



MEDIA ALERT
June 24, 2010

Cantigny Park to Host Naturalization Ceremony on July 1

Media invited to cover final step for local applicants seeking U.S. citizenship

WHEN: Thursday, July 1, 2010
11 am to noon

WHERE: Cantigny Park
1s151 Winfield Road
Wheaton, IL 60189

WHAT: The ceremony at Le Jardin restaurant in the Cantigny Visitors Center will be conducted by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). About 100 immigrants will become U.S. citizens after taking the United States Oath of Allegiance.

The ceremony is the final required step in naturalization, which is the process of obtaining U.S. citizenship. At this point the participants have met all other requirements. They have demonstrated English language proficiency, plus an understanding of the fundamental concepts of American democracy and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Students from Marmion Academy in Aurora will post and retire the colors. The Chicago Brass Band will perform the "Star-Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America."

When entering the park, please identify yourself as media. Security will direct you, and you will not be charged a parking fee.

PHOTO OPPS: Yes! This will be a highly photogenic event with many still and video opportunities. The ceremony is solemn but the underlying tone will be celebratory. We expect that many participants will be open to sharing their citizenship experience with the media. A full-size Liberty Bell replica will be on site as well.

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