

THE JEAN & ALFRED GOLDSTEIN EXHIBITION SERIES

TIFFANY

THE PURSUIT OF BEAUTY IN NATURE

 **SELBY GARDENS**
THE LIVING MUSEUM® • DOWNTOWN SARASOTA



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THE PURSUIT OF BEAUTY IN NATURE

The 2023 installment of the Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition Series showcases the creativity and innovation of the American artist and designer Louis Comfort Tiffany (1848-1933), who founded Tiffany Studios and served as the first design director of Tiffany & Co., the renowned jewelry and silver firm established by his father. *Tiffany: The Pursuit of Beauty in Nature* is the first exhibition of its type to be presented in a botanical garden, a particularly appropriate setting in which to highlight the connection between Tiffany's work and the natural world.

Tiffany's leaded-glass windows and lamps are the inspiration for stunning horticultural displays in the Tropical Conservatory and throughout the Gardens. These kaleidoscopic displays of flowers and foliage play with light, color, and material to create a truly immersive experience that blurs the line between art and nature.

Accompanying the horticultural displays are outstanding examples of Tiffany's work, in various media, on view in the Museum of Botany & the Arts. These spectacular windows, lamps, vases, and other objects are used to tell the story of how Tiffany and his talented team of designers and craftspeople succeeded in bringing the beauty of nature into homes across America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Clematis vine window
Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1906



TROPICAL CONSERVATORY

The dazzling horticultural displays in the Tropical Conservatory draw inspiration from a number of Tiffany-related sources, ranging from leaded-glass windows and lamps to the architecture of

Laurelton Hall, Tiffany's home on Long Island. The displays also incorporate naturalistic elements of the Art Nouveau style with which Tiffany was closely associated.

GARDENS

LEAD BEDS

The borders of these plantings, featuring Neoregelias, reference the leading that frames the brightly colored glass of Tiffany's windows and lamps.

ROOTED IN NATURE

The incredible roots of Selby Gardens' iconic Moreton Bay fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) frame more than 1,000 colorful Guzmanias in the ultimate homage to Tiffany's leaded glass.

SUCCULENTS IN SILHOUETTE

The spectrum of colored panels that lines the Succulent Garden features stylized silhouettes of *Agave americana*, commonly known as the century plant.

SUNSET ON PALMS

Three decorative panels cast the colors of sunset on a cluster of palms including, from left to right, *Bismarckia nobilis* (Bismarck palm), *Archontophoenix alexandrae* (King Alexander palm), and *Dypsis lutescens* (areca palm).

LIVING LAMPSHADE

The distinctive form of this extraordinary gazebo, decorated with an orchid-inspired design, references the leaded-glass shades of the lamps for which Tiffany Studios is now best remembered. Under the gazebo is a bubbling fountain and an attractive flower bed.

FLOWING FLOWER

A mosaic of crushed glass, colored stones, flowing water, and lush plants creates a picture of a wildflower in a landscape.

TIFFANY IN GLORY

Decorated with morning glory flowers, the triumphal entryway into the Museum of Botany & the Arts celebrates Tiffany's creativity and imagination.

See map at back of guide for locations. @a9 ;mMl



TIFFANY IN QUOTES

Throughout the Gardens are excerpts from *The Art Work of Louis C. Tiffany*, written by Charles de Kay and published in 1914. Tiffany's children commissioned this book to provide a record of their father's accomplishments.

The Art Work of Louis C. Tiffany, 1914

© Metropolitan Museum of Art

LOUIS COMFORT TIFFANY



Louis Comfort Tiffany was one of the most influential American artists and designers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. He began his career as a painter but later turned his attention to designing interiors and a wide range of decorative arts, including glass windows, lamps, and vases, as well as furniture, pottery, metalwork, enamels, and jewelry. Tiffany's work as an artist and designer was part of his life-long goal, which he described as "the pursuit of beauty."

Tiffany was closely associated with Art Nouveau, an international style of art and design characterized by organic line and natural form. Through the beautiful objects, in various media, produced to his designs, Tiffany was able to elevate the status of American decorative arts at home and abroad.

Louis Comfort Tiffany, c. 1920s

The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art, Winter Park, Florida
© Charles Hosmer Morse Foundation, Inc.

TIFFANY TIMELINE

- 1848** – Louis Comfort Tiffany is born in New York City
- 1878** – Louis C. Tiffany & Company is established
- 1882** – Tiffany is commissioned by President Chester A. Arthur to decorate rooms in the White House
- 1893** – Tiffany is awarded 54 medals at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago
- 1899** – Tiffany debuts leaded-glass lamps at an exhibition in London
- 1900** – Tiffany is awarded the grand prize for applied arts at the Exposition Universelle in Paris
- 1902** – Tiffany becomes the first design director of Tiffany & Co. following the death of his father
- 1902** – Tiffany Studios is incorporated
- 1902** – Tiffany begins construction of Laurelton Hall, his home on Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island
- 1914** – *The Art Work of Louis C. Tiffany* is published
- 1918** – The Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation is established at Laurelton Hall to support the work of other artists and maintain Tiffany's estate as a museum of his personal collection
- 1932** – Tiffany Studios files for bankruptcy
- 1933** – Louis Comfort Tiffany dies in New York City

Fish and irises mosaic
Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1906



TIFFANY LAMPS

Tiffany's interest in lighting grew out of his work as an interior designer and increased with the adoption of electricity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Tiffany debuted his leaded-glass lamps at an exhibition in London in 1899. They are now the luxury items for which he and his company are best remembered.

Although the lamps were produced using patterns, each is unique due to the varied colors of the individual pieces of glass selected. The lamps are further distinguished by the varied combinations of their parts, including shades, bases, and heat caps.



Daffodil lamp

Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1910
Probably designed by Clara Driscoll
(American, 1861-1944)

The popular daffodil design of this bronze and leaded-glass table lamp exemplifies the interest of Tiffany and his team in nature as a source of artistic inspiration.



Dragonfly lamp

Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1906
Probably designed by Clara Driscoll
(American, 1861-1944)

This iconic table lamp features a leaded-glass shade with a dragonfly design and a rare, arrowhead-leaf base of bronze and Favrile glass mosaic.



Laburnum lamp

Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1910

This beautiful table lamp consists of a contoured, leaded-glass shade of pendulous golden flowers of the laburnum tree, set on a bronze base in the shape of a Roman column.



Lotus, Pagoda lamp

Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1905

This bronze and leaded-glass table lamp features a parasol-like, lotus-inspired shade evoking a Japanese aesthetic, which Tiffany greatly admired.

FAVRILE GLASS

Tiffany began studying the science of glassmaking in his mid-twenties. His experiments with glass led to new and innovative glassmaking techniques. These included the blending together of different colors in the molten state, which resulted in glass with a more varied palette than was previously possible.

Tiffany named the blown glass from his furnaces "Favrile," derived from an Old English word meaning handmade or handcrafted. Through the production of Favrile glass vases and other objects, Tiffany and his team were successful in raising the art of glassmaking to greater heights than ever before.



Jack-in-the-pulpit vase

Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1915
Designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany
(American, 1848-1933)

The iconic design of this Favrile glass vase is inspired by the elegant form of the flower of *Arisaema triphyllum*, commonly known as the jack-in-the-pulpit plant.



Gooseneck vase

Tiffany Studios, New York, c. 1907-1910
Designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany
(American, 1848-1933)

This green Favrile glass vase, with a sinuous neck resembling that of a goose, is decorated with a silvery-blue, iridescent "feather" design.



Floriform vase

Tiffany Glass and Decorating
Company, New York, c. 1899
Designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany
(American, 1848-1933)

This fine example of a floriform (flower-form) vase featuring a double, gourd-shaped cup with a ruffled rim is decorated with green striations resembling leaves.





Clara Driscoll (back row, far left) and the Tiffany Girls on the roof of Tiffany Studios, c. 1904-1905
The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art, Winter Park, Florida © Charles Hosmer Morse Foundation, Inc.

TIFFANY IN FLORIDA



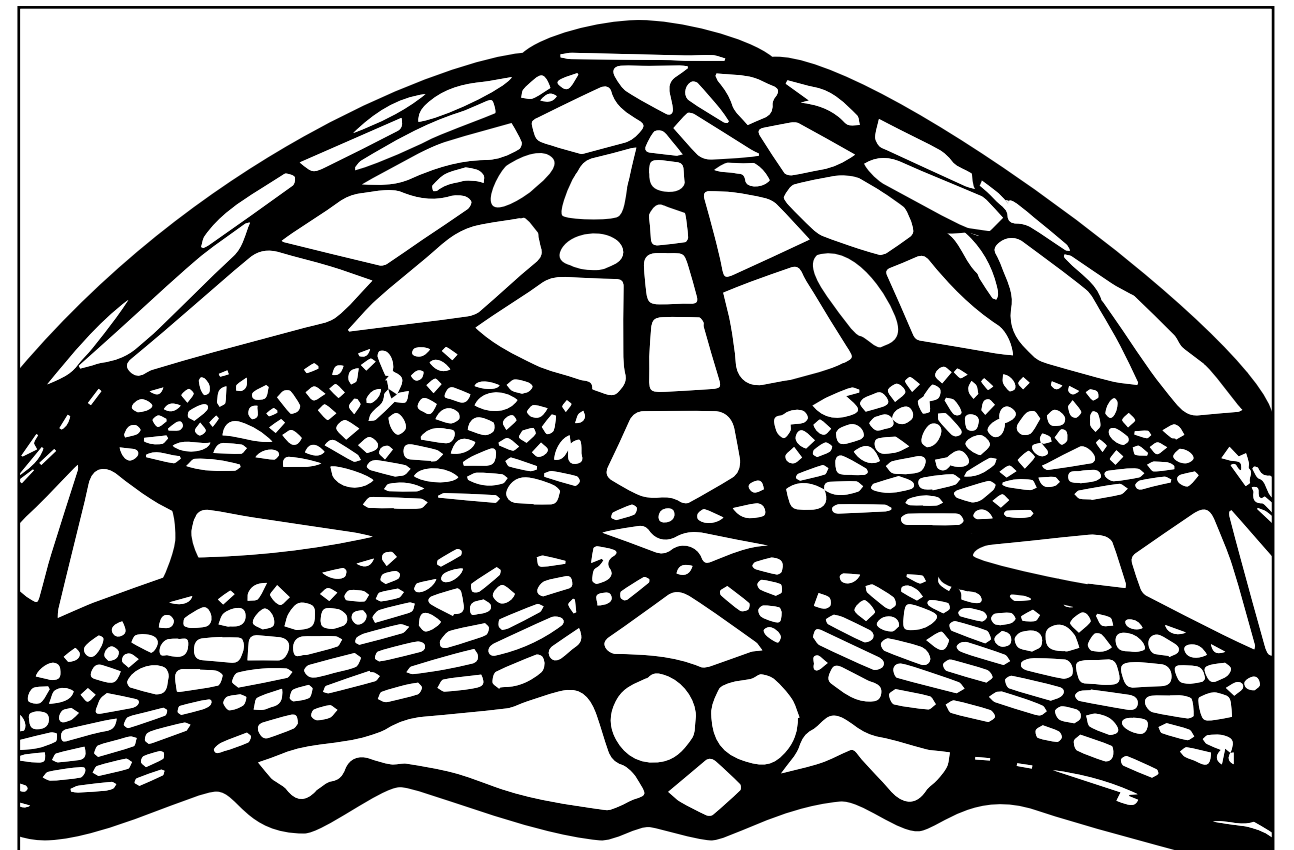
Can't get enough of Louis Comfort Tiffany? After enjoying *Tiffany: The Pursuit of Beauty in Nature* at Selby Gardens, consider exploring these other Tiffany connections to the Sunshine State.

- A. CHARLES HOSMER MORSE MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART, Winter Park**
This hidden gem just north of downtown Orlando houses the world's most comprehensive collection of Tiffany's work.
- B. COMFORT LODGE, Brickell Avenue, Miami**
The Brickell Place Condominiums now stand on the site of Comfort Lodge, Tiffany's winter home that once graced a stretch then known as Miami's "Millionaire Row."
- C. FLAGLER COLLEGE, St. Augustine**
The dining hall at Flagler College (formerly the dining room of the Hotel Ponce de León) features nearly 80 leaded-glass windows by Tiffany.

FAMILY FUN

DRAGONFLY DESIGN

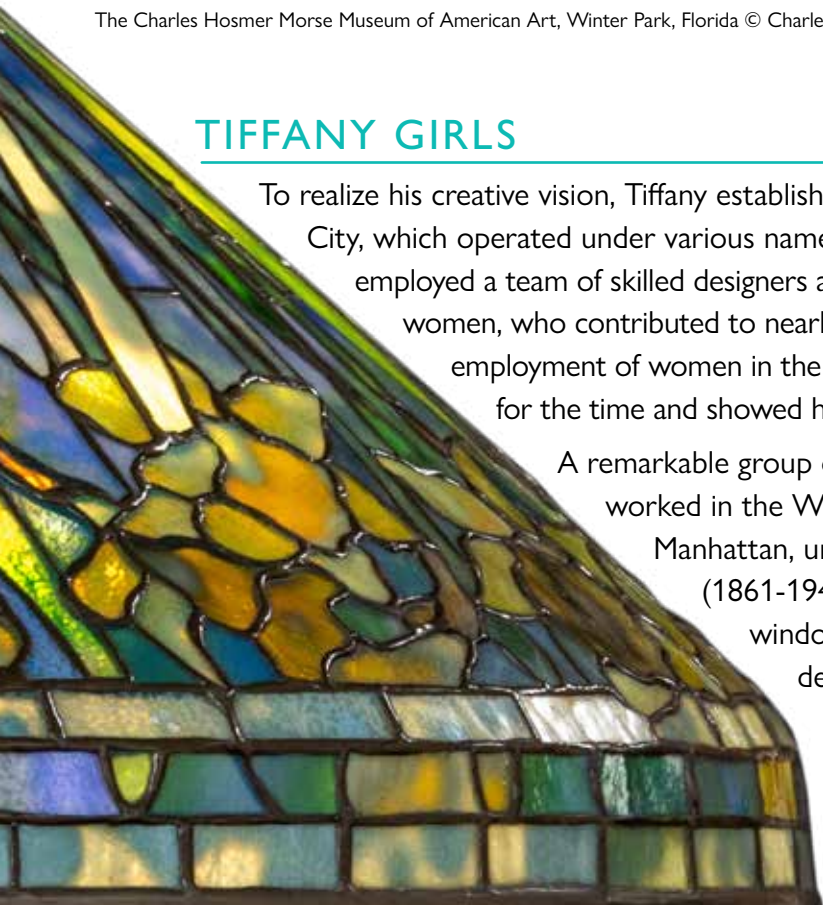
Add color to bring this dragonfly to life. Can you find this design by Tiffany Studios in the Museum?

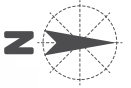


TIFFANY GIRLS

To realize his creative vision, Tiffany established a decorative arts company in New York City, which operated under various names culminating in Tiffany Studios. There he employed a team of skilled designers and craftspeople, including several talented women, who contributed to nearly every aspect of artistic production. Tiffany's employment of women in the late 19th and early 20th centuries was progressive for the time and showed his respect for their creativity and ability.

A remarkable group of female artisans, known as the "Tiffany Girls," worked in the Women's Glass Cutting Department, based in Manhattan, under the supervision of designer Clara Driscoll (1861-1944). In addition to cutting and selecting glass for windows and mosaics, they were responsible for the design and execution of the leaded-glass lamps that were some of the company's most popular and profitable goods.





TIFFANY

THE PURSUIT OF BEAUTY IN NATURE

HORTICULTURAL DISPLAYS

- 1 LEAD BEDS
- 2 ROOTED IN NATURE
- 3 SUCCULENTS IN SILHOUETTE
- 4 SUNSET ON PALMS
- 5 LIVING LAMPSHADE
- 6 FLOWING FLOWER
- 7 TIFFANY IN GLORY

WELCOME CENTER

- 1 Admissions/Ticketing
- 2 Garden Shop

RAINFOREST

- 3 Tropical Conservatory
- 4 Bonsai Exhibit
- 5 Cycad Display
- 6 Fern Garden
- 7 Koi Pond
- 8 Bamboo Garden
- 9 Banyan Grove
- 10 Ann Goldstein Children's Rainforest Garden

SELBY HOUSE

- 11 Kids' Corner (closed temporarily)
- 12 Selby House Café
- 13 Selby Memorial

DESERT

- 14 Succulent Garden

GREAT LAWN

- 15 Gazebo
- 16 Schimmel Wedding Pavilion

MANGROVES

- 17 Steinwachs Family Foundation Mangrove Walkway

PALMS

- 18 Tropical
- 19 Coastal

EVENT CENTER

- 20 Event Center

NATIVE FLORIDA

- 21 Tidal Lagoon
- 22 Hardwood Hammock

DISPLAY GARDENS

- 23 Bromeliad Garden
- 24 Fragrance Garden
- 25 Butterfly Garden

PAYNE MANSION

- 26 Museum of Botany & the Arts (closes at 4:30 p.m.)
- 27 Amicus Learning Center

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