FACT SHEET

America’s First Presidential Library

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is America’s first presidential library—and the only one used by a sitting president. FDR’s Library was the model for the nation’s presidential library system, which is administered by the National Archives and Records Administration.

The World’s Premier Research Center of the Roosevelt Era

The Library’s archival holdings include the President’s personal and family papers, papers covering his public career at the state and national level, Eleanor Roosevelt’s papers, as well as those of many of their associates in public and private life.

- 1500 researchers use the research room yearly making it one of the busiest in the Presidential Library system
- The archive is the permanent repository for over 385 separate collections
- 17 million pages of documents including 3 million pages of Eleanor Roosevelt’s papers
- Roosevelt's personal library of 22,000 books and pamphlets
- 130,000 photographs and 700 reels of motion picture film
- 2,500 research requests annually via mail, phone and email

The Museum

From spring 2012 to late summer 2013—while our permanent exhibit galleries are closed for the final stage of the Library’s renovation—the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is presenting the largest photography exhibition ever assembled on the lives and public careers of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. “The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives,” is a new and very different kind of exhibit that takes visitors on an immersive photographic and film journey through the lives and times of the Roosevelts. The exhibition features nearly one thousand images that vividly depict both their public and private lives.

Today, visitors to the Library can purchase tickets to this special photography exhibit open between May 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. Tickets dated in this time period will be honored for an additional visit after the Library and Museum opens its new permanent exhibition in late summer 2013.

Website

The Library's award-winning website, www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu, allows visitors from all over the world to access Library resources.

The Digital Archive, developed in partnership with Marist College and IBM, is one of the earliest large-scale digitization projects on the web. In addition to finding aids and other research tools, the website contains more than 13,000 digitized documents and over 2,000 photographs.

The site also includes features on education programs, the museum, visitor information, and a museum store catalog from the New Deal Store. The Library’s website has over one million visitors each year including researchers using the digital archive, teachers and students exploring educational resources, and those interested in exploring “Day by Day,” FDR’s interactive daily calendar available through our affiliated Pare Lorentz Center at www.parelorentzcenter.org.
Education Programs

Curriculum based K-12 educational programs at the Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum are designed to meet the needs and interests of teachers and students. The goal is to foster the development of analytical and critical thinking skills while deepening our common understanding about the life and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.

For information and school reservations call (845) 486-7751.

Public Programs

The Roosevelt Library offers an active calendar of public programs:

- annual Memorial Day Weekend events and Reading Festival in June
- film and discussion series through the Pare Lorentz Film Center
- special exhibit programming
- author talks and book signings

Library Renovation

Major renovation of the Roosevelt Library began in the winter of 2009. With the exception of two wings added in 1972 in honor of Mrs. Roosevelt, it is the first overhaul of the Roosevelt Library since it was completed in 1941.

The new work will carefully preserve the building's historic appearance, while bringing its archives and museum up to the National Archives's standards for the long-term preservation of historic collections. New drainage, plumbing, and roofing systems and new electrical, security, fire protection and other systems will address longstanding facility problems. Museum visitors and researchers will enjoy improved amenities, including, for the first time, full accessibility for people in wheelchairs.

The project is expected to run for three years with a budget of $35 million in federal funding. New permanent museum exhibits are being installed with $6 million in private funds raised by the Roosevelt Institute.

The Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center

In November 2003 the Library, in cooperation with the National Park Service and the Roosevelt Institute, opened the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center—the first new facility to be added to the Roosevelt estate since the Library was constructed in 1941.

Highlights of the Wallace Center:

Ticketing and information services for the Library and National Park Service sites including the adjacent Home of FDR National Historic Site, as well as Eleanor Roosevelt's cottage Val-Kill and FDR's retirement home Top Cottage.

- **Rendezvous with History**, a high-definition orientation film shown in the 140-seat Milstein Auditorium
- orientation exhibits to welcome visitors to the “world of the Roosevelts”
- the New Deal Store and Mrs. Nesbitt’s Café
- meeting rooms for non-profit and corporate conferences and school groups, with facilities for distance learning and videoconferencing capability

For non-profit and corporate use call (845) 486-7751.