and understanding of the history, development, and advances in surgery and related subjects in health and medicine.

Since 1954, the Museum has provided education on the history and progress of surgery and related medical sciences to hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world.

HISTORY

Dr. Max Thorek founded the International College of Surgeons in 1935 with the goal of promoting the exchange of surgical knowledge worldwide. The Museum was originally conceived as the *Surgeon's Hall of Fame*, and beginning in 1950 the College received donations of objects and artwork from many of the national sections of the ICS, individual surgeons, collectors and other institutions. Shipments of artifacts, paintings, sculptures and books arrived, and the Museum began to take shape. To house the Museum, the historic lakeside mansion was acquired, adjacent to the ICS headquarters, and the Museum opened its doors in 1954.

EXHIBITS

The Museum's four floors are filled with extraordinary artifacts, as well as paintings, illustrations, murals, and sculptures that interpret the pre-modern and modern healing practices of human civilization. From early practices to today's revolutionary techniques, the Museum's collections and exhibitions portray the mysteries, breakthroughs, failures, and milestones that have shaped modern surgical science.

Housed in what was historically the study, the Thorek Manuscripts and Rare Books Collection consists of over 1,000 rare texts, spans over 1,200 years of history and over 500 feet of shelving.

For our rotating exhibition calendar, visit www.imss.org/exhibits.



CONTEMPORARY ART

The Museum supports a commitment to contemporary art and artists through exhibitions and programs that use the frame of contemporary artistic practice to examine new perspectives in surgical science, medicine and the body. The Museum's Contemporary Arts Initiative includes rotating exhibitions of contemporary art, as well as an ongoing Artist-in-Residence program.