

**First Division Museum to Host 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil War Symposium**

*Civil War re-enactors to camp and perform at Cantigny Park Oct. 3-4*

**WHEATON, IL, September 25, 2009** — The First Division Museum at Cantigny is the place to be for Civil War history buffs, educators and curious onlookers the weekend of Oct. 3-4.

More than 150 attendees, primarily history teachers, are expected at the 12th Annual Civil War Symposium on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 9 am to 5 pm. Expert guest speakers will include:

- Paul Finkelman, Albany Law School
- John F. Marszalek, Mississippi State University
- Daniel E. Sutherland, University of Arkansas
- Craig L. Symonds, U.S. Naval Academy

The one-day symposium is open to the public. Fees and other information are online at [FirstDivisionMuseum.org](http://FirstDivisionMuseum.org) or interested parties may call 773 948 9001. Special rates apply for teachers, students, senior citizens, veterans and active duty military.

Civil War re-enactors portraying soldiers and civilians will camp at Cantigny during the weekend, mingling with symposium participants and Cantigny Park visitors. On both Oct. 3 and Oct. 4, from 10 am to 3 pm, the public can experience many of the sights and sounds of war times in the 1860s. On the Parade Field, an authentic Civil War cannon and other weapons will be fired, and a battlefield surgeon will perform his duties using medical instruments from the period. Visitors can also witness drills by the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard from the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Other fun and educational activities with a Civil War theme will be available for all ages. Outdoor events and activities on Oct. 3-4 are free of charge. A fee applies only to the Oct. 3 symposium at the First Division Museum.

Cantigny Park is open every day through October from 7 am to sunset. Hours are 9 am to sunset in November and December. More information and a complete schedule of fall events are online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

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**About the Cantigny First Division Foundation**

The Cantigny First Division Foundation, part of the McCormick Foundation, promotes public learning about America's military heritage and affairs through the history of the Big Red One—the famed 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. It is located on the grounds of Cantigny Park in Wheaton, Illinois, the home of the late Col. Robert R.

McCormick, publisher of the *Chicago Tribune* and a veteran of the First Division in World War I.

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