



**For immediate release**

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## **Summer at the Vanderbilt: Outdoor Music, Shakespeare, Clam Bake, Dances, Children’s Workshops, Living History**

CENTERPORT, NY (July 7, 2015) – Looking for summer fun, close to home? The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum offers an appealing calendar of music, dance, theater and special events. The Vanderbilt has long been a popular destination for Long Islanders and their families looking for moderately priced cultural entertainment.

The Vanderbilt offers visitors a rich cultural, historical and educational experience. Year-round, visitors can tour the estate, mansion and museum of William K. Vanderbilt II – including his marine-life, natural-history and cultural-artifact collections, and wild-animal habitats– or see a show in the new, state-of-the-art Charles and Helen Reichert Planetarium.

Mr. Vanderbilt’s spectacular *Eagle’s Nest*, a 43-acre waterfront estate and 24-room Spanish-Revival mansion, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



*Vanderbilt Museum photo*

**William K. Vanderbilt II’s *Eagle’s Nest* mansion**

The mansion, with its considerable collection of rare fine and decorative art – and centuries-old furnishings from around the world – is a museum in itself, a time capsule of the privileged life on the Gold Coast from the Jazz Age through the Second World War.

***Tickets for most of these events may be purchased on-line at [vanderbiltmuseum.org](http://vanderbiltmuseum.org):***

### **Mid-Summer Night Dances, Thursdays, 6:30–9:30**

Popular summer dances are held in the Celebration Tent most Thursday evenings. Ballroom and other types of dancing are featured. Instructors teach a new dance step each week. Co-produced with C & D Productions, Inc. Gates open 6:00. Dance lessons, 6:30 to 7:00, with dancing until 9:30. Light dinner fare included (51 Broadway Caterers). Admission: \$30 at door; \$25 in advance, on-line. Season tickets available: \$160 (or \$20 per evening).

**Schedule with featured dance step:** July 9, West Coast swing by Ellen McCreery; July 16, rumba by Antz Joseph (special performance by Dancing Classroom Long Island Youth

Ensemble); July 23, fox trot by Ballroom of Huntington; July 30, cha cha by Patti Paneibianco; August 20, hustle by Donna DiSimone; August 27, East Coast swing by Swing Dance Long Island; September 3, salsa by Rhythmology.

**Sunday, July 12 – The Liverpool Shuffle Summer Concert, 7:00**

This Beatles tribute band, a regional favorite, will perform classic songs live outside on the Great Lawn. Bring a picnic, blankets and chairs. Tickets: adults \$25 on-line, \$35 at door; children 5–15, \$10 on-line or at door; children under 5 free.

**Saturday, July 18 – Clam Bake IV, 6:00–10:00**

This annual fund-raising event, held in the Celebration Tent, offers a wide seafood-lovers' menu plus wine, beer and soda, and a DJ with music for listening and dancing. Tickets: \$100 person, on-line; Members, \$90.

**Friday, August 7 – Alex Torres and His Latin Orchestra, 6:00–10:00**

For the ninth summer, the orchestra will perform (rain or shine) *Spicy Sounds for a Hot Night*. Bring a picnic, take a club-style Latin dance lesson, and listen and dance to the music of these renowned musicians and recording artists. Tickets: \$25 on-line, \$30 at door.

**Living History Tours – Sundays: July 26, August 30, September 6, 5:00–7:00**

These special, time-machine tours offer visitors the chance to meet the Vanderbilts' summer guests. This summer it will be 1936 in the Mansion, and featured family guests will be golf champion Sam Snead and renowned writer Dorothy Parker. Tours are synchronized with the evening performances of the Outdoor Summer Shakespeare Festival. Visitors are encouraged to take a tour, bring a picnic dinner, and stay for a Shakespeare play in the Mansion Courtyard. Guests and household staff are portrayed by Museum guide-actors. Tickets: \$10 on-line. Members, free.

**Children's Workshops – July and August**

**Creative Summer Fun for Preschoolers**

The Vanderbilt Education Center offers fun, creative workshops for children ages 3-5 (with an adult). Projects include paper sculptures, masks, and tee-shirts. Call 631-854-5539 for details and fees, or visit [vanderbiltmuseum.org](http://vanderbiltmuseum.org).

**Sail the Seas with Mr. V**

This series of science and art workshops for grades K–3 explore the Museum's collections, artifacts and habitats, followed by creative projects. Call 631-854-5539 for details and fees, or visit [vanderbiltmuseum.org](http://vanderbiltmuseum.org).

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**MUSEUM AND PLANETARIUM INFORMATION**

**Hours – Museum and Mansion**

**June 28 through September 6:** Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. (Last mansion tour begins at 4:00.) *The Museum and Mansion are closed Mondays.*

**Hours – Charles and Helen Reichert Planetarium**

**June 28 through September 6:** Daytime shows Tuesday through Sunday afternoon at 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00. Evening shows on Friday and Saturday at 8:00 and 9:00. (The Planetarium is open on

Friday and Saturday nights, but the Mansion, Museum and Estate grounds are closed.) *The Planetarium is closed Monday.*

**Observatory** – Year-round viewing of the night sky (weather permitting), Friday only, 9:00-10:00 p.m. (free with show ticket; \$3.00 without show ticket)

### **Planetarium Show Schedule – Summer 2015**

#### **June 28 – September 6**

##### **Tuesday – Friday Afternoons**

12:00 – One World, One Sky

1:00 – Earth, Moon, and Sun

**2:00 – Night Sky, Live! – NEW!**

3:00 – Dynamic Earth: Exploring Earth’s Climate Engine

4:00 – Stars: Powerhouses of the Universe

##### **Saturday and Sunday Afternoons**

12:00 – One World, One Sky

1:00 – Earth, Moon, and Sun

2:00 – Stars: Powerhouses of the Universe

3:00 – Dynamic Earth: Exploring Earth’s Climate Engine

4:00 – Stars: Powerhouses of the Universe

##### **Friday Night**

8:00 – Long Island Skies

9:00 – Musical Space Journey

##### **Saturday Night**

8:00 – Black Holes: Journey into the Unknown

9:00 – Classic Rock ‘n’ Light

##### **Museum Admission**

General museum admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for students with ID and seniors (62 and older), and \$3 for children 12 and under. General admission includes estate-grounds access to the Marine Museum, Memorial Wing natural-history and ethnographic-artifact galleries, Nursery Wing, Habitat Room, Egyptian mummy and Stoll Wing animal-habitat dioramas. For a mansion tour, add \$5 per ticket. (A video tour of the mansion is available on request.)

##### **Mansion Tours**

Guided tours of the Vanderbilt Mansion – listed on the National Register of Historic Places – are available Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday at 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00.

##### **Planetarium Admission**

During the day, visitors to the Planetarium pay general museum admission (\$7 for adults, \$6 for students with IDs and seniors 62 and older, and \$3 for children 12 and under), plus \$5 each for a Planetarium show. Since the museum is closed in the evening, no general museum admission is charged – visitors pay only for Planetarium show tickets: \$9 for adults, \$8 for students with IDs and seniors 62 and older, and \$7 for children 12 and under.

##### **Vanderbilt Observatory**

Night-sky viewing on Friday (weather permitting), 9:00-10:00 p.m. Observation is free to visitors with a planetarium show ticket, \$3.00 for those without a show ticket.

**Location and Website**

The Vanderbilt Museum is located at 180 Little Neck Road, Centerport, NY. Directions and updated details on programs and events are available at [www.vanderbiltmuseum.org](http://www.vanderbiltmuseum.org). For information, call 631-854-5579.

**Images**

Available upon request. Call Patrick Keefe at 631-854-5562.

**The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum**

The Vanderbilt—a unique combination of mansion, marine and natural history museum, planetarium and park—is dedicated to the education and enjoyment of the people of Long Island and beyond. This mission is achieved through the thoughtful preservation, interpretation and enhancement of the Eagle's Nest estate as an informal educational facility. Exhibition and program themes focus upon Long Island's Gold Coast Era and build upon William K. Vanderbilt II's desire that his marine, natural-history and ethnographic-artifact collections promote appreciation and understanding of the marvelous diversity of life, other cultures and scientific knowledge.

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