



The 53rd Dearborn Garden Walk

Presented by The North Dearborn Association

Set for Sunday, July 17, 2011, 12pm-5pm

A Tour of Private Gardens, Designer Vignettes and Historic Architecture in Chicago

The North Dearborn Association's annual Dearborn Garden Walk is one of the oldest garden walks in the nation. For one day only, the public can view some of the most spectacular rear gardens Chicago has to offer. This is a fundraising event that draws in record numbers of visitors from all over the country each year.

Curious to see what is behind the stately greystones that line the streets of Chicago's famed Near North Side? Hidden amongst these gorgeous residences and historic buildings are elegant, lush gardens to discover. Each year, the North Dearborn Association brings together a stunning collection of these diverse gardens for its annual Dearborn Garden Walk. Visitors are treated to creatively themed garden vignettes, sumptuous urban garden spaces and architectural walking tours, with the backdrop of live classical music and jazz performances throughout. This year's 53rd Dearborn Garden Walk will take place on Sunday, July 17, 2011

Each year, this nationally-recognized garden walk draws crowds from all over the world to take part in a one-day, self-guided walking tour of more than twenty of Chicago's most spectacular, private rear gardens. Highlights of this year's event include original **garden vignettes** created by some of Chicago's top designers. The vignettes will showcase dramatic outdoor rooms and scenes utilizing a variety of outdoor furniture and accessories prompting visitors to consider imaginative ways to bring the outside into their own homes and work areas.

In addition to the self-guided walking tour and garden vignettes, visitors can participate in an hour-long, wonderfully entertaining and educational sidewalk guided tour of historic Dearborn Parkway that highlights the outstanding architectural facades in the neighborhood. The architectural walking tour, which starts at 1:30pm, 3:30pm, and 5:00pm, includes both pre and post-Chicago fire structures, sites that have been used in movies, homes formerly occupied by famous celebrities, and even a US President!

This year's 53rd Dearborn Garden Walk will take place on Sunday, July 17, from 12pm-5pm. Admission includes a Dearborn Garden Walk program with a map for a self-guided tour of the gardens, live jazz and classical music in select gardens, and guided architectural walking tours of historic Dearborn Parkway. The program booth will be at a new location, the Latin Lower School lobby, 1531 N. Dearborn Parkway, Chicago, IL 60610. Tickets are \$35.00 on July 17 and \$30.00 in advance. Children 16 years of age and younger accompanied by an adult, as well as North Dearborn Association Partner in Preservation members, are free. Advance sales end on Saturday, July 16 at 12:00pm – all advance ticket purchasers are automatically entered in drawings for goods and services from neighborhood businesses. For ticket purchase information, please call: 312-632-1241 or visit: www.DearbornGardenWalk.com.

Out-of-town visitors can take part in the special "Garden Walk Package" presented by Hotel Indigo – just steps from the Dearborn Garden Walk entrance. Enjoy an overnight stay and complimentary breakfast for two for \$174. For more information, please visit: <http://www.goldcoastchicagohotel.com/>.

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Editors Note: Hi-res images of gardens and vignettes are available upon request.

About North Dearborn Association:

Founded in 1954, the North Dearborn Association (NDA) is an influential organization dedicated to the preservation and beautification of its Chicago Near North neighborhood. The Association recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, at which Mayor Richard M. Daley complimented it as "representing the best part of what is good about this city." Among its recent projects, the NDA led the efforts to install vintage lampposts with hanging floral baskets at the intersections along North Dearborn from Division Street to the entrance of Lincoln Park at North Avenue; facilitated the donation of the Eldon Danhausan sculpture 'The Community' to the Ogden International School; and is currently working to preserve and renovate the historic 3Arts Club landmark building. Proceeds from the Association's annual Dearborn Garden Walk go back into the community for preservation and beautification efforts. For more information, please visit: www.northdearbornassociation.com.