

Are you experiencing fever, aches, or chills? Take our speedy recovery tour and you'll be back to yourself in no time at all!



NORD GALLERY

*Childbirth can be a tricky process. Luckily we have Saint Mary Magdalene on our staff.*

Unable to have children, the Prince of Marseilles and his wife prayed to Mary Magdalene, promising to help the poor if she could ensure that God would give them a son. The saint answered their prayers, but the Princess died giving birth and the Prince feared that without his mother, the child would die too. Magdalene intervened and brought the woman back to life, and the child lived. The Prince and his wife were very happy with their son and kept their end of the bargain by building churches and distributing their wealth among the poor.

WILLARD-NEWELL GALLERY

*Wartime injuries can be especially terrible, but General Thaddeus Kosciusko is holding up well.*

There was no slowing down for General Kosciusko, especially when it comes to fighting for freedom. The Polish general fought for the Americans during the Revolutionary War and for Poland's independence against the Russians, Prussians, and Austrians. Here he is shown reclining on a couch to rest his wounds—part of his body was paralyzed as the result of a cannon shot, and he experienced recurrent headaches from his war injuries. This work was created when the painter Benjamin West visited Kosciusko during the general's stay in London.



WILLARD-NEWELL GALLERY

*Meet our next patient, Saint Sebastian, and his nurse Irene.*

When he first came to our facility, this patient was in bad shape. Prior to his arrival, Sebastian was a Christian and made it his mission to help others achieve the same faith. While a soldier in the Roman army, he converted many to Christianity. Army officials discovered his betrayal and Sebastian was tied to a stake and shot full of arrows. He was left for dead and only survived after being found and nursed back to health by Saint Irene, in an act that was considered miraculous.





STERN GALLERY EAST (EXCEPT DURING SPRING 2021)

*Not all wounds are visible to the eye. This is certainly the case with our piece Self-Portrait as a Soldier.*

An artist by trade, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner enlisted in World War II as an artillery driver. After only a few months of service, he was discharged due to health problems. He spent time recuperating in the city of Halle and returned to his art. In this self-portrait, Kirchner depicts himself wearing his soldier's uniform and—though he never experienced any wartime injuries—shows himself with a bloody stump for his right hand and eyes that are unseeing and empty. The lost right hand and blind eyes could stand for any number of things Kirchner thought he might lose during the war, such as his ability to paint, his creativity, his artistic vision, and his inspiration.

CURRENTLY NOT ON VIEW

*For a more holistic healing approach, be sure to drop by our Medicine Lodge.*

In Plains Indians culture, it was believed that disease had both natural and supernatural causes. Curing techniques involved the use of herbal and root remedies, ritual purification, the sweat lodge, smoking, prayer, and sometimes surgery. Both men and women could be healers and the treatment of sicknesses was designed to restore both the biological and spiritual well-being of the patient. This scene, the Sun Dance ceremony, was an annual life-renewal rite for Plains Indian tribes and Howling Wolf, the artist, is shown as a specially honored warrior approaching the sacred lodge on horseback.



CURRENTLY NOT ON VIEW

*Still not feeling 100 percent? A visit to our Conjur Woman is guaranteed to work.*

A conjur woman is a spirit-figure who can prepare love potions, cure illnesses, and assist with personal problems. She possesses supernatural powers and is very wise, invoking both fear and respect from those who seek her help. Her powers incorporate magical practices from African and Native American traditions, as well as some European traditions and grimoires (magical texts). She is shown here with eyes and hands of mismatched sizes, which indicate her oracular sight and work with potions.

