

Media Contact: Jeff Reiter Cantigny Park 630.260.8218 jreiter@mccormickfoundation.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXCITEMENT BUILDS FOR "LEGO WEEK" AT CANTIGNY!

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EGO® Train Show Party on Saturday evening

LEGO® engineering classes for kids

USS Missouri in LEGO bricks at First Division Museum

New for 2015: Brunch with the Grinch

Wheaton, Ill., November 30, 2015 — Cantigny Park's annual LEGO® Train Show, a favorite holiday tradition for families, returns on Saturday, December 12, and Sunday, December 13. Show hours are 9 am to 4 pm each day.

Admission to the LEGO Train Show is complimentary with paid parking of \$5 per vehicle. Cantigny Park will waive the parking fee for anyone bringing a new and unwrapped toy for the U.S. Marine Corp Reserve's Toys for Tots drop boxes inside the Visitors Center.

This will be the 14th show produced by the <u>Northern Illinois LEGO Train Club</u> and it's the group's largest annual event in terms of floor space and attendance. The show requires a full day of set up, transforming the entire Cantigny Visitors Center into a wonderland for LEGO fans.

The First Division Museum at Cantigny is part of the action, too, and this year the museum will display a 26-foot model of the *USS Missouri*, courtesy of Brickmania. Designed and built by Daniel Siskind, it is the world's largest battleship made of LEGO elements--more than 500,000!

LEGO Week at Cantigny offers these additional attractions for families and kids of all ages:

LEGO Train Show Party Visitors Center and First Division Museum Saturday, Dec. 12 • 6 to 8 pm

Enjoy the show without lines! View the fascinating displays and meet the builders. Snacks, desserts and hot chocolate will be served and a cash bar will be available. Party tickets are \$25 for adults (Cantigny members \$20) and \$18 for ages 3-12 (member children \$15). Kids 2 and under free. Prices includes a souvenir LEGO mini figure (one per person) and complimentary parking.

Advance purchase tickets are required and may be purchased online at <u>Cantigny.org</u>, at the park in the Cantigny Shop or by phone at 630.260.8162. Tickets quantities are limited.

Brunch with the Grinch Red Oak Room at Cantigny Golf Saturday, Dec. 12 • 10 am and 12:30 pm seatings

Feast on a Grinch-themed buffet before or after the LEGO Train Show and enjoy a screening of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." Meet the Grinch, too! Brunch prices are \$18 for adults and \$12 for ages 4-10; kids 3 and under free. RSVP at 630.260.8194 or email amyanderson@cantigny.org. The Red Oak Room is located at 27w270 Mack Road in Wheaton.

Young LEGO builders are invited to the park before the big show for these fun and educational workshops:

Jedi Engineering with LEGO Medill Room at Cantigny Visitors Center Tuesday, Dec. 8 • 4:30 to 6 pm • ages 5-7

Jedi Master Engineering with LEGO Cantigny Education Center Wednesday, Dec. 9 • 4:30 to 6 pm • ages 7-11

Cost for each class is \$18 per child and includes expert instruction by the staff of Play-Well TEKnologies. Class registration is online at <u>Cantigny.org</u> or call 630.260.8162.

Second Saturday: Engineering McCormick Museum Gold Theatre Saturday, Dec. 12 ● 12 to 3 pm ● free

Families can enjoy a break from the bustling LEGO show at the museum's monthly drop-in program (no registration needed) where the theme will be engineering. Guests will try their hand at building a bridge using a sheet of paper and then a structure that might be able to survive a simulated earthquake.

Cantigny Park is open daily in December from 9 am to sunset. The park will close December 24, 25 and 31. More information, including directions and a calendar of upcoming events is online at <u>Cantigny.org</u>.

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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 30 acres of spectacular gardens, the Robert R. McCormick Museum, 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 <u>Cantigny.org.</u>