This week’s mineral of the week is aurichalcite, which is a zinc copper carbonate hydroxide. It has a greenish blue color and forms as small acicular crystals. These crystals can often be found on a limonite groundmass, as seen on the specimen on the right.

Because it contains zinc and copper, aurichalcite can be a brass ore, however it is typically found in too small of amounts to be viable for this. This mineral can be found across the world, from the western U.S. to Namibia and Japan.

This feature was created by curator Andrew Mulder and posted on Dice Museum social media on 04/4/2023