

July 31, 2019

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER EVENTS & CLASSES AT CANTIGNY PARK

The following activities (unless noted) 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 1

Free Concert: Chicago Tribute Anthology

Cantigny Bandshell, 3 pm

This 7-piece horn band performs the music of one of the most popular and enduring bands of all time: Chicago. Lawn seating; chairs and blankets welcome. Free with parking (\$10).

FEATURED EVENT

Monday, September 2

Free Concert: American English

Cantigny Bandshell, 3 pm

Celebrate Labor Day with perhaps the nation's best Beatles tribute band! American English captures the very essence of John, Paul, George and Ringo in every detail. Lawn seating; chairs and blankets welcome. Free with parking (\$10).

Tuesday, September 3

Tour: Butterfly Hill and Gold Pond

Visitors Center, 11 am

Learn about two of the park's newly designed landscapes, each part of the ongoing Project New Leaf. The tour, guided by Craig Kruckenberg and Matthew Fairfield from Cantigny Horticulture, will highlight the use of native species. Free with parking (\$5).

Wednesday, September 4

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Chirp, Chirp, Mr. Cricket." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, September 4

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 10 to 11 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: "Nighttime

Creatures.” Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: September 4, 11 and 18. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 5

History Hike

McCormick House, 2 pm

Exercise your body and feed your mind with an interpretive hike of Cantigny Park every Thursday afternoon through October. Park staff members will share stories about the McCormick family and lead guests to points of interest around the park. Meet outside the mansion, on the north circle. Free with parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 5

Rockin’ Science: Astronomy

Visitors Center, 4:30 to 6 pm (first of 4 sessions)

Drop-off your curious child (ages 9-12) for this hands-on science opportunity designed to encourage a passion for astronomy. Class meets four consecutive Thursdays through September 26. Cost: \$20; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 5

Evening Garden Stroll

Visitors Center, 5 pm

Enjoy a one-hour summer garden tour, conducted by the park’s Master Gardener docents. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 5

The Spirited Botanist

Rose Garden, 6 pm

Enjoy a refreshing botanical cocktail in the Cantigny Rose Garden. Host Liz Omura from Cantigny Horticulture will demonstrate a cocktail (alcoholic and non-alcoholic variations) featuring a fruit, vegetable, herb and/or edible flower as the main ingredient. The cocktail this evening is Rub & Rosie, featuring honey simple syrup with grapefruit juice and rosemary. A complementing light appetizer will be served. Advance registration required. \$25 per person, parking included. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 5

Date with History: Curators of the First Division Museum

Visitors Center, 7 pm

Join curators for an introspective into the First Division Museum’s 3D artifact collections. Hear stories around the donation of and history behind some of their favorite items not currently on display in the galleries. Free program and parking.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, September 7

Sunday, September 8

Revolutionary War Reenactment & Grand Encampment

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 and educational 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 7
Fall Container Workshop
Greenhouse, 1:30 pm

Dress up your front door area with a refreshed container sporting rich autumn color. Plants, compost, soilless medium and design/growing advice are included in the price of this 90-minute workshop. \$50 fee includes parking; \$45 for Cantigny members. Enter the park at Shaffner Road for easy access to the greenhouse parking lot. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Sunday, September 8
Garden Photo Tips
Visitors Center, 2 pm

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

Wednesday, September 11
Inchworms Parent-Child Program
Visitors Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: “Pee-yew, Mr. Skunk!” Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Wednesday, September 11
Heroes of 9/11 Dedication Ceremony
First Division Museum, 4:30 pm

Join local first responders for the solemn dedication of Cantigny’s newly installed September 11 memorial comprised of steel beams from the World Trade Center buildings in New York. The exhibit is near the existing “Big Red One” garden in front of the museum. Free event and parking fee waived.

Wednesday, September 11
Gardens Bike Tour
Visitors Center, 5:30 pm

Cyclists from Cantigny Horticulture will escort visitors on a leisurely ride with plenty of stops at different areas of the gardens and other park attractions. Adults and children ages 10 and up welcome. Group size is limited. Advance registration required at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 12
Doodlebugs Art Class
Visitors Center, 1 to 2 pm (first of 3 sessions)

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: “Clay Play!” Class meets three consecutive Thursdays: September 12, 19 and 26. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 12
Monarch Butterfly Tagging
Pollinator Garden, 1 pm

Assist the Monarch Watch organization in tracking these fascinating and beautiful insects on their migration journeys! All ages welcome. Free with parking (\$5).

Saturday, September 14
Second Saturday Family Program: Revolutionary War
Visitors Center, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited to this monthly drop-in program with interactive themes, sponsored by McCormick House. This month's program includes a printing activity and a chance to sign the Declaration of Independence using a quill pen! Free program; parking \$10.

FEATURED EVENT

Sunday, September 15
14th 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. Live entertainment by Sammy & The Knights, DJ music by Carousel Sound, plus food concessions. Free with parking (\$10).

FEATURED EVENT

Sunday, September 15
Jewelry & Accessories Show
Visitors Center, 10 am to 4 pm

Cantigny's annual Jewelry & Accessories Show showcases an array of handcrafted items from local artists. Free with parking (\$10).

Wednesday, September 18
Inchworms Parent-Child Program
Visitors Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Coyote Howl!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, September 19
West Chicago Public Library Storytime
Visitors Center, 10:30 am

Join the library staff to explore some favorite stories and other activities in Cantigny's beautiful gardens. Free program; \$5 parking waived for those who present a pass, available in advance at the library's Youth Services desk.

Thursday, September 19
Lunch & Learn: Cantigny's Historic Military Vehicles
Visitors Center, 12 to 1 pm

This noon program on the third Thursday of the month features speakers on topics of interest. Ian Richardson, coordinator for the First Division Museum's historic vehicle fleet, will discuss the work, challenges and research that goes into his unique role at the park. Feel free to bring a lunch. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 19
Garden Walk on the Wild Side
Visitors Center, 1 pm

New for 2019, this tour by Cantigny Horticulture takes place monthly through October, on the third Thursday. Staff members will choose personal favorite plants and share information about them—a bit of science, growing advice and maybe a fun fact. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 19

Evening Garden Stroll

Visitors Center, 5 pm

Enjoy a one-hour summer garden tour, conducted by the park's Master Gardener docents. Free with paid parking (\$5).

Thursday, September 19

Civic Awareness Series: Foreign Affairs

McCormick House, 7 pm

Craig Kafura, assistant director for public policy at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, will discuss the current state of foreign affairs. This continues a series presented by Cantigny's Robert R. McCormick House and the League of Women Voters of Wheaton. Program and parking are free but advance registration is required due to limited seating. Register at Cantigny.org.

Friday, September 20

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 at the First Division Museum, and a missing man table will be displayed in the museum lobby throughout the day. The table and items on it symbolize the sacrifices made by prisoners of war and those still missing in action. Free with \$5 parking.

FEATURED EVENT

Friday, September 20

Battle of the Bands

Cantigny Bandshell, 5 pm

At this first-time event, in partnership with Rock Academy music school in Downers Grove, hear 10 or more bands comprised of young musicians take their turn on stage for about 15 minutes each. The winning group receives a paid gig at Cantigny Park in 2020. Free with \$5 parking.

Saturday, September 21

Putting Your Garden to Bed

Visitors Center, 9 am

Learn how to prepare your garden for winter at this two-hour outdoor session. Cantigny Horticulture's Samantha Peckham will offer advice on what needs to be pruned, cut-back, mulched, watered, rodent-proofed and more. Free with parking (\$10).

Sunday, September 22

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 studio in Lisle and home to a community of resident artists. Free with parking (\$10).

Monday, September 23

**Golf Course Cart Tour
Cantigny Golf, 4:45 pm**

See and learn about the elaborate floral plantings on Cantigny's picturesque 27-hole golf course. Guests will travel in golf carts on this unique one-hour tour focusing on flowerbeds, restored natural areas, notable trees and more. Cantigny Horticulture staff members will guide. Group size is limited to 50; advance registration required. Cost: \$5 per person; parking free. Meet at the Cantigny Golf clubhouse at 4:45 p.m. (27w270 Mack Road, Wheaton).

Tuesday, September 24

**Kid Rock Fall Jamboree!
Visitors Center, 6 to 6:45 pm**

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: \$12 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Wednesday, September 25

**"Band of Brothers" VIP Cocktail Hour
McCormick House, 5 pm**

The First Division Museum presents a pre-event cocktail hour with the actors and writers of the Emmy-winning HBO miniseries "Band of Brothers." Guests will receive a copy of "How Easy Company Became a Band of Brothers," by Chris Langlois, grandson of 2/506 Easy Company medic Eugene "Doc" Roe, who is highlighted in the show. Cost of \$75 includes the book, drinks, appetizers and parking, plus admission to the main event immediately following. Space is limited. Register at Cantigny.org.

FEATURED EVENT

Wednesday, September 25

**An Evening with the Actors & Writers of "Band of Brothers"
Visitors Center, 7 pm**

The First Division Museum presents a panel discussion with the actors and writers from the Emmy-winning HBO miniseries "Band of Brothers." An autograph session will follow. Cost of \$15 includes parking. Space is limited. Register at Cantigny.org.

Thursday, September 26

**Monarch Butterfly Tagging
Pollinator Garden, 1 pm**

Assist the Monarch Watch organization in tracking these fascinating and beautiful insects on their migration journeys! All ages welcome. Free with parking (\$5).

OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 1

**Hayride Tour
Visitors Center, 10 am to noon**

Savor the wonderful autumn color from a tractor-pulled haywagon. Rides start and end at the Cantigny Visitors 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).

Tuesday, October 1

Doodlebugs Art Class

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

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Beautiful Glue." Class meets three consecutive Tuesdays: October 1, 8 and 15. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, October 2

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Turkey Talk." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, October 2

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 10 to 11 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: "Happy Fall Y'all!" Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: October 2, 9 and 16. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, October 3

History Hike

McCormick House, 2 pm

Exercise your body and feed your mind with an interpretive hike of Cantigny Park every Thursday afternoon through October. Park staff members will share stories about the McCormick family and lead guests to points of interest around the park. Meet outside the mansion, on the north circle. Free with parking (\$5).

Wednesday, October 9

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "1,2,3, Pick a Pumpkin for Me!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, October 10

Floral Design Techniques

Cantigny Greenhouse, 6:30 pm

This class, instructed by Janet Gallagher from Kishwaukee College, focuses on basic techniques. Learn about taping and wiring; working with fresh, dried and silk plant material; using foam and chicken wire; and designing vase arrangements. Students will put their new skills to work by creating a Halloween-themed floral display. Bring a wire cutter and hand pruner if possible, plus a tray to transport your creation home. All other materials provided. Enter the park at Shaffner Road for easy access to the greenhouse parking lot. \$50 fee includes parking; \$45 for Cantigny members. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

FEATURED EVENT

Saturday, October 12

Cantigny Fall Festival

Parade Field, 10 am to 4 pm

Celebrate autumn with family fun at Cantigny Park! Activities for all ages includes pumpkin decorating, hay rides, petting zoo, Wax Hands, inflatables, facepainting, craft

fair, children's book sale, food trucks and live entertainment. Free with parking (\$5); nominal fee for some activities.

Saturday, October 12

Usborne Children's Book Fair

Visitors Center, 10 am to 4 pm

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 12

Second Saturday Family Program: Fall Fest

Visitors Center, 12 to 3 pm

Families are invited to this monthly drop-in program with interactive themes, sponsored by McCormick House. This month ties in with the Cantigny Fall Festival with a variety of autumn-theme activities. Crafts offered while supplies last. Free with parking (\$5).

Sunday, October 13

Garden Photo Tips

Visitors Center, 2 pm

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

FEATURED EVENT

Tuesday, October 15

Date with History: Author Rick Atkinson

Visitors Center, 7 pm

Pulitzer Prize winning author and historian Rick Atkinson will discuss his new book, "The British are Coming: The War for America, Lexington to Princeton, 1775-1777." Copies will be available for sale and signing. Free program and parking.

Wednesday, October 16

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Not so Scary Scarecrows!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, October 17

West Chicago Public Library Storytime

Visitors Center, 10:30 am

Join the library staff to explore some favorite stories and other activities in Cantigny's beautiful gardens. Free program; \$5 parking waived for those who present a pass, available in advance at the library's Youth Services desk.

Thursday, October 17

Garden Walk on the Wild Side

Visitors Center, 1 pm

New for 2019, this tour by Cantigny Horticulture takes place monthly through October, on the third Thursday. Staff members will choose personal favorite plants and share information about them—a bit of science, growing advice and perhaps a fun fact. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5).

Thursday, October 17
Civic Awareness Series: Fair Tax
McCormick House, 7 pm

Ralph Martire, executive director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, will discuss the Illinois “fair tax” and the funding of education and pensions in our state. This continues a series presented by Cantigny’s Robert R. McCormick House and the League of Women Voters of Wheaton. Program and parking are free but advance registration is required due to limited seating. Register at Cantigny.org.

Friday, October 18
Autumn Sounds: Très Moustache
Cantigny Golf Patio, 6 pm

Enjoy the popular music of Très Moustache while enjoying food and drink features on the Cantigny Golf patio. No cover charge, free parking. Cantigny Golf is located at 27w270 Mack Road in Wheaton.

FEATURED EVENT

Friday, October 25
Family Fun Night: Pumpkins & Treats
Visitors Center, 5 to 7 pm

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

Tuesday, October 29
Kid Rock Boo-riffic Music & Dance Party
Visitors Center, 6 to 6:45 pm

This music and movement parent-child event is perfect for children ages 1 to 5. Songs and musical activities will have a fun Halloween theme. Costumes encouraged! Kid Rock has been providing music, dance classes and events since 1995. Learn more at rockitkids.com. Cost: \$12 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

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

Children are invited to preview 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.

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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 House, the newly renovated First Division Museum, newly designed gardens, picnic grounds, walking trails and a remodeled 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.