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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For information call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
presents an author talk and book signing with
Chief White House Correspondent for *U.S. News & World Report*
KENNETH T. WALSH -- author of **CELEBRITY IN CHIEF:
A HISTORY OF THE PRESIDENTS AND THE CULTURE OF STARDOM**
Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
Henry A. Wallace Center at the
FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is pleased to present an author talk and book signing with **Chief White House Correspondent for *U.S. News & World Report* KENNETH T. WALSH** -- author of **CELEBRITY IN CHIEF: A HISTORY OF THE PRESIDENTS AND THE CULTURE OF STARDOM**. The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. Following the presentation, Walsh will be available to sign copies of his book. This event is free and open to the public.

CELEBRITY IN CHIEF: A HISTORY OF THE PRESIDENTS AND THE CULTURE OF STARDOM takes a detailed and comprehensive look at the history of America's presidents as "celebrities in chief" since the beginning of the Republic. Walsh makes the point that modern presidents need to be celebrities and build on their fame in order to propel their agendas and rally public support for themselves as national leaders so that they can get things done.

Combining incisive historical analysis with a journalist's eye for detail, this book looks back to such presidents as George Washington and Abraham Lincoln as the forerunners

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of contemporary celebrity presidents. It examines modern presidents including Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, Ronald Reagan, John F. Kennedy, Franklin Roosevelt, and Theodore Roosevelt, each of whom qualified as a celebrity in his own time and place. The book also looks at presidents who Walsh says fell short in their star appeal, such as George W. Bush, George H. W. Bush, Richard Nixon, and Lyndon Johnson.

Among the special features of the book are detailed profiles of the presidents and how they measured up or failed as celebrities; an historical analysis of America's popular culture and how presidents have played a part in it, from sports and television to movies and the news media; the role of first ladies; and a portfolio of fascinating photos illustrating the intersection of the presidency with popular culture.

Kenneth T. Walsh is the chief White House correspondent for *U.S. News and World Report*. He is the author of the daily blog "Ken Walsh's Washington" for www.usnews.com, and "The Presidency," a weekly column for the *U.S. News Weekly*. He has covered the presidency since 1986 and is one of the longest-serving White House correspondents in history. Walsh is the former president of the White House Correspondents' Association and has served as an adjunct professor of communication at American University in Washington, DC. **CELEBRITY IN CHIEF: A HISTORY OF THE PRESIDENTS AND THE CULTURE OF STARDOM** is his seventh book.

Copies of Walsh's book will be available for sale after the talk. Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with questions about the event.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

As generations of Americans that have no personal memory of the Roosevelt Era emerge, it is more critical than ever that the lives and legacies of Franklin and Eleanor

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Roosevelt be preserved and presented to new generations. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum stands ready to serve as a visible and valuable resource for children and families, educators and students, and an international audience seeking to understand the past to make a better tomorrow. With a newly renovated building and new permanent museum exhibits the Library seeks to honor President Roosevelt's vision in dedicating his Library to the American people. The Roosevelt Library is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

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