

# DRIEHAUS MUSEUM

Entertaining at  
the Richard H.  
Driehaus Museum



The guests came, and came, and came,  
and staid promenading through the lofty halls  
and finding retreats and easy rendezvous  
in the card, billiard, smoking, dancing, and  
reception rooms, and much to please and  
interest in the gallery and library. The gas was  
lighted at 4 o'clock, and the guests had not  
all retired at 6.

“Mrs. Nickerson’s Reception,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, February 8, 1885

Located in Chicago’s River North District, just steps from Michigan Avenue, the Driehaus Museum provides a distinct and intimate setting for corporate entertaining and private events. The unique interiors of the Museum are unrivaled in the city of Chicago for their quality and beauty. Your guests will be immersed in the culturally and historically significant setting of one of the grandest surviving buildings of 19th-century Chicago, the Samuel M. Nickerson House.

Few other venues in the United States can offer such an opulent setting for your event. Samuel Nickerson spared no expense in the creation of his Marble Palace. With its breathtaking, marble-clad entrance hall; magnificently carved wooden interiors; and beautiful rooms, replete with iridescent mosaics and stained glass windows, the house exemplifies the very essence of Gilded Age luxury.

As the 19th century entered its twilight years, the Nickersons lavishly entertained at their Erie Street residence. Today, the Driehaus Museum continues to offer an unparalleled event space that invites guests to experience and explore the “lofty halls” of Chicago’s Marble Palace.

### About the Museum

The Richard H. Driehaus Museum immerses visitors in one of the grandest residential buildings of 19th-century Chicago, the Gilded Age home of banker Samuel Mayo Nickerson. Chicago philanthropist Richard H. Driehaus founded the museum on April 1, 2003, with a vision to influence today's built environment by preserving and promoting architecture and design of the past. To realize his vision, Mr. Driehaus commissioned a five-year effort to preserve the structure and its magnificent interiors. Today, the Museum is a premier example of historic preservation, offering visitors an opportunity to experience how the prevailing design philosophies of the period were interpreted by artists, architects, and designers at the waning of the 19th century and the dawn of the 20th century.

### Vendors

The Driehaus Museum offers a superb selection of suppliers, all of whom have been carefully chosen for their high standards and excellence in their particular fields. Our dedicated event staff will work with you to create a bespoke package and innovative menu that will ensure a truly memorable event for your guests.



The Main Hall

Elegant cocktail receptions and sophisticated seated dinners take place amidst the magnificent marble-clad Main Hall of the Driehaus Museum. The Hall rises dramatically through two stories and features a rich variety of marbles from both Europe and America. It was the lavish use of marble throughout this space that gave rise to the mansion's moniker of the Marble Palace.

Capacities

Dining 18

Cocktail Receptions 18-125



The Ballroom

Reached by ascending the grand marble staircase, the mahogany paneled Ballroom on the mansion's third floor provides a sumptuous setting for seated dinners. Three galleries adjacent to the Ballroom can also be used to accommodate guests.

Capacities  
Dining 30-100  
Theatre 50



The Billiards Room

The Gothic Revival Billiards Room is ideal for intimate dinners, executive boardroom meetings, luncheons, and presentations. The adjacent Servant's Hall can also be used in conjunction with the Billiards Room to host cocktail receptions for up to 40 guests.

Capacities  
Dining 40  
Theatre 45

Special Events Office  
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The Richard H. Driehaus Museum  
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The museum is wheelchair accessible. For more information about the museum please visit our website at [driehausmuseum.org](http://driehausmuseum.org).