



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 16, 2022



**1915 Packard 2-38 Six Runabout
(Originally owned by Carl Fisher/Early Indianapolis 500 Pace Car)
Featured in Exposition of Elegance: Classic Cars at Cheekwood
Father's Day Weekend, June 18-19**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Cheekwood Estate & Gardens is excited to announce a special addition to Exposition of Elegance: Classic Cars at Cheekwood, being held June 18 and 19, 2022. A 1915 Packard 2-38 Six Runabout will be on display for the two-day event, courtesy of owners Allen and Nancy Strong of Urbana, Ill. This historic car was originally owned by Indianapolis Motor Speedway Founder and President Carl G. Fisher, and later by Eddie Rickenbacker, the famed pioneer of American aviation.

“This roadster was Carl's personal car which he used to pace several races including the 1915 Indianapolis 500,” says current owner Allen Strong. “He was the person who solved the problem of pushing through the impenetrable smoke of 33 race cars at the starting line by doing a ‘rolling start’ with a pace car bringing cars up to speed, then pulling off to allow the race to begin.”

Fisher also used his Packard to survey portions of the Lincoln Highway, founded by Fisher as America's first coast to coast rock highway. The highway, dedicated in 1913, ran from Times Square in Manhattan, N.Y. to Lincoln Park in San Francisco, Calif.

This custom-built Packard consists of a shortened 1913 chassis powered by a 1914 Model 2-38-six-cylinder engine. There is only one door on the two-seater car, with no room for a driver's door because of wooden-spoked spare tires that block the section. Hidden away at the Indianapolis Speedway for over 80 years, the car was purchased by the Strongs who added to their impressive collection of over 30 classic cars. Uniquely, Fisher's Packard remains unrestored, its original condition highlighting its historic significance.

Over 50 impeccably maintained automobiles from the early to mid-twentieth century will be on display in the Exposition of Elegance. Other featured cars include a 1920 Stutz Bearcat, 1927 Rolls Royce Phantom 1, a 1931 Studebaker President, and a 1938 Packard Twelve Coupe roadster. In addition, four Post-World War II micro-cars from England, Germany and France, will be on view in the Frist Learning Center Courtyard, courtesy of Lane Motor Museum. It will be a fun event for the whole family with entertainment provided by the barbershop quartet High Gravity, a hands-on activity for kids and tasty fare from local food trucks. The weekend will culminate with dozens of classic cars participating in the First Annual Tour d'Elegance navigating an 11-mile route through the City of Belle Meade.

Ticket Prices | Gardens:

Member Adult- \$10

Member Youth- \$7

Adult- \$22

Youth (3-17)- \$14

Ages 2 & Under - Free

Ticket Prices | Gardens & Mansion:

Member Adult- \$10

Member Youth- \$7

Adult- \$27

Youth (3-17)- \$19

Ages 2 & Under - Free

Exposition of Elegance: Classic Cars at Cheekwood is sponsored by Gullett Sanford Robinson & Martin PLLC (GSRM), Pinnacle Financial Partners, Andrews Transportation, and J. Michael's Clothiers.

About Cheekwood

With its intact and picturesque vistas, Cheekwood is distinguished as one of the leading Country Place Era estates in the nation. Formerly the family home of Mabel and Leslie Cheek, the 1930s estate, with

its 30,000-square-foot Mansion and 55-acres of gardens, today serves the public as a botanical garden, arboretum, and art museum with furnished period rooms and galleries devoted to American art from the 18th to mid-20th centuries. The property includes 13 distinct gardens including the Blevins Japanese Garden and the Bracken Foundation Children’s Garden, as well as a 1.5-mile woodland trail featuring outdoor monumental sculpture. Each year, Cheekwood hosts seasonal festivals including Cheekwood in Bloom, Summertime at Cheekwood, Cheekwood Harvest and Holiday LIGHTS. Cheekwood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and nationally as a Level II Arboretum. It is a three-time voted USA Today Top 10 Botanical Garden and in 2021 was recognized by Fodors as one of the 12 Most Beautiful Gardens in the American South. Cheekwood is located eight miles southwest of downtown Nashville at 1200 Forrest Park Drive. It is open Tuesday through Sunday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., with extended days and hours of operation depending on the season. Check cheekwood.org for current hours and to purchase advance tickets required for admission.

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Image Above

Provided by Allen and Nancy Strong. 1915 Packard, Indianapolis 500 Pace Car.

Images for Media

[Exposition of Elegance - Classic Cars at Cheekwood](#)

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