



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 5, 2009
Children's Book Festival,
Live Music, Holiday Cards for Troops, Pictures with Santa,
Holiday Open Houses at the FDR Presidential Library and Home, and Val-Kill

VANDERBILT MANSION HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE -- December 12, 2009

HYDE PARK, NY -- On December 5, 2009, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites will host a series of free holiday events for families. The Roosevelt Library and the Home of FDR (Springwood) will be decorated for the holidays during the month of December and open to visitors free of charge on December 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. There will be refreshments and special activities beginning at Noon in the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center. Parking at the sites is limited and attendees are asked to plan their visits accordingly.

Children's Book Festival, Santa and Holiday Cards for Troops

The fourth annual Children's Book Festival in the Henry A. Wallace Center, from Noon to 5:00 p.m., presented by the Roosevelt Library and the National Park Service. 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 Book Festival authors include:

- 12:15 p.m. **Iza Trapani**
-*Jingle Bells*
-*Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*
- 1:00 p.m. **Susanna Hill**
-*Punxsutawney Phyllis*
-*Not Yet, Rose*
- 1:45 p.m. **Della Ferreri**
-*Star of the Show*
-*How Will I Ever Sleep in this Bed?*
- 2:30 p.m. **Doreen Rappaport**
-*Eleanor, Quiet No More: The Life of Eleanor Roosevelt*
-*Lady Liberty: A Biography*
- 3:15 p.m. **Hudson Talbott**
-*River of Dreams: The Story of the Hudson River*
-*United Tweets of America:*
 50 State Birds Their Stories, Their Glories

Acclaimed family-friendly musicians **DOG ON FLEAS** will perform at 4:00 p.m. in the Wallace Center. In addition, there will be refreshments, free photos with Santa from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and children can make holiday cards for sailors on the *USS Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt* throughout the afternoon.

Holiday Open House - December 5, 2009 - Roosevelt Library and Home, Val-Kill

Holiday Open House on December 5 is from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 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 throughout the day.

Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site (Val-Kill) will also be free and open to visitors from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the December 5. Visitors to Val-Kill are required to take a shuttle from Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. **There will be no onsite parking at Val-Kill on December 5 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Refreshments and music will be provided by the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Historical Association.

Holiday Open House - December 12, 2009 - Vanderbilt Mansion

Holiday Open House at the Vanderbilt Mansion is Saturday, December 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission to the Vanderbilt Mansion on December 12 will be free of charge. The Mansion will be decorated for the holidays and visitors will enjoy live music and refreshments provided by the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Historical Association.

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.

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