



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Monday, November 27, 2023

Annual Holiday Festivities at Fonthill Castle Featuring All-New Tree Decorations for 2023

DOYLESTOWN, PA – The Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle are pleased to present their 2023 Holiday programming schedule for the holiday season at Fonthill Castle (525 East Court Street, Doylestown), located in Doylestown, the heart of Bucks County, PA.

Fonthill Castle, the home of Henry Chapman Mercer (1856-1930), is a National Historic Landmark operated by the Bucks County Historical Society. Every year, the inside of the castle is transformed into a winter wonderland with all new themes for 15 festive Christmas tree decorations that will delight the whole family.

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

Daily Winter Wonderland Guided Tours

Weekdays through December 31, 2023

\$15 Adult/\$13 Senior (65+)/\$10 Student/\$8 Youth (6-17)/Free Child (5 and under)/Free BCHS Member Adult

On weekdays throughout the holiday season, daily one-hour guided tours of historic Fonthill Castle showcase Henry Mercer's home decked for the holidays while sharing the history of Mercer and the construction of this unique property. Tours are 60 minutes and guided.

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.

Holiday Lights Meander Days

Offered on Saturdays and Sundays from December 2 through December 31, these special days allow you to explore the 2023 Holiday Lights Meander tour route at your own pace!

Our knowledgeable tour guides are available along the holiday route to answer questions and make this a seasonal experience to remember for the whole family.

Saturdays & Sundays:

December 2 & December 3, 2023

December 9 & December 10, 2023

December 16 & December 17, 2023

December 23, 2023

December 30, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Time slots begin every 10 minutes

Special Dates & Times:

Sunday, December 24, 2023 (Christmas Eve)

Sunday, December 31, 2023 (New Year's Eve)

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Time slots begin every 10 minutes

\$20 Adult/\$15 BCHS Member Adult/\$10 Youth (6-17)/\$5 Child (5 and under)

Fonthill Castle Guided Evening Tours

Delight in the splendor of a guided historic 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.

November 29 & 30, 2023

December 7, 14, 20, 21, 27, & 28, 2023

Tour times begin at 5:00 p.m., last tour time varies

\$25 Adults/\$20 Member Adults/\$10 Youth (6-17)/\$5 Child (5 and under)

Holidays at Fonthill Castle is supported by Bountiful Acres, The Tustin Group, Paganini Doylestown, Penn Community Bank, Pat Tagliolini, and National Associates Doylestown, Inc.

Up-to-date schedules and tickets are at mercermuseum.org/holidays.

Advanced tickets are highly recommended for all of these holiday events. Please book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets are non-refundable and non-transferable and cannot be exchanged for a new date or time.

Guests should arrive 10 minutes prior to event start time, and late arrivals may not be accommodated. Parking is available in the Fonthill Castle parking lot off of the main site entrance on Swamp Road (Rt. 313), and check-in is located at the Fonthill Castle Welcome Center.

Due to its historic nature, Fonthill Castle has very limited accessibility with steep stairs and narrow, uneven passages throughout the site.

Fonthill Castle is closed on the following holiday days: Monday, December 25, 2023 (Christmas Day) and Monday, January 1, 2024 (New Year's Day).

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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 (BCHS).

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 17,000 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.

Fonthill Castle was built between 1908-1912 and was the home of Henry Chapman Mercer. Mercer built Fonthill Castle as his residence and 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.

The Mercer Museum is located at 84 South Pine Street, Doylestown, PA, 18901. Fonthill Castle is located at 525 East Court Street in Doylestown, PA, 18901.

The Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle are open Tuesdays – Sundays from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. For up-to-date ticket and schedule information, please visit mercermuseum.org.

For additional information, please contact:

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