

**October 3, 2019**

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**NOVEMBER-DECEMBER EVENTS & CLASSES  
AT CANTIGNY PARK**

*The following activities will take place at Cantigny Park, 1s151 Winfield Road in Wheaton (or at Cantigny Golf as indicated). Additional details are online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or 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 hosts this annual fundraiser in conjunction with the Cantigny 5K Run/Walk. Feast on pancakes, sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy. Cost: \$10; \$5 ages 5-12; ages 4 and under free. Parking free.

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Saturday, November 2**

**Cantigny 5K Run/Walk**

**Parade Field, 9 am**

A great race in beautiful autumn surroundings! Event is chip-timed and limited to 1,000 runners. Net proceeds benefit the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Wheaton. Adult, Youth and Tot categories. Cost: \$20/\$8/\$5; parking free. Optional race shirts are \$10/\$12. Register at [signmeup.com/130199](http://signmeup.com/130199).

**Sunday, November 3**

**Workshop: Forcing Flower Bulbs for Indoor Blooms**

**Cantigny Greenhouse, 9 am**

Bring your garden indoors over winter by learning to force potted flower bulbs such as daffodils, tulips and hyacinths. Cantigny Grower Julie Miller will instruct. Participants receive a pot, soil and bulbs to make a mixed container that will bloom by March 2020. Enter Cantigny at Shaffner Road for convenient access to greenhouse parking lot. \$50 fee includes parking. Register in advance at 630.260.8162 or [cantigny.org](http://cantigny.org).

**Monday, November 4**

**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: "Creative Collage." Class meets three consecutive Mondays: November 4, 11 and 18. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or call 630.260.8162.

**Tuesday, November 5**

**Tree Walk & Talk**

**Visitors Center, 11 am**

Learn about Cantigny's magnificent trees and enjoy the fall foliage on this guided tour led by Cantigny forester Chris Roberts. The walk will focus on new additions to the grounds such as the Oak Colonnade. Free with parking (\$5).

**Wednesday, November 6**

**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: "Roar, Mr. Lion!" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

**Wednesday, November 6**

**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: "Lions, Tigers and Bears, Oh My!" Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: November 6, 13 and 20. Cost: \$24; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

**Thursday, November 7**

**Date with History: Author Isak Gasi**

**Visitors Center, 7 pm**

Isak Gasi will discuss "Eyewitness: My Journey to The Hague," his riveting 2018 memoir about surviving the war in Bosnia in the 1990s and then being a key prosecution witness against Serb war criminals at The Hague tribunal. Program and parking are free. Details online at [fdmuseum.org](http://fdmuseum.org).

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Friday, November 8**

**Battlefield to Table Dinner**

**Cantigny Park, 6 pm**

Cantigny welcomes guest chef JD Kammes, a 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division veteran. Through storytelling and a delicious five-course meal, created especially by Chef Kammes, hear and taste the history of the Big Red One! \$110 per person includes tax, gratuity and parking. For menu and registration, visit [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

**Saturday, November 9**

**Second Saturday Family Program: Giving Back**

**Robert R. McCormick House, 12 to 3 pm**

Families are invited to the McCormick House's monthly drop-in program (no registration necessary). The theme for November is Giving Back, inspired by Robert McCormick's passion for community service and philanthropy. Participants will create holiday cards for the residents of Hines VA Hospital. Free program; parking \$5.

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Saturday, November 9**

**Brew it Forward**

**First Division Museum, 1 to 4 pm**

Thank those who served by enjoying a charity beer tasting to benefit the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Wheaton. The tasting is in the Tank Park outside the First Division Museum. Guests can donate to MSHV or purchase a brew for a veteran. Three-oz beers are \$2; three for \$5; or seven for \$10. Food available for purchase, plus family activities. Admission and parking free.

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Monday, November 11**

**Spirit at Sundown: Veterans Day Commemoration**

**First Division Museum, 4:30 to 7 pm**

Meet community groups that epitomize the spirit of Veterans Day by giving back to those who served. Quilts of Valor Awards Ceremony at 5 pm and Trickster Art Gallery Native Veteran Drum Circle and Dance at 6 pm. Programs and parking free.

**Wednesday, November 13**

**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: "Tiger Tales." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or call 630.260.8162.

**Wednesday, November 20**

**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: "Berry Big Bears" Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or call 630.260.8162.

**Thursday, November 21**

**Lunch & Learn: Famous McCormick Letters**

**Visitors Center, 12 to 1 pm**

McCormick House Director Will Buhlig will share famous letters from the museum's collection along with interesting tales from Colonel Robert McCormick's life. Free with parking (\$5). Register in advance at 630.260.8162 or [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Thursday, November 21**

**Date with History: Battle of the Bulge**

**Visitors Center, 7 pm**

Author, historian and U.S. Army Colonel (retired) Gregory Fontenot discusses "Loss and Redemption at St Vith: The 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Division in the Battle of the Bulge." Published this month, the book commemorates the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the epic World War II battle December 1944-January 1945. Program and parking are free. Details online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

**Thursday, November 21**

**Civic Awareness Series: Elections 101**

**Robert R. McCormick House, 7 pm**

Abby Witt presents "Elections 101: How Campaigns Make Decisions on Voter Outreach." A partner at Arena Consulting, Witt has 15 years of experience in grassroots engagement across the political, government and advocacy fields. She has worked six election cycles, at the congressional, statewide, and presidential levels. This event continues a series sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Wheaton. Program and parking are free but advance registration is required due to limited seating. Register online at [cantigny.org](http://cantigny.org).

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Friday, November 22**

**Community Trees Display**

**Robert R. McCormick House**

Through December 29, see Christmas trees artfully decorated throughout the historic home by seven local non-profit groups with missions linked to Colonel Robert R.

McCormick. Visitors can take a guided “tree tour” and then vote for their favorite. Participating nonprofits receive a grant from the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, and the organization with the winning tree earns additional funding. Museum visitors may also donate if they choose. Free with paid parking (\$5).

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Friday, November 22**

**Shades of Crimson Poinsettia Display & Sale  
Cantigny Greenhouse, 11 am to 4 pm**

Visitors are invited to the Cantigny Greenhouse to enjoy 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 from cuttings. Plants will be available for sale, and Cantigny horticulturists will be available to answer questions at points along your self-guided tour. Groups are welcome, but notice is requested for parties of 10 or more (call 630.260.8162). Visitors should park in the main lot at the Cantigny Visitors Center, then walk to the greenhouse or ride the free trolley. Free with parking (\$5).

**Monday, November 25**

**Lecture: History of St. James Farm  
Robert R. McCormick House, 3 pm**

Kevin Davis, St. James Farm Forest Preserve researcher and volunteer, presents an overview of Cantigny’s neighbor to the south. His talk will include insight into the lives of St. James resident Chauncey McCormick, cousin of Robert R. McCormick, and his son Brooks. Historical photos and other materials from Davis’ collection will be shared. Free with parking (\$5). Register in advance at 630.260.8162 or Cantigny.org.

**Monday, November 25**

**Thanksgiving Centerpiece Workshop  
Cantigny Greenhouse, 6:30 pm**

Create a holiday arrangement for your home with expert instruction from Joyce Grattoni, AIFD. The fall-themed design will feature a variety of fresh flowers and greenery. Bring a wire cutter and hand pruner if possible, plus a tray for transporting your creation home. All other materials provided. Enter Cantigny at Shaffner Road for convenient access to greenhouse parking lot. \$50 fee includes parking; \$45 for Cantigny members. Register in advance at 630.260.8162 or Cantigny.org.

**Monday, November 25**

**Talkin’ Turkey Parent-Child Activity  
Visitors 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 get creative with a turkey craft. For ages 3 to 5 with adult. Cost: \$12 per child. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

**DECEMBER**

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Sunday, December 1**

**Museum Store Sunday  
Visitors Center & First Division Museum, 9 am to 4:30 pm**

Get a jump on holiday shopping and take 10% off all items at the Cantigny Shop and the First Division Museum Outpost, excluding sale items. Free gift for first 25 customers at the Cantigny Shop, and free Cantigny Park ornament with all purchases of \$25 or more. Enter raffle to win free one-year membership or basket of Cantigny goodies. More details at Cantigny.org.

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Sunday, December 1**

**Brunch with Santa**

**Le Jardin at Cantigny Park**

Treat your little ones to a brunch they won't soon forget, as Santa pays a visit from the North Pole. Enjoy a fantastic brunch spread while enjoying a face painter, balloon artists, and of course getting a family picture with jolly old St. Nick. Seatings at 10 am and 12:30 pm. For pricing and reservations, visit [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

**Monday, December 2**

**Doodlebugs Art Class**

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

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Winter Celebration." Class meets on two Mondays: December 2 and 9. Cost: \$16; parking free. Register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or call 630.260.8162.

**Wednesday, December 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: "Winter Wonder." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or call 630.260.8162.

**Wednesday, December 4**

**Sprouts Parent-Child Program**

**Visitors Center, 10 to 11 am**

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: "Winter Wonder." Cost: \$8; parking free. Register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or call 630.260.8162.

**Thursday, December 5**

**Date with History: The Ghost Army**

**Visitors Center, 7 pm**

Author and documentary filmmaker Rick Beyer discusses "The Ghost Army of World War II," his book on the top-secret Army unit that employed battlefield trickery to fool the enemy and gain strategic advantage. Program and parking are free. Details online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Saturday, December 7**

**Brunch with Grinch**

**Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf**

Treat the family to an amazing brunch, watch the Grinch movie, and of course get a photo with the warm-hearted green guy from Whoville. Seatings at 10 am and 12:30 pm. For pricing and reservations, visit [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

**FEATURED EVENT**

**Saturday, December 7**

**Celebrate the Season Holiday Festival**

**Cantigny Park, 1 to 7 pm**

Families and children of all ages will enjoy the park's 9<sup>th</sup> annual holiday festival. Attractions include Mistletoe Market, horse-drawn "sleigh rides," facepainting, live reindeer display and of course a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Admission is free but a small fee applies for some activities. Parking is \$5 or free for those bringing a new and unwrapped toy for the Marine Toys for Tots drop box inside the Cantigny Visitors Center.

***FEATURED EVENT***

**Saturday, December 7**

**Mistletoe Market**

**Visitors Center, 1 to 7 pm**

Visit the festive displays of crafters and artists offering one-of-a-kind items for holiday gift giving. The marketplace coincides with Cantigny's annual Celebrate the Season Holiday Festival. Admission is free. Parking is \$5 or free for those bringing a new and unwrapped toy for the Marine Toys for Tots drop box inside the Cantigny Visitors Center.

***FEATURED EVENT***

**Sunday, December 8**

**Holiday Concert**

**Robert R. McCormick House, 4 pm**

Wheaton College artists perform a variety of holiday classics in McCormick House's historic Freedom Hall. Concert is free with paid parking (\$5) but seating is limited. Registration begins Nov. 4: Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

**Tuesday, December 10**

**Kid Rock's Jingle Bell Rock**

**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 feature a fun holiday theme and plenty of instruments and movement props. Rock 'n' Kids has offered 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, December 11**

**Holiday Floral Design Workshop**

**Cantigny Greenhouse, 6:30 pm**

Create a beautiful and fragrant arrangement to brighten your home or dining table. Janet Gallagher, floral design instructor at Kishwaukee College, will provide expert instruction. Your composition will incorporate a variety of fragrant holiday greens and fresh seasonal flowers as well as a few festive baubles. Bring a wire cutter or hand pruner if possible, plus a small tray to carry your creation home. All other materials provided. Enter Cantigny at Shaffner Road for convenient access to greenhouse parking lot. Cost: \$50; \$45 for Cantigny members. Parking free. Register in advance at 630.260.8162 or Cantigny.org.

***FEATURED EVENT***

**Saturday, December 14: 9 am to 6 pm**

**Sunday, December 15: 9 am to 4 pm**

**LEGO® Train Show**

**Visitors Center and McCormick House**

The largest show of the year produced by the Northern Illinois LEGO® Train Club returns to Cantigny! Admission is free with paid parking (\$5 per car). Parking is free for anyone donating a new and unwrapped toy for the Marine Toys for Tots drop boxes inside the Visitors Center.

***FEATURED EVENT***

**Saturday, December 14**

**Brunch with Grinch**

**Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf**

Treat the family to a creative and delicious brunch, watch the Grinch movie, and of course get a photo with the warm-hearted green guy from Whoville. Seatings at 10 am and 12:30 pm. For pricing and reservations, visit [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

**Saturday, December 14**

**Second Saturday Family Program: Engineering**

**Robert R. McCormick House, 12 to 3 pm**

Families are invited to the McCormick House's monthly drop-in program (no registration necessary). The theme for December is engineering. Celebrate and learn about remarkable feats of engineering and perhaps create one of your own using LEGO® bricks. Free program; parking \$5.

**Thursday, December 19**

**Lunch & Learn: Great Chicago Fire**

**Visitors Center, 12 to 1 pm**

Brian Failing, executive director of Aurora Regional Fire Museum, discusses the Great Chicago Fire and its impact. Free with parking (\$5). Register in advance at 630.260.8162 or [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

***FEATURED EVENT***

**Saturday, December 21**

**"A Christmas Carol" Radio Show**

**Robert R. McCormick House, 3 pm and 5 pm**

Enjoy Charles Dickens' classic holiday story, *A Christmas Carol*, presented inside historic Freedom Hall as an old-time radio show on WGN, then one of Robert McCormick's media properties. Choose 3 pm or 5 pm performance. Program is free with parking (\$5) but seating is limited. Register in advance at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or 630.260.8162.

***FEATURED EVENT***

**Sunday, December 22**

**Brunch with Santa**

**Le Jardin at Cantigny Park**

Treat your little ones to a brunch they won't soon forget, as Santa pays a visit from the North Pole. Enjoy a fantastic brunch spread while enjoying a face painter, balloon artists, and of course getting a family picture with jolly old St. Nick. Seatings at 10 am and 12:30 pm. For pricing and reservations, visit [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

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**About Cantigny Park**

Cantigny Park, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton estate of Col. Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955). It is home to the McCormick House, 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, can be found online at [www.cantigny.org](http://www.cantigny.org). Cantigny Golf, adjacent to the park, features a 27-hole championship golf course, clubhouse with banquet and dining rooms, Cantigny Golf Academy, and the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links. For more information, please visit [www.cantignygolf.com](http://www.cantignygolf.com).