



## PRESS RELEASE

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum  
The Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site  
Hyde Park, New York (800) 337-8474 (845) 229-9115**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Historic Hyde Park Sites  
**FREE HOLIDAY EVENTS -- December 12 and 13, 2008**  
Children's Reading Festival,  
Live Music, Holiday Cards to Troops, Pictures with Santa,  
Holiday Open Houses

HYDE PARK, NY -- On December 12 and 13, 2008, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites will host a series of free events for families.

Holiday Open House at the Vanderbilt Mansion is Friday, December 12 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. There is no admission fee during evening hours. This year the Mansion will feature decorations inspired by Mrs. Vanderbilt's love of French decor. Visitors will enjoy live music and refreshments will be served.

On Saturday, December 13 holiday events kick off with the third annual Children's Reading Festival in the Henry A. Wallace Center, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., presented by the Roosevelt Library and Teaching the Hudson Valley. Children's book authors will read from and sign copies of their books. Featured books will be available for purchase in the New Deal Store in the Wallace Center.

Children's Reading Festival authors include:

- 1:15 p.m.     **Judith St. George**  
*Make Your Mark, Franklin Roosevelt*
- 2:00 p.m.     **Peter McCarty**  
*Hondo & Fabian; Fabian Escapes*
- 2:45 p.m.     **Ann Burg**  
*The New York Reader; E is for Empire*
- 3:30 p.m.     **Daniel and Jill Pinkwater**  
*The Neddiad; Looking for Bobowicz*

Acclaimed family-friendly musicians **DOG ON FLEAS** will perform at 4:15 p.m. in the Wallace Center. In addition, there will be refreshments, free photos with Santa, and children can make holiday cards for sailors on the USS *Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt*. Regular admission is charged at the Home and Library during the afternoon events in the Wallace Center.

Holiday Open House on December 13 is from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. both at the Home of FDR National Historic Site -- where there will be readings from Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* -- and at the Roosevelt Library with a chance to see the special exhibition, "*Action and Action Now*" *FDR's First 100 Days*. Both the Library and Home will be decorated for the holidays as they were during the Roosevelt presidency. Admission is free to the Home and Library from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site, Val-Kill, will also be decorated for the holidays and open -- with no admission fee -- on the December 13 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served at Val-Kill during the evening hours.

For more information please call: Cliff Laube, Roosevelt Library, (845) 486-7745; or Franceska Macsali Urbin, National Park Service, (845) 229-6214.

Historic Hyde Park is a group of government and private non-profit organizations based in Hyde Park, New York. Each has a unique mission, but all are united in their dedication to extending the legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt to new generations. HHP includes the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site, the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, and Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. For more information about HHP visit [www.HistoricHydePark.org](http://www.HistoricHydePark.org).

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