



February 25, 2016

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

For information call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745

**The Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site  
and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum  
will present an author talk and book signing with  
presidential historian and Roosevelt Library Trustee Douglas Brinkley, author of  
RIGHTFUL HERITAGE, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT AND THE LAND OF AMERICA  
Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.  
Henry A. Wallace Center at the  
FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum -- with the generous support of the National Parks Conservation Association and the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Conservancy -- will present an author talk and book signing with presidential historian and Roosevelt Library Trustee **Douglas Brinkley**, author of **RIGHTFUL HERITAGE, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT AND THE LAND OF AMERICA**. The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2016 in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. Following the presentation, Brinkley will be available to sign copies of his book. This event is free and open to the public.

Douglas Brinkley's *THE WILDERNESS WARRIOR* celebrated Theodore Roosevelt's spirit of outdoor exploration and bold vision to protect 234 million acres of wild America. Now, in *RIGHTFUL HERITAGE*, Brinkley turns his attention to the other indefatigable environmental leader -- Teddy's distant cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, chronicling his essential yet under-sung legacy as the founder of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and premier protector of America's public lands. FDR built from scratch dozens of State Park systems and scenic roadways. Pristine landscapes such as the Great Smokies,

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the Everglades, Joshua Tree, the Olympics, Big Bend, Channel Islands, Mammoth Cave, and the slickrock wilderness of Utah were forever saved by his leadership. **RIGHTFUL HERITAGE** describes FDR's major impact on the national park system in the 1930s and the book's release coincides beautifully with this year's Centennial of the National Park Service.

Brinkley traces FDR's love for the natural world from his youth exploring the Hudson River Valley and bird watching. As America's president from 1933 to 1945, Roosevelt -- consummate political strategist -- established hundreds of federal migratory bird refuges and spearheaded the modern endangered species movement. He brilliantly positioned his conservation goals as economic policy to combat the severe unemployment of the Great Depression. During its nine-year existence, the CCC put nearly three million young men to work on conservation projects -- including building trails in the national parks, pollution control, land restoration to combat the Dust Bowl, and planting over two billion trees.

**RIGHTFUL HERITAGE** is an epic chronicle that is both an irresistible portrait of FDR's unrivaled passion and drive, and an indispensable analysis that skillfully illuminates the tension between business and nature -- exploiting our natural resources and conserving them. Within the narrative are brilliant capsule biographies of such environmental warriors as Eleanor Roosevelt, Harold Ickes, and Rosalie Edge. **RIGHTFUL HERITAGE** is essential reading for everyone seeking to preserve our treasured landscapes as an American birthright.

**Douglas Brinkley** is a professor of history at Rice University, the CNN Presidential Historian, and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and *Audubon*. *The Chicago Tribune* has dubbed him "America's new past master." His recent **CRONKITE** won the Sperber Prize

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for Best Book in Journalism and was a *Washington Post* Notable Book of the Year. THE GREAT DELUGE won the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award. He is a member of the Society of American Historians and the Council on Foreign Relations. Brinkley is also a Roosevelt Library Trustee. He lives in Austin, Texas, with his wife and three children.

Copies of Brinkley's book will be available for sale after the talk. Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email [clifford.laube@nara.gov](mailto:clifford.laube@nara.gov) with questions about the event.

### **About National Parks Conservation Association**

Since 1919, the nonpartisan National Parks Conservation Association has been the leading voice in safeguarding our national parks. NPCA and its one million supporters work together to protect and preserve our nation's natural, historical, and cultural heritage for future generations. For more information, visit [www.npca.org](http://www.npca.org).

### **The Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Conservancy**

In partnership with the National Park Service, the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Conservancy promotes the legacies of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt by supporting the preservation of the National Historic Sites at Hyde Park, New York. The Conservancy works to reinvigorate and restore the historic gardens, landscapes and forests; to protect the Hudson River viewshed; and to interpret these places for visitors so that they may be inspired by the Roosevelts and their legacy. The Conservancy is currently supporting the restoration of the Roosevelt Home Garden, recently designated as a 2016 NPS Centennial Project.

**The National Park Service** administers the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt's Val-Kill, Top Cottage and Vanderbilt Mansion. Visitors to the sites can enjoy

guided tours of the historic buildings. There are five historic gardens and 17 miles of trails that link all the parks. The sites are open year round. From May through October visitors from New York City can reserve transportation from the Poughkeepsie Train Station to all the sites in Hyde Park by calling (845) 229-5320 for the "Roosevelt Ride." For information about tours and other programs visit [www.nps.gov/hofr](http://www.nps.gov/hofr) or call (845) 229-5320.

### **Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum**

Designed by Franklin Roosevelt and dedicated on June 30, 1941, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is the nation's first presidential library and the only one used by a sitting president. Every president since FDR has followed his example and established a presidential library administered by the National Archives and Records Administration to preserve and make accessible to the American people the records of their presidencies. The Roosevelt Library's mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the lives and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their continuing impact on contemporary life. This work is carried out through the Library's archives and research room, museum collections and exhibitions, innovative educational programs, and engaging public programming. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit [www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu](http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu).

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