

Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts



Bring your Holiday House Tour guidebook to the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts to view the main floor exhibits including “Gilded: Objects of Luxury.” Enjoy four centuries of breathtaking artwork and decorative objects including china, silver, jewelry, and textiles.

The Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts is housed in three interconnected mid-1800s homes featuring changing exhibits, period rooms, and galleries highlighting furniture, paintings, china, clothing, and silver. This museum speaks to the changes in style and design over three centuries.

The Kemerer Museum is named for Annie S. Kemerer who was born in 1865 just south of Bethlehem. Annie married into a prominent Bethlehem family; she and her husband had one son. Annie and her family enjoyed surrounding themselves with beautiful furniture, paintings, and decorative objects.

After the untimely deaths of her son and then her husband, she became a recluse but continued to be an avid collector of antiques. Through her generous bequest, the Kemerer Museum of Decorative Arts was established in Bethlehem after her death in 1951. Annie Kemerer’s extensive personal collection includes lovely examples of Pennsylvania German textiles, exquisite furniture, priceless Bohemian glass, and her breathtaking 200-piece wedding china.