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CANTIGNY'S MCCORMICK HOUSE NAMES "COMMUNITY TREES" WINNER

*Seven participating nonprofits will receive grant funding from the
Robert R. McCormick Foundation*

Wheaton, Ill., January 7, 2019 — The Robert R. McCormick House at Cantigny Park today announced that the Christmas tree decorated by [Operation Welcome You Home](#) and displayed at the museum received the most votes in public balloting. By winning the popular vote, the organization earns an additional \$2,500 grant from the Robert R. McCormick Foundation for a total of \$5,000. Six other participating local charities each receive \$2,500.

Operation Welcome You Home is a 100% volunteer organization dedicated to assisting local veterans. Based in Naperville and founded in 2007, it organizes grand gestures of support for veterans leaving for, or returning from, combat-zone deployment.

"Community Trees" is an annual holiday attraction to celebrate Cantigny's connections with the community and honor Colonel McCormick's philanthropic legacy. Seven local charities were invited to participate because their missions involve issues or causes that were meaningful to Cantigny's benefactor.

Museum visitors during the holiday season were encouraged to vote for their favorite tree and, if they wished, donate to one or more of the agencies. Cash contributions by visitors totaled \$1,674, all of which goes to the participating charities. More than 2,900 votes were cast.

This was the ninth year for Community Trees. Participating organizations (in addition to Operation Welcome You Home) were:

- [Family Focus, Inc.](#)
- [Freedom Golf Association](#)
- [Glen Ellyn Food Pantry](#)
- [Streamwood Choral Society](#)
- [Unity Partnership](#)
- [West Suburban Humane Society](#)

McCormick House is closed in January and will reopen on weekends in February for free guided tours. Hours in February are 10 am to 4 pm on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The museum returns to its regular Tuesday through Sunday tour schedule in March.

More information about Cantigny, including park hours, directions and details about upcoming events is online at Cantigny.org.

About the Robert R. McCormick House

[McCormick House](#), a historic home museum, is the former residence of Col. Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. Opened in 1958, the museum is located at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Illinois, the 500-acre estate that McCormick left as a gift to the public. The museum engages the community in McCormick's legacy as an active citizen, soldier and media industry innovator.

About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre former estate of Col. Robert R. McCormick located in Wheaton, Illinois. It is home to McCormick House, First Division Museum, formal gardens, picnic grounds, walking trails, and a Visitor Center with banquet and dining facilities. More information, including hours, directions, and upcoming events, is online at [Cantigny.org](#). Cantigny Golf, adjacent to the park, features a 27-hole championship golf course, a full-service clubhouse, Cantigny Golf Academy, and the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links. For more information, please visit [CantignyGolf.com](#).