

Media Contact:

Jeff Reiter
Cantigny Park
630.260.8218
jreiter@mccormickfoundation.org

MARCH-APRIL EVENTS & CLASSES AT CANTIGNY PARK

The following spring activities will take place at Cantigny Park (1s151 Winfield Road in Wheaton). Additional details are online at Cantigny.org or call 630.668.5161.

MARCH

Monday, March 5

Doodlebugs Art Class

Education Center, 10 to 11 am (first of 3 sessions)

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Silly Scientists." Class meets three consecutive Mondays: March 5, 12 and 19. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, March 6

Greenhouse Tour

Cantigny Greenhouse, 11 am

Take a behind-the-scenes look at the park's spring bedding plants and the beginning stages of its summer plant series on this guided tour. The greenhouse is normally closed to the public. Free with paid parking (\$5). Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Park at the Visitors Center then walk to the greenhouse or ride the tram.

Wednesday, March 7

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Sunny Days." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 7

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10:45 to 11:45 am (first of 3 sessions)

Children ages 3 to 5 years (with adult) are invited explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, outdoor walks and crafts. Theme: "Sun, Moon & Stars." Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: March 7, 14 and 21. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Saturday, March 10

Second Saturday: Women's History Month

McCormick House, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited to the museum's Gold Theatre for this monthly drop-in program with interactive themes. The March program honors Women's History Month with a focus on the 19th Amendment which granted women the right to vote. Free program; parking \$5.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 10

Living History: Amelia Earhart

McCormick House, 3 pm

In honor of Women's History Month, living history actor Leslie Goddard will portray Amelia Earhart, the first female aviator to cross the Atlantic Ocean in a plane, and the first to fly solo. This program in the museum's Freedom Hall is ideal for families and children ages 10 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

Tuesday, March 13

Kid Rock "Shamrock Shuffle" Parent-Child Event

Education Center, 10 to 10:45 am

Parents and their wee ones (ages 1-5) are invited to celebrate St. Patty's Day with a fun and musical session of songs, instruments and imaginative play. For more about Kid Rock programs, visit rockitkids.com. Cost: \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 14

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Magnificent Moon." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Friday, March 16

"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! \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Sunday, March 18

Workshop: Introduction to Grafting Fruit Trees

Cantigny Greenhouse, 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 tram service available to the greenhouse.

Wednesday, March 21

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Star Light, Star Bright." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 21

Music Together: "All the Animals Sing-a-Long"

Visitors Center Medill Room, 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 am (choose one)

Families with children ages birth to 6 will enjoy this 45-minute sing-a-long with an animal theme. Music Together is a research-based early childhood music and movement program. Choose from three class times; each class is 45 minutes. Cost: \$9 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, March 22

Music Together: “Zoom Zoom Sing-a-Long”

Visitors Center Medill Room, 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 am (choose one)

Families with children ages birth to 6 will enjoy this 45-minute sing-a-long with a transportation theme. Music Together is a research-based early childhood music and movement program. Choose from three class times; each class is 45 minutes. Cost: \$9 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Thursday, March 22

Civic Awareness Series: Gender Issues in Politics

McCormick House, 7 pm

Michelle Fadeley, president of the Illinois chapter of the National Organization for Women, will present. Q&A and discussion over coffee and dessert will follow the presentation. This continues a series presented by the League of Women Voters of Wheaton and Cantigny. The program and parking are free but advance registration is required due to limited seating. Register online at wheatonlwvil.org.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 24

Living History: Mamie Eisenhower

McCormick House, 3 pm

In honor of Women’s History Month, living history actor Ellie Carlson portrays Mamie Eisenhower, America’s beloved First Lady from 1953-1961. This program in the museum’s Freedom Hall is ideal for families and children ages 10 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

FEATURED EVENT

Sunday, March 25

Lecture: How Women Helped Build Chicago

McCormick House, 3 pm

In honor of Women’s History Month, McCormick House docent Laurie Russell describes how Chicago women responded at critical moments in the city’s history and thus shaped the city we know today. This program in the museum’s Freedom Hall is ideal for families and children ages 10 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

Thursday, March 29

“Hoppy Easter!” Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10 to 11 am

This holiday celebration will include stories, songs and crafts about bunnies, eggs and chicks—plus a special treat! For ages 3 to 5. \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 31

Easter Egg Hunt

Cantigny Park, 9 am to 4 pm

Hundreds of plastic eggs will be hidden around the McCormick House at this colorful rain or shine event for all ages. The format is “open house” so come at any time during event hours. Take a photo with Mr. or Mrs. Easter Bunny and enjoy a craft project at the Education Center. Activities are free except for the craft (\$3). Parking \$5.

Saturday, March 31
Usborne Children's Book Fair
Visitors Center, 9 am to 4 pm

Add some "brain candy" to your child's Easter basket! Usborne will offer a wide selection of books for young readers. Free event; parking \$5.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 31
Breakfast with the Easter Bunny
Le Jardin at Cantigny Park

Enjoy a hearty buffet at Le Jardin inside the Cantigny Visitors Center and have your child photographed with the Easter Bunny. Choose 10 am and 12:30 pm seating. A strolling balloon artist and a face painter will provide entertainment. Cost: \$29 adults; \$20 children (ages 4-10); children 3 and under free. Prices include food, entertainment, photo and parking; tax and gratuity extra. For reservations, call 630.260.8260 or email amyanderson@cantigny.org.

APRIL

FEATURED EVENT

Sunday, April 1
Easter Brunch
Le Jardin at Cantigny Park & Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf

Celebrate the holiday with one of the finest brunches in the western suburbs and served in beautiful surroundings. Choose from 10 am, 12:30 pm or 3 pm seatings at either location. Cost: \$45 adults; \$42 seniors; \$19 children (ages 4-10); children 3 and under free. Prices do not include tax or gratuity. For reservations, call 630.260.8194 or email pduquette@cantigny.org.

Tuesday, April 3
Garden Tour
Visitors Center, 11 am

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

Wednesday, April 4
Inchworms Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Rain, Rain, Go Away!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 4
Sprouts Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 10:45 to 11:45 am (first of 3 sessions)

Children ages 3 to 5 years (with adult) are invited explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, outdoor walks and crafts. Theme: "Water, Water, Everywhere!" Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: April 4, 11 and 18. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Thursday, April 5
Cantigny Gardens 2018 Preview
Visitors Center Theater, 9:30 am

Enjoy a free presentation by Cantigny Horticulture (about 90 minutes) highlighting the park's plant selections and plans for the main gardens, golf course and Idea Garden, spring through fall. Get the latest news about Project New Leaf, too! Parking \$5.

FEATURED EVENT

Thursday, April 5

Goose Island Craft Brew Dinner

Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf, 6:30 pm

Cantigny welcome's Chicago's Goose Island Beer Company for a special craft brew dinner prepared by Chef Frank Bellino and his talented culinary team. Guests will enjoy appetizers followed by a creatively delicious four-course meal with each stage complemented by a different Goose Island beer. Recipes will contain beer as well, even dessert! Cost: \$65 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Reservations required; call 630.260.8194. Cantigny Golf is located at 27w270 Mack Road in Wheaton.

Sunday, April 8

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: \$8 per person or \$4 for ages 4 and under. Walk-ins welcome.

Tuesday, April 10

Kid Rock "Spring Fling" Parent-Child Event

Education Center, 10 to 10:45 am

Parents and their little ones (ages 1-5) are invited to a fun Spring-themed session of songs, instruments and imaginative play. For more about Kid Rock programs, visit rockitkids.com. Cost: \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 11

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Fun with Water." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Saturday, April 14

Second Saturday: Earth Day

Education Center, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited for this monthly drop-in program with interactive themes. The April program celebrates Earth Day. Visitors will make seedling planters from recycled newspaper and other environment friendly crafts. Free program; parking \$5.

Sunday, April 15

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.

Monday, April 16

Golden Oaks Club

Education Center, 1 to 2:30 pm

Cantigny adds an afternoon session for this popular social club for ages 65 and up. Meetings are on the first and third Monday of the month, April through October. Each meeting features a speaker or activity and refreshments are served. Cost: \$30 per year; parking free. Tram service is available to take participants to and from the Education Center from the main parking lot.

Wednesday, April 18
Inchworms Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Drip, Drip Drop!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Thursday, April 19
Civic Awareness Series: Environmental Policy
McCormick House, 7 pm

Dale Bryson, who served the U.S. EPA for 34 years, will discuss the impact of environmental policy on our community. Q&A and discussion over coffee and dessert will follow the presentation. This continues a series presented by the League of Women Voters of Wheaton and Cantigny. The program and parking are free but advance registration is required due to limited seating. Register online at wheatonlwvil.org.

FEATURED EVENT

Friday, April 20
Family Night: Fly a Kite!
Parade Field, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

The park's monthly Family Night series begins a fourth year with an evening devoted to kite flying! Bring your own kite or purchase one at Cantigny (\$3). Wind permitting, Chicago Kite will demonstrate some larger, fancier models. Free with \$5 parking.

Monday, April 23
Doodlebugs Art Class
Education Center, 10 to 11 am (first of 3 sessions)

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Kids' Concoctions." Class meets three consecutive days, April 23-25. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, April 28 & Sunday, April 29
Woodcarving Show

Visitors Center, 9 am to 4 pm
"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. Admission is free with paid 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 House, 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.