



## Cantigny Announces Photo Contest Winners

WHEATON, IL, Jan. 25, 2010 — Cantigny Park visitors voted and the results are in! The grand prize winners of the 2008 *Cantigny in Focus* amateur photo contest are:

- *First Place*: John Fitzgerald (Warrenville) for his striking image of the World War I “doughboy” statue that stands outside the Cantigny Visitors Center
- *Second Place*: Mike Vassolo (Glen Ellyn) for his photo of an apparently curious fox squirrel
- *Third Place*: Mary Lemak (Batavia) for her artfully composed waterfall shot

These images were among 20 finalists (chosen by Cantigny judges) displayed in the Visitors Center Gallery throughout 2009. Park visitors were invited to vote for their favorites. The top three will receive a Cantigny gift card (\$200, \$150 or \$100), and all finalists were awarded a Cantigny annual parking pass.

***The three winning images are available to the media (via e-mail) upon request. If published, in print or online, photo credits are required.***

“The quality of entries gets better every year,” said Matt LaFond, Cantigny Park executive director. “Our visitors love taking pictures, and they do an amazing job of capturing the beauty and diversity of Cantigny. The contest is our way of sharing their fine work with a wider audience.”

*Cantigny in Focus* is an annual event for amateur photographers that began in 2006. Submitted images must be from the grounds of Cantigny in Wheaton, the 500-acre former estate of Robert R. McCormick and part of the McCormick Foundation.

The 2008 contest attracted 125 entries and more than 1,000 images.

On February 5, the top 20 images from the 2009 edition of *Cantigny in Focus* will go on display at the park. The three prize winners will again be determined by the public, with voting conducted through December 5.

Full details about the 2010 contest will be posted soon at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org). Questions may be directed to Brian Gray at 630 260 8167 or [bvgray@Cantigny.org](mailto:bvgray@Cantigny.org).

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### About Cantigny

Cantigny, part of the Chicago-based McCormick Foundation, is the 500-acre Wheaton (Illinois) estate of Robert R. McCormick, longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. Cantigny Park is home to the McCormick Museum, First Division Museum, formal gardens, picnic grounds, walking trails and a Visitors Center with banquet and dining facilities. More information, including hours, directions and upcoming events is online at [Cantigny.org](http://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](http://CantignyGolf.com).

**Media Contact:**

Jeff Reiter

Cantigny/McCormick Foundation

630 260 8218

[JReiter@McCormickFoundation.org](mailto:JReiter@McCormickFoundation.org)