FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Glitterville Studios Brings a Piece of White House Christmas History to Cheekwood for Holiday LIGHTS

Magical Menagerie Merry-Go-Round Designed for the 2024 White House Christmas Celebration Makes Its First Appearance Outside the White House at Cheekwood

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – A whimsical carousel that delighted visitors to the White House during the 2024 holiday season will take a new spin this November at Cheekwood Estate & Gardens, marking the first time the elaborate installation has been displayed outside the White House.

Designed and crafted by **Stephen Brown**, founder of Knoxville-based Glitterville Studios, the **Magical Menagerie Merry-Go-Round** is a vibrant celebration of color, craftsmanship and imagination. The fantastical carousel features an array of festively adorned animals, including a swan, moose, penguin, reindeer, cat, sheep, polar bear and fox, alongside a twinkling tree decked out in candy-shaped and glass ornaments. The carousel is not designed for rides and serves as a decorative display.

Standing 18.5 feet tall and illuminated by approximately 10,000 lights, the carousel features painted landscape scenes decorating its base and state and territory flags around its perimeter, adding layers of detail to the design.

At Cheekwood, the carousel will take center stage in the Loggia of the Historic Mansion as part of *Un Noël Enchanté*, or An Enchanted Noel, the French-inspired holiday décor that transforms the Mansion's historic interiors. The display is complemented by a spectacular vintage-inspired hot air balloon handcrafted by Studio Cera Marie.

"Being asked to create something specifically for the White House was an incredible honor. I'm thrilled to bring the Magical Menagerie Merry-Go-Round to Cheekwood and share a little piece of White House Christmas history with everyone," said Stephen Brown, Founder and Chief Glitter Innovator at Glitterville Studios. "At Glitterville, we've always believed that the holidays should be filled with color, imagination and a sense of wonder. The carousel fits so beautifully into Cheekwood's enchanting holiday setting and I'm so happy to give this handmade creation a new season of joy in a place where families can experience its magic for themselves."

Un Noël Enchanté is a celebration of French beauty, artistry and imagination. Conceived by Holiday Artistic Director Laura Dowling and Paris- and Dubai-based Guest Artistic

Advisor Mauricio Clavero Kozlowski, the experience draws on centuries of French style to create a holiday setting designed expressly for Cheekwood's historic interiors. Each room presents a distinct interpretation of French-inspired holiday elegance, from the grand châteaux of the countryside to the splendor of Versailles with creative partners including Baccarat, Bernardaud, French Country Antiques, Tom Son's International and Replacements, Ltd. to enhance the decorative arts throughout the Mansion.

Special Program

The story behind the carousel will continue with a special program bringing together leading voices in holiday design and the decorative arts.

Designing Iconic Places for the Holidays — *Les Décors d'Exception*
November 19 | 4:30 p.m. | Massey Auditorium

Go behind the scenes with Dowling, Kozlowski and Brown for an insider's look at the inspiration, artistry and craftsmanship behind large-scale holiday designs. Moderated by *Flower* magazine Founder and Editor-in-Chief Margot Shaw, the conversation will explore the creative process behind transforming iconic spaces for the holidays. Brown and Dowling will share stories and insights about their work and holiday installations at the White House.

Holiday LIGHTS at Cheekwood

Nashville's beloved holiday tradition returns November 20, illuminating Cheekwood's historic estate with more than one million lights and festive experiences throughout the gardens.

A 28-foot Pixel Pine featuring three-dimensional custom light designs will return to the center of the Bradford Robertson Color Garden. Along the one-mile walking path, guests can explore Peppermint Path, featuring candy-cane trees, as well as the Star Field and Enchanted Esplanade. The Mansion lawn will once again glow with 600 linear feet of lights along the Sparkling Serpentine, while the TRAINS! exhibition receives a holiday transformation with a new theme, North Pole Butterfly Garden.

Guests can also warm up with hot cocoa and seasonal libations, roast s'mores around courtyard firepits and shop for holiday gifts at the Holiday Marketplace, Museum Shop and Garden Shop.

Ticket Information

Holiday LIGHTS runs November 20 through January 3. Guests may tour the Mansion during daytime hours, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., or during Holiday LIGHTS, from 4:30 to 10 p.m. The Magical Menagerie Merry-Go-Round can be viewed during the day or at night. Tickets are available at Cheekwood.org.

About Stephen Brown and Glitterville Studios

Stephen Brown is the founder, artist and designer behind Glitterville Studios, a Knoxville-based design company celebrated for its whimsical holiday décor, extraordinary tabletop creations and larger-than-life installations. A former costume designer for television and film in New York City, Brown transformed his passion for theatricality, craftsmanship, color and celebration into a fantastical world of design where imagination knows no bounds.

An accomplished author and television personality, Brown has brought his signature creativity to some of the world's most recognizable settings, including the White House, celebrity homes and prestigious retailers across the globe. His creations have been featured in major publications and have earned multiple selections for Oprah's Favorite Things. Brown is also the author of the Glitterville Handmade holiday how-to book series and has served as a judge on TLC's "Craft Wars" and most recently HGTV's "Big Bargain Holiday Showdown." His work was also featured on HGTV's 2023 and 2024 White House Christmas specials.

Guided by Brown's philosophy, "Make Every Day a Holiday," Glitterville celebrates the extraordinary in the everyday, bringing color, sparkle, imagination and a sense of wonder to homes and celebrations around the world.

About Cheekwood Estate & Gardens

With its intact and picturesque vistas, Cheekwood is distinguished as one of the leading Country Place Era estates in the nation. Formerly the family home of Mabel and Leslie Cheek, the 1930s estate encompasses a 30,000-square-foot Mansion and 55 acres of gardens. Today, Cheekwood serves the public as a botanical garden, arboretum and art museum, featuring furnished period rooms and galleries devoted to American art from the 18th through the mid-20th centuries. The property includes 13 distinct gardens including the Blevins Japanese Garden and the Bracken Foundation Children's Garden, as well as a 1.5-mile woodland trail featuring outdoor monumental sculpture. Each year, Cheekwood hosts seasonal festivals including Cheekwood in Bloom, Summertime at Cheekwood, Cheekwood Harvest and Holiday LIGHTS. Cheekwood is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and designated a Level II Arboretum. Cheekwood has been voted one of USA Today's Top 10 Botanical Gardens four times, was named Tennessee's Most Beautiful Garden by HGTV in 2025, received Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Awards in 2024 and 2025, and was named one of the 12 Most Beautiful Gardens in the American South by Fodor's in 2021. Cheekwood is located eight miles southwest of downtown Nashville at 1200 Forrest Park Drive. The property is open Tuesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with extended days and hours seasonally. Visit cheekwood.org for current hours and to purchase advance tickets, which are required for admission.

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Images for Media
https://show.pics.io/press-images/collection/6af724e56f9ebb41d8d5b4f8

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