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MARCH-APRIL EVENTS & CLASSES AT CANTIGNY PARK

The following activities (unless noted) take place at Cantigny Park (1s151 Winfield Road in Wheaton). Additional details are online at Cantigny.org or call 630.668.5161.

MARCH

Sunday, March 1

Women's History Month: Eleanor Roosevelt

McCormick House, 4 pm

Living history actor and scholar Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., explores the life of Eleanor Roosevelt, American First Lady, statesman and humanitarian. Ideal for families and children ages 10 and up. Free program but advance registration is required. To reserve your place, call 630.260.8162 or visit Cantigny.org. Parking is \$5.

Monday, March 2 (first of 3 sessions)

Doodlebugs Parent-Child Art Class

Education Center, 1 to 2 pm

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Art Around the World." Class meets three consecutive Mondays: March 2, 9 and 16. Cost: \$24 per child; \$18/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 4

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Rain, Rain, Go Away!" Cost: \$8 per child; \$6/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 4 (first of 3 sessions)

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10:15 to 11:15 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: "Weather Watchers." Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: March 4, 11 and 18. Cost: \$24 per child; \$18/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, March 5

Date with History: America's First Women Soldiers

Visitors Center, 7 pm

The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park presents Elizabeth Cobbs, author of "Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers." Her book tells the fascinating story of American women who served in World War I as telephone switchboard operators in France,

deployed by the U.S. Army Signal Corps in 1918. Cobbs reveals the challenges these “Hello Girls” faced in a war zone where male soldiers wooed, mocked and ultimately celebrated them. Program and parking are free. Details online at fdmuseum.org.

Saturday, March 7

Workshop: Soil 101

Visitors Center Theater, 9 am

Landon Gibbs from Cantigny Horticulture explains the basics of soil science. Home gardeners can use what they learn to choose the proper soil amendments, plants and fertilizers, and maybe reduce their use of pesticides. Free program; parking \$5. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, March 10

Kid Rock “Shamrock Shuffle” Parent-Child Event

Education Center, 10 to 10:45 am

Parents and their wee ones (ages 1-5) are invited to celebrate St. Patty's Day with a fun session of songs, instruments and imaginative play. For more about Kid Rock programs, visit rockitkids.com. Cost: \$12 per child; \$10/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, March 11

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: “Oh, Mr. Sun!” Cost: \$8 per child; \$6/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, March 12

Growing Plants from Seed

Cantigny Greenhouse, 6 pm

Greenhouse Manager Bob Carr explains and demonstrates how to grow plants from seed. Learn the procedures for seed starting followed by Cantigny Horticulture, too. Attendees will receive seed packets to try out their new skills at home. Cost: \$5. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Friday, March 13

Kid Rock “Shamrock Shuffle” Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 4 to 4:45 pm

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; \$10/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Saturday, March 14

Terrarium Workshop

Greenhouse, 9:30 am

Cantigny Horticulture's Jackie Kosbab instructs on creating a tabletop terrarium. Container, plants and accents provided. Cost \$45, or \$40 for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Saturday, March 14

Second Saturday: Women's History Month

McCormick House, 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 100 years ago granted women the right to vote. Free program; parking \$5.

Monday, March 16

**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! Cost: \$12 per child; \$10/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Monday, March 16

**First for the Vote: How Chicago Women Won Suffrage for the Nation
Visitors Center Theater, 6:30 pm**

Chicago women made Illinois the first state east of the Mississippi to grant limited voting rights to women in 1913. The women, including Ruth Hanna McCormick, greatly influenced the tactics and achievements of suffragists in other states and helped Illinois become the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment in 1920. This program tells their story with vintage photographs and quotes from the women themselves. Program and parking are free, but registration is required. Call 630.260.8162 or visit Cantigny.org.

Tuesday, March 17

**Workshop: Healthy Soil, Healthy Harvest
Warrenville Public Library, 6:30 pm**

Healthy garden soil is critical to gardening success! Scott Witte and Landon Gibbs from Cantigny Horticulture will cover soil amendment, soil testing and composting among other topics. A Q&A session will follow. Program is free, but please register with the library at 630.393.1171. The library is located at 28W751 Stafford Place in Warrenville.

Wednesday, March 18

**Inchworms Parent-Child Program
Education Center, 9 to 9:45 am**

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Mighty Wind." Cost: \$8 per child; \$6/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, March 19

**Civic Awareness Series: Rebecca Sive
Visitors Center Theater, 7 pm**

Rebecca Sive, author of "Vote Her In: Your Guide to Electing Our First Woman President," will speak. 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 at Cantigny.org.

Friday, March 20

**Music Together Spring Sing
Education Center: 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30 am (choose one)**

Families with children ages birth to kindergarten will enjoy this sing-along to celebrate the first day of spring! Music Together is a research-based early childhood music and movement program. Choose from three class times; each class 45 minutes. Cost: \$9 per child; parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Friday, March 20

**Taste of the Farm
Cantigny Golf, 6 pm**

Taste of the Farm, the newest event in Cantigny's culinary program, showcases a wide variety of farm-to-table concept foods and delightful wine pairings. Price of \$50 per person includes food, wine, tax and gratuity. Make reservations at Cantigny.org.

Saturday, March 21 and Sunday, March 22

Royal Ice Brunch

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 8:30 am and 12:30 pm seatings

The whole family will enjoy a royal-themed brunch and ice cream sundae bar, plus a performance by the Ice Queen and a visit by everyone's favorite snowman. Children can meet the queen (bring your camera!), hear a story and participate in fun activities. Costumes welcome! Cost: \$35 for adults; \$25 ages 4-12; and \$10 ages 3 and under. Prices include brunch, tax, gratuity and parking. Make reservations at Cantigny.org.

Wednesday, March 25

Pond Gardens 101

Visitors Center, 7 pm

Learn the basics of installing and maintaining a water feature in your garden, then enjoy the diversity of nature that your home pond attracts. Helpful materials provided for take home. Free program; parking \$5. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Saturday, March 28

Women's History Month: Clara Barton

McCormick House, 4 pm

Living history actor and scholar Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., explores the life of Clara Barton, the pioneering Civil War nurse and founder of the American Red Cross. The free program is ideal for families and children ages 10 and up. Advance registration required due to limited seating; call 630.260.8162 or visit Cantigny.org. Parking \$5.

Sunday, March 29

Live performance: WWII Radio Hour

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 3 pm

Nostalgia Entertainment presents a lively reenactment of a 1940s radio hour with Andrews Sisters-style tunes and choreography, Abbott and Costello comedy sketches, and a touching tribute to veterans. Free program but seating is limited. Parking \$5.

APRIL

Wednesday, April 1

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Radical Recyclers." Cost: \$8 per child; \$6/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 1 (first of 3 sessions)

Sprouts Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10:15 to 11:15 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: "Earth Day Every Day!" Class meets three consecutive Wednesdays: April 1, 8 and 15. Cost: \$24 per child; \$18/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 1

McCormick House Lecture Series: April Fools!

McCormick House, 3:30, 5:30 and 7:30 pm

Jeffrey Anderson, McCormick House interpretation manager, leads 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 false. Can you tell truth from

fiction? This free one-hour program in the museum's Freedom Hall is for ages 14 and up. Due to limited seating, advance registration is required. Choose the 3:30, 5:30 or 7:30 program. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162. Parking free.

Thursday, April 2

Cantigny Gardens 2020 Preview

Visitors Center Theater, 9 am

Enjoy a free presentation by Cantigny Horticulture highlighting upcoming plans for the park's 2020 growing season. Hear about plant selections, new garden openings, and an update on Project New Leaf, Cantigny's ongoing park renovation. Parking is \$5.

Saturday, April 4

Perennials in Disguise

Visitors Center Theater, 9 am

Tired of composting your container plants at the end of summer only to buy new ones the following year? Landon Gibbs from Cantigny Horticulture discusses perennials that work well in containers and may then be transplanted to flower beds for the fall and winter. Free program; parking \$5. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5

Easter Egg Hunt

Cantigny Park, 10 am to 4 pm

Thousands of plastic eggs will be scattered on the property at this colorful rain or shine event for all ages. Bring a basket! The format is "open house" so visit any time during event hours both days. Take a photo with Mr. and Mrs. Easter Bunny, do a craft (\$3), and watch "The Easter Bunny is Coming to Town" in the Visitors Center Theater. A provided map will show activity locations. Free event; parking \$5.

Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5

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. Balloon artist and face painter, too! Seatings at 10 am and 12:30 pm. Cost: \$38 ages 13 and up; \$33 ages 4-10; \$5 ages 3 and under. Prices include tax, gratuity and parking. Make reservations at Cantigny.org.

Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5

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. Sale coincides with Cantigny's Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. Free event; parking \$5.

Saturday, April 4

Storytime!

McCormick House, 12 to 3 pm

Museum staff will share some fun children's books with spring and Easter themes. Take a break from egg hunting and enjoy a story or two inside the historic Freedom Hall library. Free program; parking \$5.

Tuesday, April 7

Kid Rock "Bunny Hop" Parent-Child Program

Visitors Center, 10 to 10:45 am

Parents and 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; \$10/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Tuesday, April 7 (first of 3 sessions)

Doodlebugs Art Class

Education Center, 1 to 2 pm

Drop off your child (ages 4-6) for an hour of creative exploration! Theme: "Earth Rocks!" Class meets three consecutive Tuesdays: April 7, 14 and 21. Cost: \$24 per child; \$18/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 8

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Earth Friends." Cost: \$8 per child; \$6/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Wednesday, April 8

Kid Rock "Bunny Hop" Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 5 to 5:45 pm

Parents and 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; \$10/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, April 9

"Hoppy Easter!" Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 10 to 11 am

This holiday celebration will include stories, songs and crafts about bunnies, eggs and much more-plus a special Easter treat! For ages 3 to 5. Cost: \$12 per child; \$10/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, April 9

Date with History: "The Six Triple Eight"

Visitors Center, 7 pm

The First Division Museum presents filmmaker James Theres who will present and discuss "The Six Triple Eight," his documentary about the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, the only all-black female battalion to serve in Europe during World War II. As members of the Women's Army Corps, sent to England and France by the Army in 1945, their mission was to clear the backlog of mail intended for U.S. troops and their families. Program and parking free. Details at fdmusem.org.

Saturday, April 11

Second Saturday: Storytime!

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, including a few of his own. Staff members will read fun children's books with Easter and farm themes inside the historic Freedom Hall library. Free program; parking \$5.

Sunday, April 12

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 9 am, 11:30 am or 2 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.

Wednesday, April 15

Inchworms Parent-Child Program

Education Center, 9 to 9:45 am

Introduce your little one (ages 18-36 months) to nature through songs, simple crafts and outdoor exploration. Theme: "Earth Day, Every Day!" Cost: \$8 per child; \$6/child for Cantigny Park members. Parking free. Register at Cantigny.org or call 630.260.8162.

Thursday, April 16

Walk on the Wild Side

Visitors Center, 11 am

This casual tour by Cantigny's horticulture staff is held monthly through October, on the third Thursday. Staff members will choose a personal favorite plant of the month and share information about it—a bit of science, growing advice and some fun facts, too. Free with paid parking (\$5). Register at Cantigny.org or 630.260.8162.

Thursday, April 16

Civic Awareness Series: Hon. Anne M. Burke

Visitors Center Theater, 7 pm

The Honorable Anne M. Burke, Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court, will speak and answer questions. 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.

Friday, April 17

Kite Night

Parade Field, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Bring your own kite or purchase a kit at Cantigny (\$3). Wind permitting, Chicago Kite will demonstrate some larger, fancier models. Food trucks on site. Free event; parking \$5.

Saturday, April 18

Spring into Gardening

Visitors Center, 9 am

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

Sunday, April 19

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.

Sunday, April 19

Smooth Rockin' Jazz

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 3 pm

Aurora's own Dave Eno and friends, Smooth Rockin' Jazz, perform a mix of jazz, rock, blues and Motown. No tickets are necessary for this free concert but seating is limited. Parking \$5.

Wednesday, April 22

Earth Day Celebration

Visitors Center, 11:30 am

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day! Representatives from SCARCE and the DuPage County Stormwater Committee will award Cantigny a water quality flag for its conservation efforts. A brief presentation and cupcake reception are scheduled. Free event with paid parking (\$5).

Thursday, April 23

FEW Whiskey Dinner

Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf, 6 pm

Enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres followed by a chef inspired five-course meal paired with selections from Evanston's FEW Spirits, a gin and whiskey distillery. Cost: \$95 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Make reservations at CantignyGolf.com.

Saturday, April 25

Cantigny Post 556 American Legion Pancake Breakfast

Le Jardin at Cantigny Park, 7:30 am to 12:30 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 Horticulture and enter a free drawing to win a flowering plant. Cost: \$10 per person; \$5 ages 5-12; free 4 and under. Parking free.

Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26

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).

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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.