



## Summer 2006 Highlights in the Brandywine Valley

Wilmington, DE (June 9, 2006); for immediate release: The Brandywine Valley, where Pennsylvania and Delaware meet just thirty miles southwest of Philadelphia, is home to world-class gardens, museums, historic sites, and cultural opportunities. These are complemented by art galleries and antique shops, scenic backcountry roads, and a variety of accommodations and dining options.

Here are seasonal highlights. There are many other events scheduled for late May through early September. Detailed information is available through the contacts and websites listed below.



**BRANDYWINE  
RIVER MUSEUM**  
(610) 388-2700  
[www.brandywinemuseum.org](http://www.brandywinemuseum.org)



**DELAWARE  
ART MUSEUM**  
(302) 571-9590  
[www.delart.org](http://www.delart.org)



**DELAWARE  
MUSEUM OF NATURAL  
HISTORY**  
(302) 658-9111  
[www.delmnh.org](http://www.delmnh.org)



**HAGLEY MUSEUM AND  
LIBRARY**  
(302) 658-2400  
[www.hagley.org](http://www.hagley.org)



**HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY OF DELAWARE**  
(302) 655-7161  
[www.hsd.org](http://www.hsd.org)



**LONGWOOD GARDENS**  
(610) 388-1000  
[www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org)



**NEMOURS MANSION  
AND GARDENS**  
(302) 651-6912  
[www.nemoursmansion.org](http://www.nemoursmansion.org)



**ROCKWOOD MUSEUM**  
(302) 761-4340  
[www.rockwood.org](http://www.rockwood.org)



**WINTERTHUR MUSEUM,  
GARDEN AND LIBRARY**  
(302) 888-4600  
[www.winterthur.org](http://www.winterthur.org)

Happy Birthday, **Longwood Gardens!** “Founder’s Day,” Longwood’s centennial celebration, begins July 20 at 10:30 a.m. with the cutting of a spectacular cake modeled after Longwood’s Conservatory to commemorate Pierre S. Du Pont’s purchase of the property’s original 202 acres on July 20, 1906. Behind-the-scenes tours, strolling entertainers, fountain shows, and children’s activities take place throughout the weekend.

May 27 opens the annual “Festival of the Fountains.” Water in the Main Fountain Garden runs continuously throughout the day, with special five-minute shows at noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Illuminated, multicolored fountain displays are held Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday evenings throughout the summer following theatre, dance, and musical performances. Adding pyrotechnics to the mix, “Fireworks and Fountains,” May 28, July 2, July 22, September 3, and September 9, combines lavish fireworks and stirring music with the illuminated fountain show. (Fireworks shows require advance ticketing, as does the July 21 concert by Marc Cohn and Shawn Colvin.)

Longwood Gardens is the world’s premier horticultural display garden, offering 1,050 acres of gardens, woodlands, and meadows; 20 outdoor gardens; 20 indoor gardens under glass; spectacular fountains; and more than 800 annual events. (U.S. Route 1 at PA Route 52, Kennett Square, PA 19348; [www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org). Patricia Evans, 610-388-1000, ext. 442; [pevans@longwoodgardens.org](mailto:pevans@longwoodgardens.org).)

**Rockwood Park** offers special events in its Gothic Revival mansion and surrounding grounds. Beginning June 9, “Serving the Bringhursts” explores tools servants used to keep house and tend to the mansion’s owners. The house may host a ghost! Find out for yourself on a Ghost Tour, held the evenings of May 27 and June 24.

On June 11, guest lecturer Dr. Margaretta Frederick discusses Victorian and nineteenth-century art. Free programs for children ages 5-10 are held on Thursdays from June 22 through August 17. Summer History Camp runs mornings from July 31-August 4, and August 7- 11.

Rockwood's popular "Ice Cream Festival" returns Saturday & Sunday, July 15 & 16. The largest festival in New Castle County offers music, family events, food, and plenty of ice cream.

On selected July and August evenings, the Delaware Shakespeare Festival is held on the south lawn. This year the company will present *Much Ado About Nothing* ([www.delshakes.org](http://www.delshakes.org)).

Rockwood Park, owned and operated by New Castle County, welcomes visitors to the mansion, formal gardens, and 72 acres of woods and meadows. (610 Shipley Rd., Wilmington, DE 19805; [www.rockwood.org](http://www.rockwood.org). Carol Klaver Dougherty, 302-761-4340, [cklaver@nccde.org](mailto:cklaver@nccde.org).)

**Hagley Museum and Library's** "Centuries of Progress: American World's Fairs" runs through July 31.

From 5-8 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in July and August, visitors are invited to "Bike and Hike at Hagley." The many paths at this National Recreation Trail and National Historical Landmark suit everyone from the tricycle set to serious riders. Bring a picnic to enjoy after a stroll or workout.

Tuesday afternoons starting June 27, "Hagley's Creek Kids" present hands-on activities related to 19<sup>th</sup>-century life.

Admission is \$1 on Saturdays during the months of July and August.

Hagley's park-like museum on 235 acres along the Brandywine depicts home and work in a nineteenth-century milling community amid ruins and restorations. Functioning machinery, a restored house and garden, and changing exhibits bring history to life. (DE Route 141, Wilmington, DE 19807. Lucille Kahan, 302-658-2400, ext. 238; [lkahan@hagley.org](mailto:lkahan@hagley.org).)

The **Brandywine River Museum** offers guided tours of the Kuerner Farm, a major inspiration to Andrew Wyeth for more than 70 years; and the restored home/studio of Andrew's father, famed American illustrator N. C. Wyeth. The exhibit "Andrew Wyeth: Master Drawings from the Artist's Collection" continues through July 16.

The 35th Annual Antiques Show is May 27-29, featuring American and English furniture and objects. An outdoor concert with Tom Chapin will be held June 18 at the N. C. Wyeth studio. "Treasures from the Sea: Sailors' Valentines and Shellwork" runs May 27 through July 23.

Beginning in the early 1880s, many American artists interested in etching explored Europe, Asia and North Africa, and recorded their impressions. "American Etchers Abroad, 1880-1939," which runs June 3-September 4, features 59 prints by 32 American artists who undertook this artistic pilgrimage.

Admission is free on Sunday mornings in June and September.

Exhibiting American art in a restored 19<sup>th</sup>-century grist mill, the Brandywine River Museum is internationally known for its unparalleled collection of works by three generations of Wyeths and its fine collection of American illustration, still life, and landscape paintings. (U.S. Route 1, Chadds Ford, PA 19317; [www.brandywinemuseum.org](http://www.brandywinemuseum.org). Lora Englehart, 610-388-8337, [lenglehart@brandywine.org](mailto:lenglehart@brandywine.org).)

At the **Delaware History Museum** through June 30, "The Delaware Farmer" explores the history of Delaware's agriculture. Starting May 25, "The Face of Farming: Delaware's Farm Families" exhibits photos and oral histories.

At the Historical Society's New Castle location, celebrate "Separation Day" on June 3. On June 22, Christian J. Koot speaks about the importance of 17<sup>th</sup>-century Anglo-Dutch

interaction in “Creating Empire in Delaware: Inter-Imperial Warfare, Inter-Imperial Cooperation” at the New Castle Presbyterian Church Education Building.

Back in Wilmington, enjoy lunchtime jazz from June 5-9 at 12:15 p.m. “Jewish Women’s Organizations” goes on exhibit starting July 24 at the Willingtown Square Gallery.

The Delaware History Museum, part of the Historical Society of Delaware, brings the state’s past to life. Permanent exhibits cover four centuries of The First State’s history. (504 Market St., Wilmington, DE 19801; [www.hsd.org](http://www.hsd.org). Megen Morris, 302-295-2390, [publicrelations@hsd.org](mailto:publicrelations@hsd.org).)

At the **Delaware Museum of Natural History**, beginning May 27, “Shoot to Thrill: The Wildlife Photography Adventures of Bob Caputo” relates captivating stories through the lens of an award-winning wildlife photographer. Embark on a photographic adventure with this stunning arrangement of wildlife images from this regular *National Geographic* contributor. Experience the wonder, beauty, and brutality that is the natural world.

Weekly summer camp sessions are available for children in grades pre-K through 6. Programs combine nature, art, and adventure using the Museum’s facilities and outdoor trail.

A visit to the Delaware Museum of Natural History is a family-friendly voyage of discovery. (4840 Kennett Pike, Delaware Route 52, Wilmington, DE 19807; [www.delmnh.org](http://www.delmnh.org). Joey Outten, 302-658-9111; [joutten@delmnh.org](mailto:joutten@delmnh.org).)

“Something Waits Beneath It—Early Work by Andrew Wyeth, 1939-1969” is exhibited at the **Delaware Art Museum** through July 16, as is “Portraits of a People: Picturing African Americans in the Nineteenth Century.” “Charles Shannon: Lithographs and Luminaries” runs through July 9. From August 5 through October 1, the museum presents “Icons & Idols: A Photographer’s Chronicle of the Arts, 1960-1995,” complemented by “Iconic Impressions: Prints from the 20th Century,” which will run from July 27 through September 17. Opening August 11 is “From Raku to Ray Guns: Ceramics Since 1960.”

Held the first and last Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m., “Glory of Stories” is an hour of storytelling, discussion about related art, and a hands-on project for ages 4-6. First Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and first Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m., staff members lead a “Gallery Chat.” Every Wednesday from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., “Art After Hours” is a new way to experience the Museum. The evenings feature gallery talks, food, and musical performances from jazz to Celtic to string quartets.

Thursdays at noon, join a guide for a 30-minute tour followed by an informal discussion over lunch. “Starving for Art” features different artworks, artists, or exhibits each week.

Military personnel and their families receive free admission on May 27.

(2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19801; [www.delart.org](http://www.delart.org). Dennis Lawson, 302-351-9590, x. 515; [dlawson@delart.org](mailto:dlawson@delart.org).)

At **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate**, “Time for Tea!” with nearly 200 teaware items from the collection, continues through July 10. “Needles and Haystacks: Pastoral Imagery in American Needlework” runs through July 23, as does “Kid Stuff: Growing Up at Winterthur.” Through June 23, experience the mansion through the eyes of a young weekend visitor with three “Country House Guest Tours” through different parts of the house.

“Tea: From Leaf to Lip,” takes visitors on a garden stroll, Saturdays and Sundays, May 27-June 18 at 1:30 p.m. Discover how herbs go from seed to leaf to the teapot, and make your own tasty blend to brew at home. Special tea events include “Grandparents Tea” on May 27; “Ballerina Tea Time” June 10; and a “Stuffed Animal Tea” June 17.

June 24 is a “Fairy Fun Festival” which begins a series of summer weekend events. Learn about barrel-making; the myth and magic of herbs; spinning and carding, blacksmithing; dyeing wool; and making arrowheads on Saturdays from July 1 through August 12. Sundays from July 2 through August 6, storytellers work their magic in the Enchanted Woods™.

See vintage automobiles dating from 1916 to 1969, including H. F. Du Pont’s 1959 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud, on selected summer Saturdays. Jazz things up on June 4 from 1:30-6 p.m. with the kickoff concert of the DuPont Clifford Brown Jazz Festival in the Winterthur garden.

Indoors, the 175-room mansion is a world-renowned center for American decorative arts. Gallery space presents permanent and changing exhibits; various tours of the house, galleries, and gardens are offered. (DE Route 52, Winterthur, DE 19735; [www.winterthur.org](http://www.winterthur.org). Hillary Holland, 302-888-4734; [hholland@winterthur.org](mailto:hholland@winterthur.org).)

At the **Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts**, “The Low Road,” presenting Katherine Kuharic’s art, ends June 18. An exhibition of 35 drawings and prints by Eric Fischl, renowned for images of the human figure, is open through September 10. Fischl described his work as “...like theater without a script, a set of relationships between people, the objects, and the place they are in,” in an 1988 *View* magazine interview. “Oink Moo Baa: Animals in Art,” a mixed-media examination of how contemporary artists portray animals, opens June 30.

The DCCA presents exhibitions that explore topical issues in contemporary art and society. Housed in a rebuilt railroad car factory, art and community intersect here with passion and energy. (200 S. Madison St., Wilmington, DE 19801; [www.thedcca.org](http://www.thedcca.org). Larry Nagengast, 302-656-6466, [lmnagengast@thedcca.org](mailto:lmnagengast@thedcca.org).)

###