

November/December Events and Classes at Cantigny Park

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

November

Saturday, November 2

American Legion Pancake Breakfast

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 7 am to 1 pm

Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion will host this fundraiser in conjunction with the Cantigny 5K Run/Walk. Feast on pancakes, sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy, and maybe win a door prize too! Cost: \$6 advance/\$7 door; \$2 for ages 4 and under.

Saturday, November 2

Cantigny 5K Run/Walk

Parade Field, 9 am

A great race in beautiful surroundings! Event is chip-timed and limited to 1,000 runners. Youth Run and Tot Run, too. All proceeds benefit the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Wheaton. Register at signmeup.com/92074.

Sunday, November 3

Toy Soldier Show

Visitors Center, 9 am to 4 pm

Toy soldier enthusiasts will display collections of small-scale soldiers and armaments at this favorite annual event for all ages. Items will be for sale and painting techniques will be demonstrated. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Sunday, November 3

Mosaic Christmas Ball Ornaments

Education Center, 1 to 4 pm

Students in this introductory-level mosaic class will create two keepsake ornaments for the holiday. The base for this project is a weightless plastic clear ornament and tiny pieces of china, glass and jewels create endless reflections dangling from the tree or simply displayed. Expert instruction by mosaic artist Lisa Tolbert will include proper cutting of china and glass, adhesive application, fitting pieces on a three-dimensional surface smoothly, and the grouting process. Cost: \$50. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Monday, November 4

Doodlebugs Art Class

Education Center, 1 to 2 pm

Drop off your child (ages 5 to 6) for an hour of artistic exploration! The theme for this 3-session class is "Picture Perfect Painting." Class also meets Nov. 11 and 18. Cost: \$12; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Monday, November 4

Grandparent/Grandchild Bingo Bonanza

Le Jardin (in the Visitors Center), 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Spend a fun and special evening with your grandchild! All ages welcome. Event includes bingo, pizza, beverages and prizes. Cost: \$10 per person. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, November 5

Garden Tour: Tree Trail

Visitors Center, 11 am

Learn all about Cantigny's magnificent trees and enjoy the fall foliage on this guided walk of the new Cantigny Tree Trail led by Todd Henderson, head forester. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Tuesday, November 5

Muggles Making Art

Education Center, 6 to 7:30 pm

Kari Krauss from Water Street Studios will instruct this fun and creative 4-session class. If your child (age 6 to 11) likes Harry Potter and art, this is the perfect fit. Fun games and snacks, too! Class also meets Nov. 12, 19 and 26. Cost is \$70. Parking is free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, November 6

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. The theme of this session is "The Parts of a Tree." For ages 18 to 36 months with adult. Cost: \$6 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, November 6

Date with History Lecture Series

First Division Museum, 7:30 pm

Author Jörg Muth will discuss "Command Culture: Officer Education in the U.S. Army and the German Armed Forces, 1901-1940, and the Consequences for World War II." Free admission and parking. For program details, visit firstdivisionmuseum.org.

Thursday, November 7

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10 to 11 am

Young children are invited to explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, nature walks and crafts. The theme for this 3-session class is "Terrific Trees." Class also meets Nov. 14 and 21. For ages 3 to 5, with adult. Cost: \$18 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Friday, November 8

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10 to 11 am

Young children are invited to explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, nature walks and crafts. The theme for this 3-session class is "Terrific Trees." Class also meets Nov. 15 and 22. For ages 3 to 5, with adult. Cost: \$18 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Monday, November 11

Veterans Day Luminary Tribute

Parade Field, 5 pm to 9 pm

Honor those who served and sacrificed for America's freedom by attending a solemn Luminary Tribute featuring more than 2,000 candles. The First Division Museum will stay open late and special Veterans Day programming will be offered inside the museum and the Cantigny Visitors Center. Free parking all day.

Wednesday, November 20

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9:30 to 10:15 am

Introduce your little one to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. The theme of this session is "Forest Friends." For ages 18 to 36 months with adult. Cost: \$6 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, November 21**Crafty Ladies****Education Center, 2 to 3:30 pm**

Get your creative juices flowing, socialize with fellow crafters and make some Christmas ornaments for the upcoming holidays (perfect for gift giving). All supplies provided and all levels of crafters welcome! Cost \$15; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Monday, November 25**Talkin' Turkey Parent-Child Activity****Education Center, 10 to 11 am**

Children are invited to celebrate the star of Thanksgiving Day, the wild turkey! Learn about these interesting birds, listen to stories, sing songs and make some turkey crafts! For ages 3 to 5 with adult. Cost: \$10 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Monday, November 25**Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop****Cantigny Greenhouse, 6:30 pm**

Create a fresh arrangement for your holiday table with expert instruction from Joyce Grattoni, AIFD. Bring a hand pruner and wire cutter to class, plus a cardboard tray to help transport your floral creation home. All other materials provided. Meet at the Cantigny Greenhouse at 6:30 pm. Enter at the Shaffner Road gate. \$45 fee includes parking. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, November 26**Community Trees Display****Robert R. McCormick Museum**

Through the holiday season, see Christmas trees artfully decorated throughout the museum by seven local non-profit groups with missions linked to Colonel Robert R. McCormick. Visitors are encouraged to vote for their favorite tree. The seven participating nonprofits receive a donation from the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, and the organization with the winning tree will receive additional funding. Museum visitors may also donate if they choose. Free with paid parking (\$5).

December**Monday, December 2****Doodlebugs Art Class****Education Center, 1 to 2 pm**

Drop off your child (ages 5 to 6) for an hour of artistic exploration! The 2-session class has a holiday theme and also meets Dec. 9. Cost: \$12; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, December 3**Music Together® Holiday Sing-a-long****Education Center, 9:30-10:15 am or 10:30-11:15 am**

The whole family will enjoy these fun, festive and energetic sessions instructed by Rhonda Sisson. Class also meets Dec. 10 and 17. For ages birth to 6 years. Tuition is \$45 for the first registered child and \$35 for registered siblings over 9 months old. Younger siblings are free. Free parking. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, December 3**Shades of Crimson Poinsettia Display****Cantigny Greenhouse, 10 am to 2 pm**

At this popular annual event, visitors to the Cantigny Greenhouse will marvel at a sea of poinsettia plants at their holiday best. See 15 or more varieties and 3,000-plus poinsettias in total, all grown on site. Plants will be available for sale, and Cantigny horticulturists will lead tours and answer questions. Groups welcome but advance notice is requested for groups of 10 or more (call 630.260.8162). Event hours are 10 am to 2 pm. Free admission and parking. Visitors should park in the main lot at the Visitors Center, then walk to the greenhouse or ride the free shuttle.

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

Introduce your little one to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. The theme of this session is "Winter Wonderland." For ages 18 to 36 months with adult. Cost: \$6 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, December 4
Date with History Lecture Series
First Division Museum, 7:30 pm

Colonel Eric Wesley visits. Free admission and parking. For program details, visit firstdivisionmuseum.org.

Thursday, December 5
Sprouts Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 10 to 11 am

Young children are invited to explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, nature walks and crafts. The theme for this 2-session class is "Winter Nature Tales." Class also meets Dec. 12. For ages 3 to 5, with adult. Cost: \$12 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Friday, December 6
Sprouts Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 10 to 11 am

Young children are invited to explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, nature walks and crafts. The theme for this 2-session class is "Winter Nature Tales." Class also meets Dec. 13. For ages 3 to 5, with adult. Cost: \$12 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Saturday, December 7
Kris Greengle Market
Visitors Center, 10 am to 7 pm

We're dreaming of a Green Christmas! Stop by the Kris Greengle Market, a first-time event at Cantigny, and get a jump on your holiday shopping. The marketplace will feature a variety of local eco-friendly vendors with clever gift ideas that respect the environment. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Saturday, December 7
Celebrate the Season Holiday Festival
Parkwide, 4 pm to 7 pm

Families and children of all ages will enjoy the park's third-annual holiday festival. Activities include tree lighting ceremony, Kris Greengle Market, ice carving demonstrations, carolers, live reindeer display and of course a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Event is free but a small fee will apply to some activities such as facepainting and sleigh rides. Parking is \$2 per car.

Sunday, December 8
Brunch with Santa
Le Jardin, 11 am & 1 pm seatings

Enjoy a special holiday buffet and meet Mr. C! Young guests can have their picture taken with Santa and each will receive a Santa-style stocking cap. Balloon-twisting entertainment too! \$23/adults; \$15/ages 3 to 12; kids 2 and under free. Prices include tax and gratuity. Full menu posted online. For reservations call 630.260.8260 or e-mail jchase@cantigny.org.

Wednesday, December 11

Pre-Engineering with LEGO®

Visitors Center Medill Room, 4:30 to 6 pm

Kids can let their imaginations run wild with more than 100,000 pieces of LEGO®! Build engineer-designed projects such as boats, bridges, mazes and motorized cars, and use special pieces to create first-time designs. An experienced builder from Play-Well TEKnologies will provide expert instruction. LEGO® building materials will be provided for class use but are not for sale or distribution. For ages 5 to 6. Cost: \$20 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, December 12

Engineering FUNdamentals with LEGO®

Visitors Center Medill Room, 4:30 to 6 pm

Kids can power up their engineering skills with more than 100,000 pieces of LEGO®! Apply real-world concepts in physics, engineering, and architecture through engineer-designed projects such as arch bridges, skyscrapers, motorized cars and the Battletrack. An experienced builder from Play-Well TEKnologies will provide expert instruction and challenge new and returning students to engineer at the next level. LEGO® building materials will be provided for class use but are not for sale or distribution. For ages 7 to 12. Cost: \$20 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Saturday, December 14 & Sunday, December 15

LEGO® Train Show

Visitors Center, 9 am to 4 pm

Cantigny Park's 12th annual holiday show is produced by the Northern Illinois LEGO® Train Club. This is the club's largest show of the year and one of Cantigny's most popular annual events for families. Admission is free with paid parking (\$5 per car). Cantigny waives the parking fee for anyone bringing a new and unwrapped toy for the Marine Toys for Tots drop boxes inside the Visitors Center.

Saturday, December 14

LEGO® Train Show Party

Visitors Center, 6 to 8 pm

Guests can enjoy the LEGO® Train Show without lines, viewing the amazing displays and meet the creative builders from the Northern Illinois LEGO® Train Club. Snacks, desserts and hot chocolate will be served and a cash bar will be available. Ticket holders also receive a holiday keepsake and complimentary parking. Tickets for the party are limited and priced at \$15 for adults and \$8 for children ages 3-12. Kids 2 and under are free. Parking is free for ticketholders and discounts are available for Cantigny Plus members. Tickets may be purchased online at Cantigny.org, at the park in the Cantigny Shop or by phone at 630.260.8162.

Sunday, December 15

Holiday Concert: Anima Young Singers

Robert R. McCormick Museum, 3 pm

The touring chorus of Anima, an internationally recognized youth choral organization serving the Chicago area, will perform a Christmas-themed concert in the museum's historic Freedom Hall. Tickets are free but distribution is by lottery due to limited seating. Limit two per person. To enter, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org before Dec. 6. Forty names will be drawn on Dec. 7 and winners contacted by Dec. 11. Parking is \$5 per car.

Wednesday, December 19

Holiday Floral Arrangement Workshop

Cantigny Greenhouse, 6:30 pm

Create a beautiful arrangement to enhance your home or table for the holiday. Janet Gallagher, floral design instructor from Kishwaukee College, will provide expert instruction. Bring a hand pruner if you have one and a box or container to assist in taking your arrangement home. All other materials provided. Meet at the Cantigny Greenhouse at 6:30 pm. Enter at the Shaffner Road gate. \$45 fee includes parking. Register in advance at 630.260.8162 or download a registration form on the Cantigny website.

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About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton estate of Robert R. McCormick. It is home to the McCormick Museum, 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, full-service clubhouse, Cantigny Golf Academy and the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links. For more information, visit CantignyGolf.com.

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