



Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
presents an author discussion and book signing with
Susan Quinn, author of
ELEANOR AND HICK:
THE LOVE AFFAIR THAT SHAPED A FIRST LADY
Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Henry A. Wallace Center at the
FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is pleased to present an author discussion and book signing with **Susan Quinn**, author of **ELEANOR AND HICK: THE LOVE AFFAIR THAT SHAPED A FIRST LADY**. The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 13, 2016 in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. Following the presentation, Quinn will be available to sign copies of her book. This event is free and open to the public.

Synopsis:

In 1932, as her husband assumed the presidency, Eleanor Roosevelt entered the claustrophobic, duty-bound existence of the First Lady with dread. A lifeline came to her in the form of a feisty campaign reporter for the Associated Press: Lorena Hickok. Over the next thirty years, the two women carried on an extraordinary relationship.

They couldn't have been more different. Eleanor had been raised in one of the nation's most powerful political families and was introduced to society as a debutante before marrying her distant cousin, Franklin. Hick, as she was known, had grown up poor in

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rural South Dakota and worked as a servant girl after she escaped an abusive home, eventually becoming one of the most respected reporters at the AP. For the next thirteen years, Hick had her own room at the White House, next door to the First Lady.

These fiercely compassionate women inspired each other to right the wrongs of the turbulent era in which they lived. During the Depression, Hick reported from the nation's poorest areas for the WPA, and Eleanor used these reports to lobby her husband for New Deal programs. Hick encouraged Eleanor to turn their frequent letters into her popular and long-lasting syndicated column "My Day," and to befriend the female journalists who became her champions. When Eleanor's tenure as First Lady ended with FDR's death, Hick pushed her to continue to use her popularity for good -- advice Eleanor took by leading the UN's postwar Human Rights Commission. At every turn, the bond these women shared was grounded in their determination to better their troubled world.

Susan Quinn is the author of *FURIOUS IMPROVISATION: HOW THE WPA AND A CAST OF THOUSANDS MADE HIGH ART OUT OF DESPERATE TIMES* and *MARIE CURIE: A LIFE*, among other books. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times Magazine*, the *Atlantic*, and other publications. She is the former president of PEN New England and lives outside of Boston, Massachusetts.

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

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.org.

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