



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Friday, November 1, 2024**

## **Annual Holiday Festivities at Fonthill Castle**

**DOYLESTOWN, PA** – The Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle are pleased to present the annual holiday programs at Fonthill Castle in Doylestown, PA from November 16 – December 31, 2024.

Located in the heart of Bucks County, 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 interior of the castle is transformed into a winter wonderland with new themes for festive Christmas trees that will delight the whole family.

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

### **Winter Wonderland Daily Guided Tours**

**Weekdays and November weekends beginning November 16 through December 31, 2024**

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

On all weekdays as well as weekends in November, daily one-hour guided tours of historic Fonthill Castle showcase Henry Mercer's home decorated for the holidays, and share 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.

## **December Weekends: Holiday Lights Meander Days**

Offered on Saturdays and Sundays from December 7 through December 31, these special weekend days allow guests to explore the rooms and trees on the 2024 Holiday Lights Meander tour route inside Fonthill Castle at their own pace.

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 7 & December 8, 2024

December 14 & December 15, 2024

December 21 & December 22, 2024

December 28, & December 29, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Time slots begin every 10 minutes

### **Special Dates & Times:**

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 (Christmas Eve)

Tuesday, December 31, 2024 (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)*

## **Guided Holiday Evening Tours at Fonthill Castle**

Nothing is as magical as discovering Fonthill Castle decked out for the holidays on guided Evening Tours. Discover Mercer's renowned ceramic tiles and holiday trees glowing in the candlelight during these intimate 45-minute historic tours.

November 22, 23, & 29, 2024

December 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 26, & 27, 2024

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 generously supported by Fulton Bank, The Haverford Trust Company, Bountiful Acres, The Dog House Doylestown, Penn Community Bank, Peoples Security Bank & Trust, Phillips & Donovan Architects, Raphael Architects, The Tustin Group, and Michelle Pedersen.

**Up-to-date schedules and tickets are at [mercermuseum.org/holidays](http://mercermuseum.org/holidays).**

Advanced tickets are highly recommended for all of these holiday events

Fonthill Castle is closed on the following holiday days: Thursday, November 28, 2024 (Thanksgiving Day) Wednesday, December 25, 2024 (Christmas Day) and Wednesday, January 1, 2025 (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](http://mercermuseum.org).

### **For additional information, please contact:**

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