



North Shore Concours d'Elegance

*"Celebrating Excellence, Style & Elegance on Boston's Gold Coast,"
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American Classics on Historic Grounds

Duesenberg, Oakland, Packard & Cord might for some sound like a well established New York Lawyer firm; however, car enthusiasts undoubtedly recognize the top brands of outstanding cars made in the United States. Most of these cars can be admired in museums or are sitting tight in private collections. Patrick Cornelissen, a Belgian national who resides on the East Coast, started a few years ago with another alternative by creating the North Shore Concours d'Elegance: a high-end automobile show geared towards the top classic cars of their era. Taking place on July 29th in Beverly, Massachusetts, the show pays homage to the original French concours of the 17th century with a **fancy hat competition**, and includes a fashion show, art exhibits and musical entertainment.

Both automobiles and motorcycles compete for various best in class awards and ultimately for the coveted best of show award. In 2010, the Best of Show went to a 1931 Packard 840 Dietrich, a car once owned by King Gustav of Sweden, while last year's award went to an impeccable 1932 Duesenberg SJ Dual-Cowl Phaeton, of which only 32 exist. This particular car was the personal car of manufacturer Fred Duesenberg and is valued at several million dollars. For the 2012 edition, expect cars similar in stature, such as a rare 1948 Delahaye 135M Fioni et Falaschi, or a 1910 Oakland 24 Roadster, of which only 3 are believed to exist worldwide, as well as more recent classics such as a 1962 XKE OTS Jaguar, once owned by the British Ambassador in Boston.

The show ground, situated at Endicott College's Misselwood Estate, is as unique as the participating cars. Located by the ocean, the 4.5 acre property sits on a small neck with unobstructed views of Salem and Marblehead. In the summer months, dozens of sail boats compete in the multiple regattas organized by local yacht clubs. Another gem, **Manchester-by-the-Sea**, can be found a short drive from the Misselwood Estate. For many years, the town was referred to as "a playground for millionaires", and was always a favorite of the diplomatic community. In 1904 alone, 11 ambassadors summered in town and even President W.H. Taft frequently played golf at the local Essex County Club.

Along this rich history Endicott College started its long tradition of quality education in 1939. Today, the campus boasts a variety of historical buildings, with some surprising ties to the early days of transportation. The imposing College Hall building, overlooking the bay and Boston skyline, was owned by William Amory Gardner, who was raised by **Isabella Stewart Gardner**. Alhambra, the oldest building on campus, built in 1750 by Thomas Woodbury, housed a tavern used as a **stage coach stop between Salem and Gloucester** during the 18th and 19th centuries. Later it was part of the William Amory Gardner estate, and Isabella Stewart Gardner used it as a summer home until 1906. Another example is the Reynolds Estate, which was originally owned by Herbert Mason Sears, a successful Boston banker, realtor, investor, philanthropist, and avid sailor. A staff of 30 people maintained the property and grounds that included one of the most beautiful formal gardens in the area.

More historical information regarding the history of the College and surrounding areas, as well as tours of the Misselwood Estate will be offered during the North Shore Concours d'Elegance. For more information or tickets, please visit our website at www.endicott.edu/concours

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*A **Concours d'Elegance**, from French meaning a competition of elegance, lit. "concourse of elegance", refers to the gathering of prestigious cars and dates back to 17th Century French aristocracy, who paraded horse-drawn carriages in the parks of Paris during Summer weekends and holidays. Over time, carriages became horseless and the gatherings became a competition among automobile owners to be judged on the appearance of their automobiles. [© Wikipedia]*