



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**

November 1, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Cliff Laube, FDR Presidential Library, (845) 486-7745 or
Franceska Macsali Urbin, National Park Service, at (845) 229-6214**

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site
HOLIDAY EVENTS
Children's Reading Festival,
Live Music, Crafts, Santa and Holiday Open Houses

On Saturday, December 13, 2008, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site in historic Hyde Park, New York, will host a series of free events for families.

The day kicks off with the third annual Children's Reading Festival, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., presented by the Roosevelt Library and Teaching the Hudson Valley.

Donald Estes uses his experiences as a real life fire chief (East Clinton Fire Department) to inform his books, *Willy: the Little Jeep Who Wanted to be a Fire Truck*, and *Willy and Friends*. Along with the author, the 'star' of Estes' books, Willy the Jeep, will be making a personal appearance at the festival.

Caldecott Award-winning author and illustrator, **Peter McCarty** has created memorable works for children including *Hondo and Fabian*, *Fabian Escapes*, *Little Bunny on the Move* and *Moon Plane*. He will read and talk about his work. An appearance by FDR's dog, Fala, will round out the reading portion of the day's events.

Books will be available for purchase and signing. Admission is free.

In addition, there will be free photos with Santa, a crafts table where children can make holiday cards for the sailors on the USS Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, refreshments, a free tasting of Hudson Valley Fresh milk and spirited performances by young local musicians.

The day is completed by Holiday Open Houses from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the festively decorated Home of FDR, where there will be a reading from *A Christmas Carol*, and at the FDR Presidential Library and Museum with a chance to see the special exhibition, *Freedom From Fear: FDR Commander in Chief*. Open House programs are free of charge.

For more information please call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745 or check the website, www.HistoricHydePark.org.

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 twelve 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.

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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All Holiday Open House events at the FDR Presidential Library and National Park Service sites are open to the public and free of charge. Please contact Cliff Laube, at the FDR Presidential Library, at (845) 486-7745; or Franceska Macsali Urbin, with the National Park Service, at (845) 229-6214 with any questions about these events.

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