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Concours d'Elegance coming to OU Aug. 5

By **Jeff Samoray**, *OU Web Writer*

One of the world's top concours events is returning to Oakland University Sunday, August 5.

The **23rd Annual Concours d'Elegance**, hosted by **Meadow Brook Hall**, will feature more than 200 vintage automobiles from as close as Rochester, Michigan, to as far away as Germany and Italy. Some of the vehicles are worth more than \$1 million.

The automobiles will be displayed on the grounds of **Meadow Brook Hall** from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., with award presentations starting at 11:30 a.m.

Among the cars on display this year are classic Mercedes-Benz vehicles on loan from the Mercedes-Benz Museum in Stuttgart, Germany, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the marque. Attendees can view a 1953 Mercedes-Benz 300 S Cabriolet, one of only 500 produced that year.

The Concours also will pay tribute to Streamliner automobiles and American-engineered sports cars. Among those cars are a 1938 Phantom Corsair from the Harrah Collection of the National Automobile Collection in Reno, Nevada; a 1934 Chrysler Imperial Airflow originally built at the Chrysler Jefferson Avenue Assembly Plant in Detroit; and a 1947 Chrysler Town and Country Sedan once owned by Bing Crosby.

More than 20,000 people viewed cars, valued on average between \$300,000-400,000, at last year's event.

Besides the vintage car show, other events also are being planned in conjunction with this year's Concours. They include a display of original Dodge Brothers Motor Cars photographs and documents, Invitational Artists' Exhibition, Automotive Tour, Mode du Concours Fashion Show Luncheon, Artists' Award Reception, Art Auction and Reception, Concours d'Elegance Gala Evening, Vintage Automotive Auction, Tour d'Elegance Cruise and Concours-in-the-Park, and the Meadow Brook Historic Races.

Admission to the Concours is \$20 for adults and includes a souvenir program. Teen-agers, ages 13-17, are \$10. Children, ages 12 and under, are free. Free parking and shuttle bus transportation is provided.

Revenue generated from the event goes to the preservation and interpretation of Meadow Brook Hall. The Concours raises an average of \$500,000 annually. In the past, monies have been used to help restore the Hall's Parducci ceiling and to support the elementary school educational programs.

For more information on the Concours d'Elegance, call (248) 370-3140 or visit the **Concours d'Elegance** Web site.

SUMMARY

The 23rd Annual Concours d'Elegance, which will feature more than 200 vintage automobiles, is set for Sunday, August 5, on the grounds of Meadow Brook Hall.

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