



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Monday, September 21, 2020

Cocktails by the Castle

A New Twist on a Favorite Tradition

DOYLESTOWN, Pa. – The Mercer Museum’s annual fall fundraiser is back with a twist, Cocktails by the Castle. The event will be held on Saturday, October 11 from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m, and will benefit the museum’s education programs & community initiatives, while also supporting local restaurants and catering partners.

Guests will enjoy an unforgettable evening on the grounds of the Mercer Museum with delicious picnic fare, tasty cocktails, and musical entertainment. Following social distancing guidelines, event tickets include picnic spaces on the museum’s lawn or reserved tables to enjoy the evening’s delights. Supporters also have the option to pick up their portable feast and dine from the comfort of their homes.

This year’s Cocktails by the Castle event features menu options from Chambers 19 Bistro & Bar, Jeffrey A. Miller Catering, Nourish by Mama, and McCaffrey's Catering. Event attendees will also enjoy sampling craft cocktails and non-alcoholic beverages.

An important fundraising component of Cocktails by the Castle is the contactless silent auction that features one-of-a-kind experiences and VIP packages, all to benefit a great cause. Auction items include a Vacation in Sanibel, a Weekend Getaway in Cape May, Private Dinners and Tours at the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle, Cocktail-themed Gift Baskets, and more. Tickets to the event are not required to bid.

Cocktails by the Castle is \$100 General Admission and \$75 Members. Guests at this ticket level are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets, or purchase a limited-

edition Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle picnic blanket. Group tickets with table seating and early access to the event are available at \$500 for a group of four and \$1,250 for a group of eight. Additionally, for \$2,000 guests can purchase a table for a group of eight as well as a dedicated 10' tree for the Mercer Museum Grounds Beautification Project.

Cocktails by the Castle sponsors are BLBB Charitable, Penn Color, Penn Community Bank, Curtin & Heefner, LLP, ESCA Blast, Linda B. Hodgdon, Tom Thomas, Bucks County Community College, Doris Hart Carr in memory of George M. Carr III, DunlapSLK, and Brian and Louise McLeod. The Bucks County Herald is the official media sponsor.

Dress for the weather in your chicest outdoor attire, and remember to wear a face mask. There is no rain date – in the event of inclement weather, portable feasts will be available to pick up at the Mercer Museum. For tickets or information on the event and online auction, visit mercermuseum.org/cocktails or contact Development Coordinator Eileen Shapiro at eshapiro@mercermuseum.org or 215-345-0210 ext. 132.

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About the Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle

Located in Doylestown, Bucks County, PA, the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are historic castles celebrating the legacy of Henry Chapman Mercer (1856-1930), American archaeologist, anthropologist, ceramicist and scholar. Both sites are operated by the Bucks County Historical Society.

The Mercer Museum, one of Bucks County's premier cultural attractions and a Smithsonian affiliate, features both local and national seasonal exhibits as well as a core museum collection of over 50,000 pre-Industrial tools. This permanent collection offers visitors a unique window into pre-Industrial America through sixty different crafts and trades and is one of the world's most comprehensive portraits of American material culture. The museum also features a research library that is a center for local history related to Bucks County and the surrounding region, with its roots dating back to the founding of the Bucks County Historical Society in 1880.

The Mercer Museum is located at 84 South Pine Street in Doylestown, PA and is open year-round. For up-to-date schedule and admission information, please visit mercermuseum.org or call 215-345-0210.

Fonthill Castle was built between 1908-1912 and was the home to Henry Chapman Mercer. Mercer built Fonthill Castle as his home and as a showplace for his collection of tiles and prints. The castle serves as an early example of reinforced concrete and features forty-four rooms, over two hundred windows, and eighteen fireplaces. Fonthill Castle's interior features Mercer's renowned, handcrafted ceramic tiles designed at the height of the Arts and Crafts movement.

Fonthill Castle is located at 525 East Court Street, Doylestown, PA and is open for guided one-hour tours. Reservations are not taken in advance, and tours are booked at our Welcome Center each day, on a first-come, first-served basis.

For additional information, please contact:

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