

Summer Fun at the Vanderbilt!

The Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum has a calendar full of fun planned for summer. There will be entertainment for all ages close to home in Centerport:

Thursday night dances... Living History tours of the Vanderbilt Mansion... the 2nd annual Clam Bake... the 25th annual Shakespeare Festival... an evening of Latin music and dancing... creative summer workshops for children... an evening of Argentine tango and ballroom dancing... children's theater... classic-car shows.

The second annual Long Island Summer Arts Festival Series — presented by producer-musician Rich Rivkin as a benefit for the Vanderbilt Museum's education programs — is held on the Great Lawn, west of the Vanderbilt Mansion, amid greenery and spectacular views of Northport Bay and Long Island Sound.

June-July-August

Living History Tours of the Vander Mansion

For more than a decade, Living History tours of the mansion have given visitors a kind of time-machine trip to the 1930s. Museum staff, in costume and in character as household staff members and famous family guests, take visitors through the 24-room, Spanish-Revival mansion and regale them with stories about the family, its guests and its adventures. Tours are given every Saturday and Sunday from Memorial Day weekend and through Labor Day. Tour stories are based upon the oral histories of local people who worked on the Vanderbilt household staff. Hourly tours begin Saturday at 11:00, Sunday at 1:00. (Last tour each day leaves at 4:00.) Tickets: \$5 at the door.

Mid-Summer Night Dances under the Stars

June 27, July 11, 18, 25; August 8, 15, 22, 29

Do you love to dance, or do you want to learn? This popular Thursday night event, which began in 2012, features ballroom and other popular types of dancing. Gate opens at 6:30, with dancing 7:00-9:30. Lessons included. Bring a picnic dinner. Tickets at the door: \$20.00 per person. The dances are sponsored by Ballroom on the Bay of Huntington.

Arena Players Repertory Theater and Arena Players Children's Theater Productions

Visit ArenaPlayers.org or VanderbiltMuseum.org for details.

June

Sunday, June 30 — Long Island Sound Festival 2

Producer Rich Rivkin presents a day of live music and art, with 50 artists painting live to the inspiration of Stanton Anderson Band, Liverpool Shuffle (Beatles tribute), Reckoning (Grateful Dead tribute), Black Dog (Led Zeppelin tribute), Teddy Kumpel Loopestra, and soloist Elana Rivkin. Hours: 12:00-7:00. Tickets (\$20.00 each).

July

July 6-August 25 – Summer Shakespeare Festival: Taming of the Shrew

The Arena Players Repertory Theater presents its 25th annual Shakespeare Festival with this lively, sometimes bawdy, tale of the rambunctious Kate and her love affair with Petruchio. Performances will be in full Elizabethan costume on the Vanderbilt Courtyard stage against the magnificent backdrop of the historic Vanderbilt Mansion. Performances: Wednesday and Friday at 8:00 p.m., Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Tickets: \$15. Reserve tickets by calling Arena Players at 516-293-0674, or purchase tickets at the door.

Sunday, July 7 — Classic Car Show

Long Island Vettes

July 10 – August 14 – Creative Workshops for Children

Children enjoy learning and creative fun in these Pre-K and K-3 educational workshops offered by the Vanderbilt Museum Education Center. Each session begins with an educator-led tour of the Vanderbilt Museum's marine-life, natural-history and ethnographic-artifact collections and animal habitats, followed by hands-on creative projects. To register, call 631-854-5539.

Sunday, July 14 — MarleyFest

This event, produced by Rich Rivkin, features live reggae and art, with 50 artists painting live to the inspiration of The RBC, Hylton B and The Energy Force Band, Roots Revelators, and Nonstop To Cairo. Hours: 12:00-7:00. Tickets (\$20 each).

Saturday, July 20 — Romantic Evening of Tango, Ballroom Dancing in the Courtyard

Legendary Argentine dancer Nelson Avila — star of the world-renowned Broadway show Tango Argentino — and his wife Madalyn return for a fourth summer. Joining them again are champion dancers Karen Lupo and Mark James, who will bring spellbinding dance selections including salsa, hustle and acrobatic adagios (lifts and drops). Each couple will give a featured performance. Tango and ballroom fundamentals will be taught. Bring a picnic dinner. Hours: 6:00-10:00. Tickets (\$25 each).

Saturday, July 27 — Second Annual Vanderbilt Clam Bake

Enjoy an evening of food, music and dancing under the stars. Proceeds from this benefit event support museum education programs. The enticing menu of seafood-lovers' favorites includes steamed lobsters, clams, mussels, clam chowder, barbecued chicken, burgers, hot dogs, corn-on-the-cob, plus wine and beer. Hours: 6:00-10:00. Tickets (\$100 each).

August

Friday, August 2 — Alex Torres and His Latin Orchestra

The orchestra — which has performed to sold-out Vanderbilt audiences and rave reviews — returns with its seventh annual show, Spicy Sounds for a Hot Night. The evening includes professional, club-style Latin dance lessons. Torres and his orchestra, who have played a spicy mix of salsa, merengue and Latin jazz throughout North and South America, have released 10 critically acclaimed CDs. Hours: 6:00-10:00. Call 631-854-5579 to reserve tickets: \$25 in advance and for Museum members; \$30.00 at the door. Club-style dance lessons (\$5 per person) begin at 6:00. Event will be held rain or shine.

Sunday, August 11 — North Shore Blues Festival

Rich Rivkin will produce this event that features live blues and art, with 50 artists painting live, with inspiration by Kerry Kearney, Willie Steel Band, Hooch and The Bluesicians and Josie Wales Band. Hours: 12:00-7:00. Tickets (\$20.00 each).

Sunday, August 18 – Classic Car Show

Sponsored by the Vanderbilt Cup Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, this show is open to all makes of cars 25 years and older.

September

Sunday, September 8 — Grateful Fest 2

Produced by Rich Rivkin, this event features live Grateful Dead music and art, with 50 artists painting live to the inspiration of The Electrix, Half Step, Reflections and Unbroken Chain. Hours: 12:00-7:00. Tickets (\$20.00 each).

Sunday, September 15 — Classic Car Show

Jaguar Drivers Club of Long Island

Sunday, September 29 — Jamboozie Festival

Presented by producer Rich Rivkin, this event features a day of live music and art, with 50 artists painting live to the inspiration of Miles to Dayton, The Electrix (Grateful Dead tribute), Abraxas (Santana tribute), Ken Talve Trio, and soloist Elana Rivkin. Hours: 12:00-7:00. Tickets (\$20.00 each).