



Press Release

“Season of Roses” at Cantigny Park Debuts in May

Dedication program in the Rose Garden arrives just in time for Mother’s Day

WHEATON, IL, March 14, 2011 – Cantigny Park, part of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, is offering a novel way to honor mom on Mother’s Day—or another special person—through *A Season of Roses*.

Yes, it’s all about beautiful, fragrant roses—but not the kind that are delivered in a box or vase.

The first-time program offers exclusive naming rights to the rose bushes growing in Cantigny’s formal Rose Garden, a favorite attraction at the park. For \$75, patrons receive a dedication package that includes a gift announcement and a plaque engraved with the rose’s name and name of the honoree. The marker will be displayed from May through October. When *Season of Roses* concludes, the tribute purchaser will receive a photo of the rose bush in full bloom.

A premium dedication package (\$150) also is available and includes two tickets for an exclusive Rose Reception on the evening of Thursday, July 7. The event will include remarks by one of Cantigny Horticulture’s rose experts along with light hors d’oeuvres and wine.

“We believe *A Season of Roses* will be very well received,” said Joy Kaminsky, Cantigny Park director of horticulture. “With this program, people can associate with one of Cantigny’s most treasured natural assets in a very personal way. This is truly a one-of-a-kind gift or remembrance opportunity.”

Rose dedication packages may be purchased at the Cantigny Gift Shop or online at Cantigny.org/roses. Patrons may also place orders at 630.668.5161.

Cantigny’s Rose Garden, a key element in one of the largest display gardens in the Midwest, occupies 12,000 square feet and contains about 1,000 rose bushes. More than 55 varieties and 16 classifications of roses are represented. One of the varieties is the Chicago Peace Rose, a glowing pink rose with a butter-yellow heart, discovered on the Cantigny estate.

The Rose Garden is flanked on the west side by a 130-foot cedar pergola that offers shaded benches and a spectacular view of the roses and adjacent prairie. Peak rose season is usually late June, but the flowers keep blooming well into September.

Proceeds from *A Season of Roses* will benefit the not-for-profit Cantigny Foundation, part of the Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

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About the McCormick Foundation

The McCormick Foundation is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens. Through philanthropic programs, Cantigny Park and three museums, the Foundation helps develop citizen leaders and works to make life better in our communities. The Foundation was established as a charitable trust in 1955, upon the death of Colonel Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. The McCormick Foundation is one of the nation's largest foundations, with more than \$1 billion in assets.

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. 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.

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