



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Thursday, October 29, 2020**

## **Celebrate the Holiday Season with Festive Programming at Fonthill Castle**

DOYLESTOWN, PA – The Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle are pleased to present their 2020 Holiday programming schedule with community events that will take place throughout the holiday season at Fonthill Castle (525 East Court Street, Doylestown), the home and showplace of Henry Chapman Mercer, located in the heart of Bucks County, PA.

This year, there are three different ways to visit Fonthill Castle during the holiday season (details below):

- 1- Daily one-hour historic house tours with a guide
- 2- 30-minute “On Your Own Tours”
- 3- 45-minute evening historic house tours with a guide

Tickets to all three experiences are available now at [mercermuseum.org](http://mercermuseum.org)

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### **Winter Wonderland: Fonthill Castle Daily One-Hour Guided Tours**

**Daily from November 20 – January 3, 2021,  
except the first three weekends in December**

Throughout the holiday season, **our daily one-hour guided historic house tours** of Fonthill Castle will showcase Henry Mercer’s home decked out for the holidays while sharing the history of Mercer and the construction of this unbelievable property.



Fonthill Castle's interior features Mercer's renowned, handcrafted ceramic tiles designed at the height of the Arts and Crafts movement, and the castle serves as an early example of reinforced concrete architecture with forty-four rooms, two hundred windows and eighteen fireplaces.

Fonthill Castle is open seven days from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Please note: There are steep stairs and narrow, uneven passageways on this tour.

Tours will be limited to 5 guests and one guide per timed entry to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. Please arrive 10 minutes prior to your start time. Late arrivals may not be accommodated.

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### **Holiday Lights Meander – 30-Minute “On Your Own” Timed Holiday Experience**

**Saturdays & Sundays:**

**December 5 & 6, 2020**

**December 12 & 13, 2020**

**December 19 & 20, 2020**

**10 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. with 30-minute  
timed entry slots, every 15 minutes**



Explore the special 2020 Holiday Lights Meander route with your loved ones and **spend 30 minutes** gazing at the splendor of the holiday decorations of historic Fonthill Castle **on your own** at your own pace. Our knowledgeable tour guides will be available along the holiday route to answer your questions and make this a seasonal experience to remember for the whole family.

Please note: There are steep stairs and narrow, uneven passageways on this route.

Tours will be limited to 6 guests per timed entry to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. Please arrive 10 minutes prior to your start time. Late arrivals may not be accommodated.

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## Fonthill Castle Guided Evening Tours

**Monday, November 23, 2020 & Tuesday,  
November 24, 2020**

**Tuesday, December 8, 2020, Wednesday,  
December 9 & Thursday, December 10, 2020**

**Tuesday, December 15, 2020, Wednesday,  
December 16 & Thursday, December 17, 2020**

**Tuesday, December 22, 2020**

**Tour times begin at 5 p.m.**



Delight in the splendor of a **45-minute guided historic house evening tour** at Fonthill Castle decked out for the holidays. Fonthill Castle was the home of Henry Chapman Mercer and an early example of reinforced concrete architecture. Discover Mercer's renowned ceramic tiles during these intimate 45-minute guided historic tours of the castle's unique rooms and artifacts.

Please note: There are steep stairs and narrow, uneven passageways on this tour.

Tours will be limited to 5 guests and one guide in order to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. Please arrive 10 minutes prior to your start time. Late arrivals may not be accommodated.

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### ***Please note:***

Advanced tickets are highly recommended for all of these holiday events as they sell out every year and capacity has been reduced due to COVID-19 precautions.

We have implemented new procedures and adapted the capacity of our seasonal programming in order to meet the needs of our staff and guests as safely as possible. All staff and guests (ages 3 and over) are required to wear a face covering while they are inside our buildings, and hand sanitizer stations have been placed throughout the castles.

**Please book early to avoid disappointment.**

For more information on schedules and to purchase tickets, please visit [mercermuseum.org](http://mercermuseum.org) or call 215-345-0210.

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## **About Fonthill Castle**

Located in Doylestown, Bucks County, PA, the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are two 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.

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, hand crafted ceramic tiles designed at the height of the Arts and Crafts movement.

Fonthill Castle is located at 525 East Court Street, Doylestown, PA. Guests can park in the designated parking lot located off of the main entrance on Swamp Road (Rt. 313).

**For additional information or photos, please contact:**

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