

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY *and* MUSEUM

4079 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538 www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu 1 (800) FDR-VISIT

April 14, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Cliff Laube (845) 486-7745

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
to host a press event and preview of the
BROWN-ULLSTRUP PERFORMING ARTS FOUNDATION
AND CUNNEEN-HACKETT ARTS CENTER'S
"A FIRESIDE CHAT: A CONVERSATION WITH FDR"
Friday, April 29, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.
Henry A. Wallace Center at the
FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will host a press event and preview of the new stage play, "A Fireside Chat: A Conversation with FDR," produced by the Wisconsin-based Brown-Ullstrup Performing Arts Foundation and the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center of Poughkeepsie, New York. The press event will be held on Friday, April 29, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. In addition to the play's producers, representatives from the Roosevelt Library and the Dutchess County Arts Council will welcome attendees. The 2:00 p.m. April 29 program in Hyde Park is free and open to the public.

The world premiere of the full play will debut at the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center in Poughkeepsie at 7:30 p.m on April 29, with performances throughout the weekend. For a full schedule or to purchase tickets call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center at (845) 486-4571 or visit www.cunneen-hackett.org.

Written by award winning playwrights Steven Brown and Michael Ullstrup, who conducted research for the play in the Roosevelt Library's archives, "A Fireside Chat: A Conversation with FDR" stars Wisconsin actor Gary Stamm, who portrays our Nation's 32nd President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. In this one-person performance, the play

explores President Roosevelt's personality, his younger years, his relationship with his father (James), his mother (Sara) and his wife, Eleanor Roosevelt.

The play highlights one of the many effective ways FDR communicated with the American people. During the 1930s almost every home had a radio. Families typically spent several hours a day gathered together, listening to their favorite programs. Informal and relaxed, FDR's "fireside chats" made Americans feel as if President Roosevelt was talking directly to them. Roosevelt continued to use the radio throughout his presidency to address the fears and concerns of the American people as well as to inform them of the positions and actions taken by the United States government.

Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with questions about the event.

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.

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 Roosevelt Institute, and Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. For more information about HHP visit www.HistoricHydePark.org.

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