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## **Mackinac State Historic Parks Celebrates the Lilac Festival with Special Events**

MACKINAC ISLAND, MICH. — Mackinac State Historic Parks will host a number of activities at its sites on Mackinac Island in conjunction with the Mackinac Island Lilac Festival June 7–16.

Admission to The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, located in beautiful Marquette Park in front of Fort Mackinac, will have free admission for the duration of the festival. Guests are encouraged to explore “Visions of Mackinac,” the juried exhibition located in the changing gallery on the second floor. The Kids’ Art Studio, located in the lower level of the museum, will feature lilac-related projects during the festival as well.

Inside Fort Mackinac, the interpretive staff will feature two new exclusive tours during the festival. At 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. during the festival join the staff as they bring guests out onto the porch of the Wood Quarters for a discussion of the Soldier’s Garden, what is now Marquette Park.

Additionally, Mackinac State Historic Parks is teaming up with the Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau to give visitors the opportunity to fire the iconic Fort Mackinac cannon during the festival. Watch the social media channels of both Mackinac State Historic Parks and the Mackinac Island Tourism Bureau during the festival to learn more about these opportunities.

The world famous Lilac Festival Grand Parade concludes the celebration, on June 16. Fort Mackinac interpreters, including soldiers and Victorian women, will be part of the parade.

More information can be found at [mackinacparks.com](http://mackinacparks.com) or [mackinacisland.org](http://mackinacisland.org).

*Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern*

*Michigan's Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort Mackinac, Historic Downtown Mackinac, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, and Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks' rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or on the web at [www.mackinacparks.com](http://www.mackinacparks.com).*

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