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## **In Her Own Right Exhibit Closing on March 12**

### **Elmhurst History Museum exhibit considers the state's first woman architect: Marion Mahony Griffin**

ELMHURST, IL – Architecture is a subject on the minds of many Chicagoans, and the city's rich history is closely entwined with its visionary architects. Yet, one of those pioneers has yet to become a household name in a place that puts its architects on pedestals: Marion Mahony Griffin.

The Elmhurst History Museum's current exhibit, "In Her Own Right: Marion Mahony Griffin," aims to change that status. The exhibit is in its final weeks of a six-month run, so the time is now to explore the interesting life and pioneering work of an extraordinary woman who was one of Frank Lloyd Wright's first employees and the first registered female architect in the state of Illinois. "In Her Own Right" traces Mahony Griffin's early life, her personal and professional partnership with her husband (Walter Burley Griffin) on three continents, her final years in Chicago where she died in relative obscurity—and considers the legacy of a Chicagoan of immense but often overlooked importance.

The exhibit is open through March 12, 2017 at the Elmhurst History Museum, located at 120 E. Park Ave. in Elmhurst. Exhibit hours are: Sunday, Tuesday through Friday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. General admission is free, and limited free parking is available.

## Final Exhibit-related Programs

To close out the final weeks of “In Her Own Right,” the Elmhurst History Museum has two programs on the schedule related to the exhibit. On **Friday, March 3**, families can explore Mahony Griffin’s love of nature and her belief in the power of fairies to help children expand their imaginations during a **School’s Out Workshop**. Kids and caregivers will participate together to make Fairy Garden Jars that children can use to capture fairies at home. Cost is \$10 per adult/child pair for members and \$5 for each additional child; the non-member fee is \$15 per adult/child pair and \$7 per additional child. Registration is online at [www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org) in the Family Programs section or at <http://bpt.me/2844123>. The program takes place in the Museum’s Education Center at 1:00 p.m.

In addition, a rare opportunity to view Marion’s hand-painted murals, “Fairies Feeding the Herons” and “Father Heron Feeding the Fish,” will take place on **Saturday, March 11** from 1:00 until 2:30 p.m. when they will be open to the public at George B. Armstrong International Elementary School, located at 2110 Greenleaf Ave. in the Rogers Park neighborhood. Mahony Griffin created the paintings inside the school where her sister was an art teacher in 1931 during an extended visit to her nearby Evanston family home. Incorporating themes of imagination, creativity, and love of nature, Marion delighted students by standing upon a table to paint while discussing her work, fairies, and other magical beings. The open house is presented by members of the Walter Burley Griffin Society, and no reservations are required. Admission is free, and donations to the Armstrong School’s mural preservation fund are welcome.

Gain a deeper understanding of a little-known innovator and architect by experiencing “**In Her Own Right: Marion Mahony Griffin**” before March 12 at the Elmhurst History Museum. For the latest exhibit and program information, please visit [www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org) or call (630) 833-1457.

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*The Elmhurst History Museum is a department of the City of Elmhurst supported by the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation. The Museum is located at 120 E. Park Ave. in downtown Elmhurst. General admission is free with nominal fees for special programs. For more information, call 630-833-1457 or visit our web site at [www.elmhursthistory.org](http://www.elmhursthistory.org).*

*CAPTION: The Elmhurst History Museum's exhibit "In Her Own Right" closes on March 12.*