



PRESS RELEASE

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The June and Aaron Gillespie Forum and the
Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
present**

COMMUNITY DISCUSSION: PRESIDENT OBAMA'S FIRST 100 DAYS

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

7:00 p.m.

HYDE PARK, NY -- Mid-Hudson Valley residents are invited to participate in a community discussion assessing President Barack Obama's first 100 days in office. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home, 4079 Albany Post Road (Route 9) in Hyde Park, New York.

Opening the discussion will be four faculty members from area colleges, each commenting on an aspect of the Obama administration. JoAnne Myers (Marist College) will speak on President Obama's style of leadership, while Joel Diamond (Dutchess Community College) will address the President's economic policies. Foreign policy will be presented by Mark Lytle (Bard College) and Sarita Gregory (Vassar College) will speak on issues of race and ethnicity. After these opening comments, members of the audience will have ample opportunity to share their perspectives. David Woolner, Senior Vice President of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, will moderate the discussion.

President Obama faces a situation similar to that of President Roosevelt in 1933: rallying the nation at a time of profound economic crisis. In addition, President Obama must deal with wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and other serious international issues. The discussion is intended to provide a non-partisan forum for citizens to learn and to share their views on President Obama's leadership in the first weeks of his presidency.

The event is co-sponsored by the June and Aaron Gillespie Forum and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and coincides with a special exhibition at the museum "Action, and Action Now! FDR's First 100 Days." Attendees will be able to view the exhibition following the program at no charge.

The June and Aaron Gillespie Forum, established in 1986, sponsors lectures, forums and documentary film screenings on contemporary issues to inform and engage Mid-Hudson Valley students and other citizens.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is dedicated to preserving historical material and providing innovative educational programs, community events, and public outreach. It is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For information about the FDR Presidential Library call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

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