

Media Contact:

Jeff Reiter

Cantigny Park

630.260.8218

jreiter@mccormickfoundation.org

“COMMUNITY TREES” DISPLAY OPENS AT MCCORMICK HOUSE NOVEMBER 17

Seven area nonprofits to participate in eighth annual holiday event for charity

Wheaton, Ill., November 13, 2017 — The [Robert R. McCormick House at Cantigny Park](#) invites visitors to a special holiday attraction honoring Colonel McCormick’s philanthropic legacy.

Beginning Friday, November 17, and through December 30, the McCormick House will feature seven “Community Trees,” each decorated for Christmas by a different local nonprofit organization. The area charities were invited to participate because their missions involve issues or causes that were important to Robert McCormick during his career and life at Cantigny.

Each participating organization receives a \$2,500 grant from the Robert R. McCormick Foundation. They also collect 100% of donations made by museum visitors, who are encouraged to vote for their favorite tree. The agency whose tree gathers the most votes receives an additional \$2,500. The Foundation commits \$20,000 annually to the program.

The chosen agencies recall Colonel McCormick’s passion for community service. Tree decorators in 2017 are:

- [360 Youth Services](#), Naperville – provides life-changing services to youth through substance abuse education, counseling and housing.
- [Child’s Voice](#), Wood Dale – empowers children with hearing loss to be successful in all educational and social settings by optimizing their listening, speaking and academic skills.
- [National Alliance on Mental Illness DuPage](#), Wheaton – improves the quality of life for individuals and families in DuPage County affected by mental illness.
- [Naperville Responds for Veterans](#), Naperville – assists military veterans in need and in crisis with home repairs, renovations and construction.
- [Wheaton League of Women Voters Education Fund](#), Wheaton – conducts voter service and citizen education activities, presenting unbiased nonpartisan information about elections, the voting process and issues.
- [The Resiliency Institute](#), Naperville – builds resilient communities through permaculture education, food security projects and community engagement.

- [World Relief DuPage/Aurora](#), Aurora and Wheaton – partners with local churches and community groups to offer a comprehensive range of services to refugees and immigrants living in DuPage and Kane Counties.

The trees creatively decorated by these seven organizations will be positioned throughout McCormick House. For the eighth consecutive year, the Westmont design center of [Phillip's Flowers & Gifts](#) is decorating the 18-foot-tall tree in Freedom Hall, Colonel McCormick's historic library.

The Community Trees exhibit ends on Saturday, December 30, Cantigny Park's final day of 2017 operations.

McCormick House hours in November and December are 10 am to 4 pm, Tuesday-Sunday, with visits by free guided tour. The museum is closed on Mondays and during the holidays will close November 23-24 and December 24-25.

Parking at Cantigny is \$5 per vehicle (free for members). More information, including park hours, directions and a calendar of upcoming events is online at [Cantigny.org](#).

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About the Robert R. McCormick House

McCormick House is the former home of Col. Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. Opened in 1958, the historic home museum is located at Cantigny Park, 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 Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundation, is the 500-acre Wheaton estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955). It is home to the McCormick House, First Division Museum, 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](#).