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March 14, 2019

Request for recognition of event of municipal significance
From: Spadina Museum: Historic House & Gardens

Statement of Significance

Spadina Museum: Historic House & Gardens requests that the Gatsby Garden Party be listed as an Event of Municipal Significance.

Historical Significance

Garden parties were popular past times in the 1910s and 1920s, held by churches and other organizations and at private homes. Usually held during afternoons, attendees enjoyed strolling beautiful summer gardens, playing games like croquet, listening to music, and resting under trees with refreshments.

Ladies wore summery dresses and hats, and people often travelled to garden parties in a car, a new mode of transportation. The Austin family, at their home Spadina, often hosted summer picnics and garden parties on their extensive grounds next door to Casa Loma.

Name of the Event

Gatsby Garden Party

Exact Address or Location of the Event

Spadina Museum
285 Spadina Road
Toronto, Ontario
M5R 2V5

The Purpose of the Event

Spadina Museum's restoration and interpretation focuses on 1920s and 1930s Toronto, exploring how Torontonians lived during times of great social, economic and technological change. The Gatsby Garden Party event will help Spadina Museum meet its interpretive goals and increase attendance and awareness of the museum.

The event is a two-day garden party which includes non-amplified period music, instruction in period dance, a costume contest judged by costume specialists, playing of croquet on the lawn, and food and drinks for sale. Participants are welcome to picnic on the grounds and take a selfie at the photo booth.

The Gatsby Garden Party serves as an opportunity to experience a popular summer past time of the period. A tour of the house will be offered to tell the story of Toronto during the interwar years, and the dancing, music, croquet and other activities will allow one to be immersed in the social culture of the 1920s.

The Date and Time of the Event

Saturday, June 22, 2019

Start Time: Noon

End Time: 5 p.m.

And

Sunday, June 23, 2019

Start Time: Noon

End Time: 5 p.m.

Contact:

Karen Edwards

Museum Administrator

Spadina Museum

Museum and Heritage Services

Economic Development and Culture

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