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MARCH-APRIL EVENTS & 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.

MARCH

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 2

Popular Opera Series: Celeste Martino

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 4 pm

Opera soprano Celeste Martino presents "Girls Who Love Too Well!", a comical journey of anecdotes and her favorite opera arias. The program is entertaining and informative, highlighted by Martino's extraordinary voice. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Tuesday, March 5

Greenhouse Tour

Cantigny Greenhouse, 11 am

Take a behind-the-scenes look at the park's spring bedding plants and the beginning stages of its summer plant series on this guided tour. The greenhouse is normally closed to the public. Free with paid parking (\$5). Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Park at the Visitors Center then walk to the greenhouse or ride the tram.

Tuesday, March 5

Doodlebugs Art Class

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

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Blowin' in the Wind." Class meets three consecutive Tuesdays: March 5, 12 and 19. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 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. Theme: "Don't Blow Away!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 6

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

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

Children ages 3 to 5 years (with adult) are invited to explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, outdoor walks and crafts. Theme: "Weather Wonders." Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: March 6, 13 and 20. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, March 7

Date with History: Author Kelly Kennedy

Visitors Center, 7 pm

The First Division Museum presents Kelly Kennedy, co-author of “Fight Like a Girl: The Truth Behind How Female Marines are Trained,” published in 2018. Kennedy served in the U.S. Army from 1987 to 1993, including tours in the Middle East during Desert Storm. An accomplished print journalist, she is also author of “They Fought for Each Other: The Triumph and Tragedy of the Hardest Hit Unit in Iraq.” Program and parking are free. Details online at fdmuseum.org.

Saturday, March 9

Second Saturday: Women’s History Month

McCormick House Gold Theater, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited to the museum’s Gold Theatre for this monthly drop-in program with interactive themes. The March program honors Women’s History Month with a focus on the 19th Amendment which granted women the right to vote. Free program; parking \$5.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 9

Women’s History Month: Mary Florence Potts

McCormick House, 3 pm

Living history actor Ellie Carlson portrays inventor Mary Florence Potts, who perfected the cold-handled sad iron, “A Boon to Women!” Mrs. Potts, fresh from her appearance at the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago, will discuss domestic life in the 19th century, the science and technology behind her invention, and what it means for a woman to hold a U.S. Patent and manage her own affairs. This program in the museum’s Freedom Hall is ideal for families with children ages 10 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

Wednesday, March 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. Theme: “Cloudy Skies.” Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Friday, March 15

“Little Leprechauns” Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10 to 11 am

This St. Patrick’s Day celebration for ages 3 to 5 will include stories, fun crafts and a special treat! \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 16

Royal Ice Princess Breakfast

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 8:30 am

Join us for a Royal Breakfast with the Ice Queen. Be prepared to “let it go” and have some fun—costumes welcome! Cost: \$32 ages 13 and up; \$20 ages 4-12; \$5 ages 3 and under. Prices include printed photo with the Ice Queen, tax, gratuity and parking. Make reservations at Cantigny.org.

Tuesday, March 19

**Kid Rock “Shamrock Shuffle” Parent-Child Event
Visitors Center Medill Room, 10 to 10:45 am**

Parents and their wee ones (ages 1-5) are invited to celebrate St. Patty's Day with a fun and musical session of songs, instruments and imaginative play. For more about Kid Rock programs, visit rockitkids.com. Cost: \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 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. Theme: “Rainbows.” Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Wednesday, March 20

**Women’s History Month: Queen Elizabeth II
McCormick House, 7 pm**

Living history actor Leslie Goddard explores the life of Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II. Get to know the woman behind the images, her sense of humor and savvy intelligence with which she meets her demanding obligations. This program in the museum’s Freedom Hall is ideal for families with children ages 10 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 23

**Popular Opera Series: Sinfonietta Bel Canto
Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 4 pm**

Never fear, opera is here! Save a drive to downtown Chicago as singers from Sinfonietta Bel Canto perform a repertoire that will delight and inform opera aficionados along with those who are new to this musical art form. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Sunday, March 24

**Introduction to Grafting Fruit Trees
Cantigny Greenhouse, 1:30 to 3 pm**

The Midwest Fruit Explorers, a garden club for backyard fruit growers, offers this class for beginners. The workshop is free but advance registration is required. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Parking (\$5) is at the Visitors Center with free tram service available to the greenhouse.

FEATURED EVENT

Monday, March 25

**Women’s History Month: Tracing the Role of Women at the *Chicago Tribune*
McCormick House, 3 pm**

Robert McCormick’s innovations in publishing are well known. This presentation, by McCormick House docent Laurie Russell, examines McCormick’s groundbreaking use of women reporters, editors and columnists at the *Chicago Tribune* beginning with World War I. He also capitalized on the changing role of women after the Great War by appealing directly to their tastes and interests. This program in the museum’s Freedom Hall is suited for ages 14 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

Friday, March 29

Date with History: Author Geoffrey Wawro

Visitors Center, 7 pm

The First Division Museum presents author and military historian Dr. Geoffrey Wawro. His presentation, "Allied Collapse and American Intervention: How the A.E.F. Won World War I," will borrow from his latest book, "Sons of Freedom," published in September. Program and parking are free. Details online at fdmuseum.org.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, March 30

Women's History Month: America's First Ladies

McCormick House, 4 pm

Living history actor Leslie Goddard will discuss the "best" and "worst" first ladies according to historians, and what the future might hold for the role. This program in the museum's Freedom Hall is ideal for families with children ages 10 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

APRIL

Monday, April 1

McCormick House Lecture Series: April Fools!

McCormick House, 3 pm

Join Jeffrey Anderson, McCormick House interpretation manager, for a game of "Two Truths and a Lie" about Colonel Robert R. McCormick's family. Attendees will hear three stories, two of which are historically accurate and one downright false. Think you can tell the truth from fiction? This program in the museum's Freedom Hall is suited for ages 14 and up. There is no cost to attend but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or email register@cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

Tuesday, April 2

Garden Tour

Visitors Center, 11 am

On this guided stroll, an expert from Cantigny Horticulture will discuss the park's collection of flowering trees, shrubs and wildflowers and answer questions. No registration required. Free program; parking \$5.

Wednesday, April 3

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. Theme: "Earth Rocks!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 3

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

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

Children ages 3 to 5 years (with adult) are invited to explore seasonal nature topics through stories, hands-on activities, outdoor walks and crafts. Theme: "Our Beautiful Earth." Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: April 3, 10 and 17. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Thursday, April 4

Cantigny Gardens 2019 Preview

Visitors Center Theater, 9 am

Enjoy a free presentation by Cantigny Horticulture (about 90 minutes) highlighting the park's plant selections and plans for the main gardens, golf course and Idea Garden, spring through fall. Get the latest news about Project New Leaf, too! Parking \$5.

Sunday, April 7

American Legion Pancake Breakfast

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 7 am to 1 pm

Cantigny Post 556 of the American Legion invites the public to a delicious fundraiser! Feast on pancakes, sausage, eggs and biscuits and gravy. Also enjoy an early spring floral display by Cantigny's horticulture department and enter a free drawing to win a flowering plant. Cost: \$8 per person; ages 4 and under free. Parking complimentary.

Tuesday, April 9

Doodlebugs Art Class

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

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Fun with Rocks!" Class meets three consecutive Tuesdays: April 9, 16 and 23. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 10

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. Theme: "Backyard Earth Friends." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, April 13 & Sunday, April 14

Easter Egg Hunt

Cantigny Park, 10 am to 4 pm

Hundreds of plastic eggs will be hidden on the property at this colorful rain or shine event for all ages. A map issued at the parking booth will guide you to activity locations. The format is "open house" so come at any time during event hours both days. Take a photo with Mr. or Mrs. Easter Bunny and enjoy a craft project at the Visitors Center. Bring a basket or decorate a carrying bag. Parking \$5.

Saturday, April 13 & Sunday, April 14

Free Movie: "Peter Rabbit"

Visitors Center Theater, 9 am to 4 pm

Enjoy a continuous screening of the 2018 feature adaptation of Beatrix Potter's classic tale of a rebellious rabbit trying to sneak into a farmer's vegetable garden. Movie is complimentary; parking \$5.

Saturday, April 13 & Sunday, April 14

Usborne Children's Book Fair

Visitors Center, 10 am to 4 pm

Add some "brain candy" to your child's Easter basket! Usborne will offer a wide selection of books for young readers. Free event; parking \$5.

FEATURED EVENT

**Saturday, April 13 & Sunday, April 14
Brunch with the Easter Bunny
Le Jardin at Cantigny Park**

Treat your family to a hearty buffet at Le Jardin inside the Cantigny Visitors Center and have the little ones photographed with the Easter Bunny. Seatings at 10 am and 12:30 pm. A strolling balloon artist and face painter will provide entertainment. Cost: \$38 ages 13 and up; \$33 ages 4-10; \$5 ages 3 and under. Prices include tax, gratuity and parking. For reservations, visit Cantigny.org.

**Saturday, April 13
Second Saturday: Books!
McCormick House, 12 to 3 pm**

Families are invited for this monthly drop-in program with interactive themes. The April program celebrates Robert R. McCormick's love of reading and his collection of more than 5,000 books, some of which he wrote himself. His books can be a bit dense, so we'll have staff reading fun children's books with Easter and farm themes. Take a break from the Cantigny Park Egg Hunt and stop by Freedom Hall for a story! Free program; parking \$5.

**Sunday, April 14
Garden Photo Tips
Visitors Center, 2 pm**

Learn how to take better pictures on a stroll led by one of Cantigny's volunteer photographers. Beginners welcome. First in a series of free monthly photo walks. Group size limited to 10; register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Parking \$5.

**Tuesday, April 16
Kid Rock "Bunny Hop" Parent-Child Event
Visitors Center Medill Room, 10 to 10:45 am**

Parents and their little ones (ages 1-5) are invited to a fun Easter-themed session of songs, instruments and imaginative play. For more about Kid Rock programs, visit rockitkids.com. Cost: \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

**Wednesday, April 17
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. Theme: "Reduce and Recycle." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

**Thursday, April 18
"Hoppy Easter!" Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 10 to 11 am**

This holiday celebration will include stories, songs and crafts about bunnies, eggs and chicks—plus a special treat! For ages 3 to 5. \$12 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

**Friday, April 19
Family Fun Night: Fly a Kite!
Parade Field, 5:30 to 7:30 pm**

The park's 2019 monthly Family Fun Night series begins with an evening devoted to kite flying! Bring your own kite or purchase a kit at Cantigny (\$3). Wind permitting, Chicago Kite will demonstrate some larger, fancier models. Free with \$5 parking.

Saturday, April 20
Spring into Gardening
Visitors Center, 9 to 11 am

Take a walk through the gardens with Cantigny horticulturist Samantha Peckham as she discusses the best ways to prepare your garden for the season. Learn valuable time-saving tips and sustainable techniques to start your garden on the path to greatness! Limit 20 participants; register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Free with paid parking (\$5).

FEATURED EVENT

Sunday, April 21
Easter Brunch

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park and Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf

Celebrate the holiday with one of the finest brunches in the western suburbs, served in beautiful surroundings. Choose a 10 am, 12:30 pm or 3 pm seating at either location. Cost: \$45 ages 11 and up; \$42 seniors over \$65; \$19 ages 4-10; children 3 and under free. Prices do not include tax or gratuity. For reservations, visit Cantigny.org.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, April 27 & Sunday, April 28
Woodcarving Show

Visitors Center, 9 am to 4 pm

“Artistry in Wood,” presented by North Suburban Carvers, features many of the Midwest’s finest woodcarvers exhibiting their work and offering one-of-a-kind items for sale. Visitors will see a wide variety of carvings and carving styles, plus demonstrations. Admission is free with paid parking (\$5).

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, April 27
War Memorials and Monuments Bus Tour
First Division Museum, 9 am

The history of a war doesn’t always end on the battlefield. Hear the continuing story of what happens to our soldiers after the fighting is done, and how our nation remembers their service. With First Division Museum staff as your guide, this bus tour will visit DuPage County World War I, World War II and Vietnam monuments and memorials. This three-hour event will require some walking and time outdoors, rain or shine. The tour is approximately three hours with four or five stops. Cost: \$28. To register, visit fdmuseum.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, April 27
Popular Opera Series: Sinfonietta Bel Canto
Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 4 pm

Never fear, opera is here! No need to drive all the way to downtown Chicago. Singers from Sinfonietta Bel Canto will perform a repertoire that will delight and inform opera aficionados as well as those who are new to this musical art form. Concert is free with paid parking (\$5).

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About Cantigny Park

Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit 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 display gardens, the Robert R. McCormick House, 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.