

July 31, 2017

Media Contact:

Jeff Reiter
Cantigny Park
630.260.8218

jreiter@mccormickfoundation.org

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER EVENTS & CLASSES AT CANTIGNY PARK

The following activities will take place at Cantigny Park, 1s151 Winfield Road in Wheaton. Parking at Cantigny is \$5 on weekdays and \$10 on weekends (and Labor Day). The weekend rate drops to \$5 in October. Parking is free on the first Wednesday of each month. Additional details are online at Cantigny.org or call 630.668.5161.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 3

Free Concert: Piece o' Chord

Bandshell, 1:30 pm

Piece o' Chord is a female barbershop quartet, an offshoot of Misty River Music Makers, the Fox Valley's premier women's a cappella chorus. Bopology will follow Piece o' Chord on stage at 3 pm. Lawn seating; chairs and blankets welcome. Free with parking (\$10).

Sunday, September 3

Free Concert: Bopology

Bandshell, 3 pm

Enjoy Chicago's favorite swing, jazz, Frank Sinatra and jump-blues band, established in 1992. Lawn seating; chairs and blankets welcome. Free with parking (\$10).

FEATURED EVENT!

Monday, September 4

Free Concert: Northwest Concert Band

Bandshell, 3 pm

Celebrate Labor Day with this 65-member group from Rolling Meadows, conducted by Ralph Wilder. This is one of Chicagoland's premier community concert bands, featuring a wide variety of musical genres including classical, marches, Broadway, pop, rock, swing and jazz. Lawn seating; chairs and blankets welcome. Free with parking (\$10).

Tuesday, September 5

Garden Tour: Prairie

Visitors Center, 11 am

Join Craig Kruckenberg from Cantigny Horticulture for an up-close look at Cantigny's two-acre prairie featuring native grasses and forbs, such as asters, Echinacea and Rudbeckia. The prairie is a haven for wildlife, including birds and butterflies, and is home to Cantigny's chimney swift tower. Free with parking (\$5).

Wednesday, September 6
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. The theme for this class is "Terrific Trees." Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, September 6
Sprouts Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 10:45 to 11:45 am (first of 3 sessions)

Children ages 3 to 5 years 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 meets on three consecutive Wednesdays: Sept. 6, 13 and 20. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, September 6
Date with History: Dr. Hai Nguyen
Visitors Center, 7:30 pm

Dr. Hai Nguyen from Texas Tech University will share his research (sponsored by the First Division Museum) on the combat motivations and perceptions of soldiers of the Vietnam War. Interviews were conducted with veterans from all sides, including the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese Army. Program and parking free. For more information, visit fdmuseum.org or call 630.260.8187.

FEATURED EVENT!

Saturday, September 9
Sunday, September 10
Revolutionary War Reenactment
Parade Field/Polo Field, 10 am to 4 pm

The Revolutionary War era comes alive as hundreds of living history actors from the Northwest Territory Alliance visit the park for this fun, educational and free event. Witness narrated mock battles and artillery demonstrations, and sample life in the late 18th century by strolling through the encampment of soldiers and civilians. Free with parking (\$10).

Saturday, September 9
Second Saturday: Revolutionary War
Education Center, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited to the McCormick House's monthly drop-in program. This month, coinciding with Cantigny's Revolutionary War Reenactment, the museum celebrates the birth of our nation. Try your hand at a colonial-era printing activity (while supplies last) and use a quill pen to put your John Hancock on a copy of the Declaration of Independence. Visit an activity station featuring ladies of the 18th century, too. Free with parking (\$10).

Wednesday, September 13
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. The theme for this class is "Tree Friends." Cost: \$6; parking is free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 14

Doodlebugs Art Class

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

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of artistic exploration! This month's theme is "Garden Greatness." Class meets on three consecutive Thursday: Sept. 14, 21 and 28. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 14

Monarch Butterfly Tagging

Idea Garden, 1 pm

Learn about a beautiful and fascinating insect! This tagging event at Cantigny's Idea Garden assists the Monarch Watch organization in tracking these butterflies as they migrate back to the mountains of Mexico. Highly recommended for families! Free with parking (\$5).

Friday, September 15

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

First Division Museum, 10 am to 5 pm

This observance is held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag. At 11 am, Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion will conduct a brief remembrance ceremony. Throughout the day, a missing man table will be displayed in the lobby of the First Division Museum. The table and items on it symbolize the sacrifices made by prisoners of war and those still missing in action.

FEATURED EVENT!

Friday, September 15

Family Night: Tree Hike & Campfire

Visitors Center, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Cantigny's monthly Family Night series continues with a nature hike focused on the park's biggest, tallest and coolest trees. Learn how to differentiate three kinds of oak tree and more! After the walk, relax around the campfire. Families are welcome to bring their own s'more fixins'. Free with parking (\$5).

FEATURED EVENT!

Sunday, September 17

12th Annual Cantigny Car Show

South parking lot, 9 am to 3 pm

Nearly 100 awards in a wide range of categories will be presented to owners of 400-plus vintage vehicles on display. The First Division Museum will exhibit historic military vehicles, too. Live entertainment by Joe Kalish and DJ music by Carousel Sound, plus food concessions. Free with parking (\$10).

FEATURED EVENT!

Sunday, September 17

Jewelry & Accessories Show

Visitors Center, 10 am to 4 pm

Cantigny's annual Beads, Bangles & Baubles Jewelry & Accessories Show will showcase an array of handcrafted items from local artists. Free with parking (\$10).

Wednesday, September 20
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. The theme for this class is "Fun with Leaves." Cost: \$6; parking is free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 21
Monarch Butterfly Tagging
Idea Garden, 1 pm

Learn about a beautiful and fascinating insect! This family-friendly tagging event at Cantigny's Idea Garden assists the Monarch Watch organization in tracking these butterflies as they migrate back to the mountains of Mexico. Free with parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 21
Lunch and Learn: Rediscovering Camp McDowell
Visitors Center, 12 to 1 pm

New for 2017, this noon program on the third Thursday of the month features local speakers on topics of interest. Chris Gingrich from the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County will discuss Camp McDowell, a U.S. Army radar training school during World War II, on the site of the current McDowell Grove Forest Preserve in Naperville. Bring a lunch or reserve one. To register or order a box lunch call 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

Saturday, September 23
Vintage Base Ball
Parade Field, 1 pm

Pull up a hay bale and witness "America's Pastime" as it was played during Civil War times, under the rules of 1858. Clubs scheduled to appear: DuPage Plowboys, Milwaukee Grays and Somonauk Blue Stockings. Free with parking (\$10).

Wednesday, September 27
Kid Rock's Fall Jamboree
Education Center, 10 to 10:45 am

This music and movement parent-child event is perfect for kids ages 1 to 5. Songs and musical activities will have a fun autumn theme and plenty of props! Kid Rock has been providing music, dance classes and events since 1995. Learn more at rockitkids.com. Cost: \$10 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 3
Hayride Tour
Visitors Center, 10 am to noon

Savor the wonderful colors of early autumn from a tractor-pulled haywagon. Rides will start and end at the Cantigny Visitor Center. Groups of 10 or more are asked to register in advance by calling 630.260.8162. Rides are complimentary on a first-come, first-serve basis. Free with parking (\$5).

Wednesday, October 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. The theme for this class is "Baby Bunnies." Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, October 4

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

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

Children ages 3 to 5 years are invited to explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, nature walks and crafts. The theme for this 3-session class is "Oh Baby!" Class meets on three consecutive Wednesdays: Oct. 4, 11 and 18. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, October 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. The theme for this class is "Baby Chicks." Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT!

Saturday, October 14

Cantigny Fall Festival

Parade Field, 10 am to 4 pm

Celebrate autumn with harvest-time fun at Cantigny Park! Activities and entertainment for all ages including pumpkin decorating, hay rides, petting zoo, inflatables and facepainting, plus a craft fair, food trucks and live music by ScribbleMonster, Dave Eno and The Great Whiskey Project. Event is free with parking (\$5). A nominal fee applies for some activities.

Saturday, October 14

Usborne Children's Book Fair

Visitors Center, 10 am to 4 pm

Stop in to browse a wide selection of books for young readers before and during the Cantigny Fall Festival. Usborne Books offers some of the most exciting, engaging and educational children's books on the market today. Free event; parking \$5.

Saturday, October 14

Second Saturday: Fall Fest

Education Center, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited to the McCormick House's monthly drop-in program with interactive themes. This month the museum ties in with the Cantigny Fall Festival by recalling Robert McCormick's love of trees. Visitors can make leaf rubbings and enjoy two other fall-theme activities. Crafts are "while supplies last." Free program at the Education Center; parking \$5.

Sunday, October 15

ClaySpace Pottery Show

Visitors Center, 10 am to 4 pm

Artists will exhibit and offer for sale a variety of handmade and one-of-a-kind ceramic pieces such as platters, bowls, wall sculptures, vases, soap dishes and jewelry. ClaySpace is a nonprofit clay arts studio located in Warrenville and home to a community of resident artists. Free with parking (\$5).

Sunday, October 15

Garden Photo Tips

Visitors Center, 2 pm

Receive advice, share your own knowledge, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow shutterbugs in beautiful surroundings. Group size is limited to 10—register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

Wednesday, October 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. The theme for this class is "Baby Lambs." Cost: \$6; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, October 19

Lunch and Learn! The Colonel's Doughboys

Visitors Center, 12 to 1 pm

New for 2017, this noon program on the third Thursday of the month features local speakers on topics of interest. Paul Herbert from the First Division Museum will discuss the men of the 1st Infantry Division who, like Colonel McCormick (Cantigny's benefactor), served at the village of Cantigny and other locations in France, circa 1917-19. Some of the "doughboys" became famous and some led surprising lives after the war. Many also visited the Cantigny estate as guests of the Colonel in the 1920s and 1930s. Bring a lunch or reserve one. To register or order a box lunch call 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

FEATURED EVENT!

Thursday, October 19

Lagunitas Beer Dinner

Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf, 6:30 pm

Enjoy a delicious four-course meal accompanied by a variety of brews, explained by a representative from Chicago's Lagunitas Brewing Company. The cost of \$60 includes tax and gratuity. For reservations (required), call Pat at 630.260.8194 or email pduquette@cantigny.org

FEATURED EVENT!

Friday, October 20

Family Night: Pumpkins & Treats

Visitors Center, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

The park's monthly Family Night series continues with a Halloween theme. Costumes welcome! Enjoy a fun craft, pumpkin decorating, trick-or-treating and more. Free with \$5 parking.

Saturday, October 21

Cantigny Bridal Show

Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf, 12 to 3 pm

This free event is designed for couples thinking about (or planning) a wedding at Cantigny. View room setups and table arrangements; sample cuisine; meet with vendors and more. Also, learn about Cantigny's new tent venue option for 2018! To register, call Alexa at 630.260.8106 or email aegan@cantigny.org.

Tuesday, October 24

Doodlebugs Art Class

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

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of artistic exploration! This week's theme is "Camp Mess-terpiece." Class meets three consecutive days: Oct. 24-26. Cost: \$18; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, October 25
Kid Rock's Monster Mash
Education Center, 10 to 10:45 am

This music and movement parent-child event is perfect for kids ages 1 to 5. Songs and musical activities will have a fun Halloween theme and plenty of props! Kid Rock has been providing music, dance classes and events since 1995. Learn more at rockitkids.com. Cost: \$10 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT!

Friday, October 27
Murder Mystery Dinner-Theater
Robert R. McCormick House, 6:30 to 9:30 pm

Make this a Halloween to remember by enjoying cocktails, a delicious meal and solving a good mystery—all in an unforgettable, historic setting! The theme centers on the early 1930s. Full details about this professionally produced interactive dinner/theater event are online at Cantigny.org. Participation is limited to 50 guests. Must be 21 to register. Cost: \$110 per person; \$99 for Cantigny members. Register by October 16 via the website or 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT!

Saturday, October 28
Cantigny Catapult Contest
Parade Field, 10 am to 12 pm

The First Division Museum invites teams to build a working catapult, a device once used in medieval warfare. Three categories of competition: distance, shot group and accuracy. Prizes will be awarded for first and second place in each category. Full details, contest rules and entry forms are online at fdmuseum.org.

Monday, October 30
Boo Bash!
Education Center, 10 to 11 am

Children are invited to wear their Halloween costumes to this fun hour of not-too-spooky activities and stories, ending with a yummy treat! For ages 3 to 5 with adult. Cost: \$10 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

###

About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton (IL) estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955). It is home to the McCormick Museum, First Division Museum (reopening August 26, 2017), formal gardens, picnic grounds, walking trails and a Visitors 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.