



PRESS RELEASE

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY
AND THE CATHARINE STREET COMMUNITY CENTER
PRESENT THE PARE LORENTZ FILM CENTER PREMIÈRE OF**

“RED TAILED ANGELS: THE STORY OF THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN”

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 5 PM
HENRY A. WALLACE CENTER AT THE
FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND HOME**

HYDE PARK, NY—The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and Catharine Street Community Center will present the Pare Lorentz Film Center première of *Red Tailed Angels: The Story of the Tuskegee Airmen*, on Friday, February 24, at 5 PM, at the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. The film première is being held in February in commemoration of Black History Month.

Red Tailed Angels is a moving twenty-four minute educational film that tells the story of the dedicated, determined young men who enlisted to become America's first black military airmen, at a time when many people thought that black men lacked intelligence, skill, courage and patriotism. Using historical footage and interviews with original Airmen, the film is the latest in a series of documentary films produced by the Pare Lorentz Film Center of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library.

Tickets for the première—available through pre-registration—include a reception, the film première and a concert with legendary blues singer, Josh White, Jr. For an additional cost, guests are invited to join the four original Airmen featured in the film at a

benefit dinner to follow the reception, film première and concert. Proceeds to benefit jointly the Catharine Street Center and the Pare Lorentz Center.

Josh White Jr., son of Josh White, Sr., the legendary blues singer and songwriter whose music provides the soundtrack for *Red Tailed Angels*, will perform the Jim Crow protest songs that his father made famous and that are featured in the film.

Josh White Sr.'s songs "Uncle Sam Says" and "Defense Factory Blues," which criticized segregation in the military and the defense industries, were written in 1940. When President Roosevelt heard a recording of these songs, he invited Josh to perform at the White House in 1941. Josh, Sr. would return to the White House many times to perform for FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt. As a child Josh, Jr. often visited the Roosevelts' Hyde Park home with his father and shared holiday dinners with the Roosevelt family.

Tickets for the reception, film première and concert are \$50 per person. Tickets for the benefit dinner to follow the event are \$100 per person, including the reception, film première and concert. To purchase tickets please call (845) 486-7745. Proceeds from the première and dinner will benefit jointly the Pare Lorentz Film Center of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and the educational programs of the Catharine Street Center. The Pare Lorentz Film Center is funded by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute through a generous grant from the New York Community Trust. Catharine Street Community Center promotes and coordinates educational, health, and cultural programming that enriches and enhances the lives of individuals, children, and families.

Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with any questions about the film première or the benefit dinner.

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.