

**WXXXX A French Gothic Glory: *La Sainte-Chapelle***

**Presenter:** Boyd Chapin

**Date:** Wednesday, March 25

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

**Fee:** Members \$8; Nonmembers \$15



*Stained Glass Window  
La Sainte-Chapelle*

**Description:** The *Sainte-Chapelle*, or Holy Chapel, is a royal medieval Gothic chapel, located near the *Palais de la Cité*, on the *Île de la Cité* in the heart of Paris. It is part of the *Conciergerie* structure and is located diagonally from Notre Dame Cathedral. People go to Notre Dame, and they should visit (but often miss) *Sainte-Chapelle*. The erection of this Chapel was commissioned by King Louis IX (Saint Louis) of France to house his collection of Passion Relics, including Christ's Crown of Thorns – one of the most important relics in medieval Christendom. Construction began sometime after 1239, and the Chapel was consecrated on April 26, 1248. *Sainte-Chapelle* is considered among the highest achievements of the Rayonnant period of Gothic architecture. Along with the *Conciergerie*, the *Sainte-Chapelle* is one of the earliest surviving buildings of the Capetian royal palace on the *Île de la Cité*. Although damaged during the French Revolution and restored in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it retains one of the most extensive in-situ collections of 13<sup>th</sup>-century stained glass anywhere in the world. **Boyd Chapin** is a graduate of Wayne State University and a senior attorney with the Detroit firm of Garan Luow Miller, PC. Boyd shares his passion for all forms of art through his own work in pencil, oil, and acrylic, and through his role as a docent with the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA). His presentation on artistic space is a direct outcome of his personal interests and his volunteer activity at the DIA