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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Historic Hyde Park Sites Announce Holiday Open House Events

VANDERBILT MANSION HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE -- December 6, 2015

FREE HOLIDAY EVENTS AT FDR LIBRARY AND HOME, VAL-KILL -- December 12, 2015

Children's Reading Festival, Holiday Open House,
Live Music, Holiday Cards for Troops, Pictures with Santa

HYDE PARK, NY -- On December 6, 2015 the National Park Service will host its annual **Holiday Open House** at the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site. The Mansion will be decorated for the holidays and afternoon visitors will enjoy complimentary refreshments. Admission will be free of charge. On December 12, 2015, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Home of FDR National Historic Site will host a series of free holiday events. The Roosevelt Library and the Home of FDR (Springwood) will be open to visitors free of charge on December 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be holiday decorations, refreshments and special activities -- including the 10th annual **Children's Reading Festival** -- beginning at Noon in the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center. Holiday Open House at Val-Kill will run from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on December 12 with a shuttle running from the Wallace Center.

Holiday Open House - December 6, 2015 - Vanderbilt Mansion

On December 6, the Vanderbilt Mansion National Historic Site will be free of charge to visitors from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Holiday Open House will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on December 6. The Mansion will be decorated for the holidays and refreshments will be provided by the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Historical Association.

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Children's Reading Festival, Santa and Holiday Cards for Troops

The 10th annual Children's Reading Festival -- presented by the Roosevelt Library and the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District -- will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center, from Noon to 4:00 p.m. on December 12. Children's book authors will read from and sign copies of their books. Featured books will be available for purchase in the New Deal Store in the Wallace Center.

Children's Reading Festival authors include:

- 1:30 p.m. **Iza Trapani**
 JINGLE BELLS
 and OLD KING COLE

- 2:15 p.m. **Lu Ann Schnable Kaldor** (Author)
 Eve S. Gendron (Illustrator)
 THE ANGELS ON MY TREE

- 3:00 p.m. **Lisa Thiesing**
 THE VIPER
 and WHAT DO MOMS DO? (Illustrator)

In addition, there will be free photos with Santa from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and children can make holiday cards for sailors on the USS FRANKLIN AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT (www.ddg-roosevelt.navy.mil) beginning at Noon. Refreshments will be served throughout the afternoon.

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Holiday Open House - December 12, 2015 - Roosevelt Library and Home, Val-Kill

Holiday Open House on December 12 is from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both at the Home of FDR National Historic Site -- where there will be readings from Dickens's "A Christmas Carol" -- and at the Roosevelt Library. Both the Home and the Roosevelt Library study will be decorated for the holidays as they were during the Roosevelt presidency. Admission is free to the Home and Library throughout the day.

Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site (Val-Kill) will also be free and open to visitors from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on December 12. Beginning at 4:00 p.m., visitors to Val-Kill are required to take a shuttle from Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. **There will be no onsite parking at Val-Kill on December 12 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Refreshments and music will be provided by the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Historical Association.

For more information please call: Cliff Laube, Roosevelt Library, (845) 486-7745; or Franceska Macsali Urbin, National Park Service, (845) 229-6225.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

Designed by Franklin Roosevelt and dedicated on June 30, 1941, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is the nation's first presidential library and the only one used by a sitting president. Every president since FDR has followed his example and established a presidential library administered by the National Archives and Records Administration to preserve and make accessible to the American people the records of their presidencies. The Roosevelt Library's mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the lives and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their continuing impact on contemporary life. This work is carried out through the Library's

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archives and research room, museum collections and exhibitions, innovative educational programs, and engaging public programming. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

The National Park Service administers the Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt and Top Cottage and Vanderbilt Mansion. Visitors to the sites can enjoy guided tours of the historic buildings. There are hiking trails that link all the parks. From May through October visitors from New York City can reserve transportation from the Poughkeepsie Train Station to all the sites in Hyde Park by calling (845) 229-5320 for the "Roosevelt Ride." For information about tours and other programs visit www.nps.gov/hofr or call (845) 229-5320.

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