

Media Contact:

Jeff Reiter
Cantigny Park
630.260.8218
jreiter@mccormickfoundation.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MARCH-APRIL EVENTS & CLASSES AT CANTIGNY PARK

*The following spring activities will take place at Cantigny Park in Wheaton.
Additional details are online at Cantigny.org or call 630.668.5161.*

March

Monday, March 2

Doodlebugs Art Class

Education Center, 1 to 2 pm (first of 3 sessions)

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! The theme is Little Designers—kids will create a fun fashion accessory to wear home each week! Class meets three consecutive Mondays: March 2, 9 and 16. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, March 3

Greenhouse Tour

Cantigny Greenhouse, 11 am

Matt Lehmann, Cantigny greenhouse manager, will highlight the park's spring bedding plants and the beginning stages of its summer plant series on this behind-the-scenes tour. The greenhouse is normally closed to the public. Advance registration requested: email register@cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Free with paid parking (\$5). Park at the Visitors Center then walk to the greenhouse or ride the free tram.

Wednesday, March 4

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30-10:15 am OR 11-11:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. The theme is Exploring Spring. Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 4

Date with History

First Division Museum, 7:30 pm

This monthly series features military topics presented by authors, panelists, historians and other speakers. Program and parking free. For program details, please visit FirstDivisionMuseum.org or call 630.260.8187.

Thursday, March 5

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10-11 am OR 1-2 pm (first of 3 sessions)

Children ages 3 to 5 years are invited explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, nature walks and crafts. The theme is Exploring Spring. Class meets

three consecutive Thursdays: March 5, 12 and 19. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 11

**Blossom Bits: A Floral Design Workshop
Visitors Center (Medill Room), 12 pm**

Join Beth Libby, Cantigny floral designer, for a talk and demonstration on forcing flowering branches. Bring a sack lunch if you wish and also your questions. Advance registration requested at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Saturday, March 14

**Music Together® Spring Sing-A-Long
Education Center, 10 to 11 am**

Families with children ages birth to 6 will enjoy this songbook sing-a-long featuring favorite Music Together songs like “Ridin’ in the Car,” “All Around the Kitchen,” “Sandpiper” and more! Cost: \$5 per child; parking free.

Saturday, March 14

**Second Saturday: Women’s History Month
Robert R. McCormick Museum, 12 to 3 pm**

Families are invited to the museum’s Gold Theatre for this new monthly drop-in program with interactive themes. The theme in March is Women’s History Month with a focus on the 19th Amendment. Ratified in 1920, the amendment granted women the right to vote. Visitors to the museum can make suffragette sashes and pins, and view a small display about Ruth Hanna McCormick, Robert McCormick’s sister-in-law, who advocated suffrage for women and civic participation. Free program; parking \$5.

Sunday, March 15

**Concert: Amber Trio
Robert R. McCormick Museum, 3 pm**

Visit Cantigny.org for full details about this free concert inside historic Freedom Hall. Due to limited space, ticket distribution is by lottery and limited to two per person. To be eligible for tickets, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org by March 6. If emailing, please include phone number. Ticket recipients will be contacted by March 11.

Tuesday, March 17

**“Little Leprechauns” Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 10 to 11 am**

This St. Patrick’s Day celebration for ages 3 to 5 will include stories, fun crafts and a special treat! \$10 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 18

**Inchworms Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 9:30-10:15 am OR 11-11:45 am**

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. The theme for this class is Sensational Springtime. Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Sunday, March 22

**Workshop: Introduction to Grafting Fruit Trees
Education Center, 1 to 2:30 pm**

The Midwest Fruit Explorers, a garden club for backyard fruit growers, offers this free session for beginners. The workshop is free but advance registration is required. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Parking (\$5) is at the Visitors Center with free shuttle service available to the Education Center.

Wednesday, March 25

Date with History

First Division Museum, 7:30 pm

Author and Chapman University history professor Jennifer D. Keene will speak about the American military experience during World War I. Program and parking free. For more information, visit FirstDivisionMuseum.org or call 630.260.8187.

Sunday, March 29

American Legion Pancake Breakfast

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 7 am to 1 pm

Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion invites the public to a delicious fundraiser! Feast on pancakes, sausage, eggs and biscuits and gravy. Also enjoy an early spring floral display by Cantigny's horticulture department and register to win a door prize. Cost: \$7 per person or \$3 for ages 4 and under. Walk-ins welcome.

April

Wednesday, April 1

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30-10:15 am OR 11-11:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. The theme for this class is Earth Rocks! Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 1

"Spanish for Me!" Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 2 to 2:45 pm (first of 3 sessions)

"1, 2, 3...Spanish for Me!" is a new program for children ages 3 to 5. Cantigny educator Edith Roman will help kids learn a second language through familiar songs, games and crafts. The theme is Colors. Class meets on three consecutive Wednesdays: April 1, 8 and 15. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, April 2

Cantigny Gardens 2015 Preview

Visitors Center Theater, 9:30 to 11:30 am

Enjoy a free presentation highlighting the park's plant selections and plans for the main gardens, golf course and Idea Garden, spring through fall. Parking is \$5.

Thursday, April 2

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10-11 am OR 1-2 pm (first of 3 sessions)

Children ages 3 to 5 years are invited explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, nature walks and crafts. The theme is Earth Rocks! Class meets three consecutive Thursdays: April 2, 9 and 16. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Friday, April 3

"Hoppy Easter!" Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 1 to 2 pm

This holiday celebration will include stories, songs and crafts about bunnies, eggs and chicks—plus a special treat! For ages 3 to 5. \$10 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Friday, April 3

Free Movie: Hop

Visitors Center Theater, 2:30 pm

Enjoy this complimentary screening of the 2011 Easter-themed comedy. Released in 2011 and rated PG, the live-action and animated movie features Russell Brand as the voice of E.B., a rabbit who does not want to succeed his dad as the Easter Bunny. Parking at Cantigny is \$5.

Saturday, April 4

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 9 am and 11 am seatings

Enjoy a hearty buffet at Le Jardin inside the Cantigny Visitors Center and have your child photographed with the Easter Bunny. Two strolling balloon artists and a face painter will provide entertainment. Cost: \$25 adults; \$17 children (ages 4-10); children 3 and under free. Cost includes food, entertainment and parking. For reservations, call 630.260.8260.

Saturday, April 4

Usborne Children's Book Fair

Visitors Center, 9 am to 4 pm

Stop in to browse a wide selection of books for young readers before and after the Cantigny Egg Hunt! Free event; parking \$5.

Saturday, April 4

Easter Egg Hunt

Parkwide, 9 am to 12 pm

Hundreds of plastic eggs will be hidden throughout the park for this colorful rain or shine event! Guests receive a map upon entry. For photos, "Mr. Bunny" will be at the McCormick Museum and "Mrs. Bunny" will be at the First Division Museum. Kids can paint an egg-shaped ornament at the Education Center (\$2). Activities are free except for the craft. Parking \$5.

Sunday, April 5

Easter Brunch

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park and Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf

Celebrate the holiday with one of the finest brunches in the western suburbs and in beautiful surroundings. Seatings at 10 am, 12:30 pm and 3 pm. Cost: \$42 adults; \$38 seniors; \$18 children (ages 4-10); children 3 and under free. For reservations, call 630.260.8194.

Monday, April 6

Golden Oak Club

Education Center, 10 to 11:30 am

This popular program is for ages 65 and up. The club meets on the first and third Monday of the month through October. The first monthly meeting features a guest speaker; the second is devoted to games and other activities. Each meeting includes refreshments. Cost is \$30 per year; parking free. Register online or call 630.260.8162.

Monday, April 6

Doodlebugs Art Class

Education Center, 1 to 2 pm (first of 3 sessions)

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! The theme is Cool Concoctions. Class meets three consecutive Mondays: April 6, 13 and 20. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Monday, April 6

Music Together® Family Class

Education Center, 5:30 to 6:15 pm (first of 8 sessions)

This fun and highly interactive class builds on each child's natural enthusiasm for music and movement. For ages 6 and under, with adult. Expert instruction by Rhonda Sisson from the Music Together staff. Class meets eight consecutive Mondays through June 1 (except May 25.) Cost: \$164 for first child; \$114 for siblings. Siblings under 9 months are free. Tuition includes two CDs, illustrated songbook and weekly parking. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, April 7

Garden Tour

Visitors Center, 11 am

Cantigny Forester Todd Henderson will showcase the park's collection of flowering trees, shrubs and wildflowers and answer questions. No registration required. Free program; parking \$5.

Saturday, April 11

Second Saturday: Innovation

Robert R. McCormick Museum, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited to the museum's Gold Theatre for this new monthly drop-in program with interactive themes. The focus this time is on Robert McCormick's love of innovation. Visitors to the museum can create their own inventions using recycled materials and test their knowledge about when some of history's most important inventions made their debut. Free program; parking \$5.

Sunday, April 12

Junior High Constitutional Speech Contest

Visitors Center Theater, 2 pm

This annual contest for 7th and 8th graders is sponsored by Cantigny American Legion Post 556. Participants will speak on topics related to the U.S. Constitution. Four students will earn a cash prize and the top two will advance to the DuPage County competition on April 19, also at Cantigny. Spectators are welcome. Free event; parking \$5.

Sunday, April 12

Concert: Gavin Coyle, Carlyn Lloyd & Jon Warfel

Robert R. McCormick Museum, 3 pm

Guest vocalist Gavin Coyle will be accompanied by Carlyn Lloyd on flute and Jon Warfel at the piano. Visit Cantigny.org for full details about this free concert inside historic Freedom Hall. Due to limited space, ticket distribution is by lottery and limited to two per person. To be eligible for tickets, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org by April 3. If emailing, please include phone number. Ticket recipients will be contacted by April 8.

Wednesday, April 15

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30-10:15 am OR 11-11:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. The theme for this class is Radical Recyclers. Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Friday, April 17

Family Night Out: Kites

Visitors Center, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

The park's monthly Family Night Out series begins a second year with an evening devoted to kite flying! Bring your own kite or make one at Cantigny (complimentary).

Wind permitting, Chicago Kite will demonstrate some larger, fancier models. Free with \$2 parking.

Saturday, April 18

**Concert: Schola Antiqua of Chicago
Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 3 pm**

This ensemble of seven vocalists will perform "Taking Up Arms," a program featuring secular and sacred music with military themes from the late Middle Ages and Renaissance. Concert admission is free. Parking \$5.

Sunday, April 19

**Junior High Constitutional Speech Contest
Visitors Center Theater, 2 pm**

This annual contest for 7th and 8th graders is sponsored by The DuPage County Executive Committee of the American Legion. Participants will speak on topics related to the U.S. Constitution. The top four students will earn a cash prize. Spectators are welcome. Free event; parking \$5.

Saturday, April 25 (9 am to 4 pm)

Sunday, April 26 (10 am to 4 pm)

Woodcarving Show

Visitors Center

"Artistry in Wood," presented by North Suburban Carvers, features many of the Midwest's finest woodcarvers exhibiting their work and offering one-of-a-kind items for sale. Visitors will see a wide variety of carvings and carving styles, plus demonstrations.

Sunday, April 26

**Lecture: Hosta Gardening
Education Center, 1:15 pm**

The Northern Illinois Hosta Society presents Craig Kruckenberg, Cantigny garden manager, who will speak about the park's new hosta garden. The garden is a joint project of NIHS and Cantigny. Free event; parking \$5.

Sunday, April 26

Garden Photo Tips

Visitors Center, 2 pm

Learn how to take better pictures on a stroll led by one of Cantigny's volunteer photographers. Beginners welcome. First in a series of free monthly photo walks. Group size limited to 10; register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Parking \$5.

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About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundation, is the 500-acre Wheaton (Illinois) estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. It is home to 30 acres of spectacular gardens, the Robert R. McCormick Museum, the First Division Museum and a 27-hole championship golf course. All are open to the public. Cantigny also is a favorite destination for special events, weddings, concerts, lectures, workshops and other recreation and learning opportunities for all ages. Full-service banquet and dining facilities are on site. More information, including hours, directions and a calendar of upcoming events is online at Cantigny.org. For details about Cantigny Golf, including the Cantigny Golf Academy and 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links, please visit CantignyGolf.com.