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## Conservancy, CHCA team up for architectural house tour

Posted on May 16, 2018 (<http://www.chestnuthilllocal.com/2018/05/16/conservancy-chca-team-up-for-architectural-house-tour/>) by Pete Mazzaccaro (<http://www.chestnuthilllocal.com/author/pete/>)



([http://www.chestnuthilllocal.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Story\\_House-Tour.crop\\_.jpg](http://www.chestnuthilllocal.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Story_House-Tour.crop_.jpg))

*Interior designer Patricia Cove at last year's Great Houses Tour greeted guests and discussed her own work at the house.  
(Photo by Janet Gala)*

**by Pete Mazzaccaro**

The Chestnut Hill Community Association and the Chestnut Hill Conservancy have teamed up to hold a "Great Houses Tour" on Sunday, May 20. It's a chance for people to get an inside look at some of the neighborhood's most notable homes and to talk to designers and contractors who worked on them.

It's the third year the tour and the second in which the CHCA and Conservancy have collaborated.

From 1 until 5 p.m. on May 20, tour guests will be able to visit six individual homes in Chestnut Hill, all notable for their architecture and for the way current and past homeowners have taken care to carefully modernize the homes while keeping commitments to the historic and architectural significance of each.

Unlike typical tours, contractors will be on site to answer questions about how they performed renovations and why. It's an interaction one rarely gets on a house tour in which the emphasis is simply to look and move on.

Among the six homes, tour guests will be able to see:

- Grounds designed by the Olmstead Brothers, the Boston-based firm of the sons of the designer of New York's Central Park, Frederick Law Olmstead.
- The use of Minton encaustic tiles designed by one of the architects of the Houses of Parliament in London.
- The transformation of a servants' staircase and quarters into a 30-square-foot kitchen addition, create and laundry room.
- The conversion of a single-family house built in the mid-1800s into a multiple family home

The tour will take place, rain or shine. Tickets are required and cost \$40 for non-members, \$35 for members of the CHCA or CH Conservancy and \$25 for those who are members of both organizations.

May 20 is also the date for the annual Chestnut Hill home and Garden Festival. In addition to the main registration location at St. Martin's in the Fields, 8000 St. Martin's Lane, tour guests will have the option of checking-in to receive their wristbands, booklets and booties at the CHCA's festival booth located at 8434 Germantown Avenue between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tour guests will receive a 10% discount at 10 Chestnut Hill restaurants and shops. Same day tickets may also be available for walk-in registrations.

Ticket proceeds will be split between both organizations. Tickets can be purchased online at [chestnuthillcommunity.ticketleap.com/greathousestour](http://chestnuthillcommunity.ticketleap.com/greathousestour) (<http://chestnuthillcommunity.ticketleap.com/greathousestour/>) For more information, call 215-247-9329.

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