



Media Contact:

Jeff Reiter
Cantigny Park
630.260.8218
jreiter@mccormickfoundation.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **CHICAGO SINFONIETTA DEBUTS AT CANTIGNY AUGUST 9**

Tickets on sale for under-the-stars performance by "an orchestra like no other"

Wheaton, III., July 7, 2014 — The <u>Chicago Sinfonietta</u>, known for its daring, one-of-a-kind performances, will play at Cantigny Park on Saturday, August 9, at 8 pm. It's the orchestra's first-ever outdoor concert in Chicago's western suburbs.

The Sinfonietta, conducted by the dynamic Mei-Ann Chen, music director, plans a special 2014-15 season preview concert at Cantigny. Featured music will include a selection of romantic suites from Ravel's beloved "Carmen" and Ralph Vaughn Williams' spirited "English Folk Song Suite." Florence Price's composition, "Dances in the Canebreaks," will showcase the work of the pioneering African American composer. The evening concludes with Antonín Dvořák's lyrical and folk melody inspired "Symphony No. 8."

"The Chicago Sinfonietta is truly excited and honored to be the first professional orchestra to perform at Cantigny Park," said Jim Hirsch, executive director. "This beautiful setting will provide the perfect complement for the repertoire we have selected and will surely make for a fun and memorable evening of music."

Sinfonietta tickets are \$22 in advance or \$24 the day of performance. Cantigny members and Sinfonietta subscribers pay \$20 in advance or \$22 at the door. The general public and Cantigny members can purchase tickets online at <a href="Cantigny.org">Cantigny.org</a> or call 630.260.8162. Sinfonietta subscribers should visit <a href="ChicagoSinfonietta.org">ChicagoSinfonietta.org</a>. Tickets also are available at the park in the Cantigny Shop. Parking is complimentary for all ticket holders.

The Chicago Sinfonietta is the third and final Saturday evening symphony concert at Cantigny Park this summer. The DuPage Symphony Orchestra visits July 12 and the West Suburban Symphony performs July 26.

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## **About the Chicago Sinfonietta**

The <u>Chicago Sinfonietta</u> is a professional orchestra that forms unique cultural connections through the universal language of symphonic music. For over 26 years, the Sinfonietta has pushed artistic and social boundaries to provide an alternative way of hearing, seeing and thinking about a symphony orchestra. Each concert experience fuses inventive new works with classical masterworks from a diverse array of voices to entertain, transform and inspire. These unique, innovative performances have earned the Sinfonietta the label of "Chicago's hippest orchestra" according to the *Chicago* 

*Tribune*. The Chicago Sinfonietta annually performs five subscription concerts in both downtown Chicago at Symphony Center and in Naperville at Wentz Concert Hall.

The Sinfonietta has a proud history of having enriched the cultural, educational and social quality of life in Chicago under the guidance of Founding Music Director Paul Freeman. Mei-Ann Chen succeeded Freeman as the Chicago Sinfonietta's Music Director beginning with the 2011-12 season. In 2012 the Sinfonietta was honored with two national awards for excellence from the League of American Orchestras, one for adventurous programming and one recognizing Maestro Chen with the Helen M. Thompson Award for an Emerging Music Director.

## **About Cantigny Park**

Cantigny Park, part of the 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.