



May 28, 2014

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum  
presents the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual ROOSEVELT READING FESTIVAL  
with fourteen authors of recently published books including  
JAMES TOBIN acclaimed author of THE MAN HE BECAME:  
HOW FDR DEFIED POLIO TO WIN THE PRESIDENCY  
June 21, 2014**

**HYDE PARK, NY** -- On Saturday, June 21, 2014, from 9:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will host the eleventh annual Roosevelt Reading Festival. The day-long program will highlight the recently published work of fourteen authors -- including **JAMES TOBIN**, author of **THE MAN HE BECAME: HOW FDR DEFIED POLIO TO WIN THE PRESIDENCY**. The Reading Festival will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library. *This is a free public event.*

In six concurrent sessions taking place throughout the day, fourteen authors of works that draw upon the Roosevelt Library archives -- or focus on the Roosevelt era -- will present author talks followed by question-and-answer sessions and book signings. Copies of all of the authors' books will be available for sale in the New Deal Store. The program begins at 9:45 a.m. with coffee and refreshments. Attendees can visit the Library's new permanent exhibition with free admission throughout the day. Regular admission will be charged for the National Park Service sites.

This year's Roosevelt Reading Festival authors include:

**Baime, A. J.**

The Arsenal of Democracy:

FDR, Detroit, and an Epic Quest to Arm an America at War

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2014

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**Bradley, Mark A.**

A Very Principled Boy: The Life of Duncan Lee, Red Spy and Cold Warrior

Basic Books, 2014

**Carrozza, Anthony R.**

William D. Pawley: The Extraordinary Life of the Adventurer,

Entrepreneur, and Diplomat Who Cofounded the Flying Tigers

Potomac Books Inc., 2012

**Cross, David P.**

Chasing History:

One Man's Road Trip through the Presidential Libraries

Stone and Patrick Publishers, 2014

**Golay, Michael**

America 1933: The Great Depression,

Lorena Hickok, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the Shaping of the New Deal

Free Press, 2013

**Griffin, Farah Jasmine**

Harlem Nocturne: Women Artists and Progressive Politics During World War II

Basic Civitas Books, 2013

**Kaiser, David**

No End Save Victory: How FDR Led the Nation into War

Basic Books, 2014

**Kasson, John F.**

The Little Girl Who Fought the Great Depression:

Shirley Temple and 1930s America

W. W. Norton & Company, 2014

**Katzenbach, Ira**

Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time

Liveright, 2013

**Kaye, Harvey J.**

The Fight for the Four Freedoms:

What Made FDR and the Greatest Generation Truly Great

Simon & Schuster, 2014

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**McMillan, Dan**

How Could This Happen: Explaining the Holocaust

Basic Books, 2014

**Prince, Cathryn J.**

Death in the Baltic: The World War II Sinking of the *Wilhelm Gustloff*

Palgrave Macmillan, 2013

**Shlaes, Amity**

The Forgotten Man Graphic Edition: A New History of the Great Depression

Harper Perennial, 2014

Special Afternoon Presentation:

**Tobin, James**

The Man He Became:

How FDR Defied Polio to Win the Presidency

Simon & Schuster, 2013

The event is free and open to the public. Author book signings will be conducted throughout the day, and books will be available for purchase in the New Deal Store. The full schedule for the day is posted online at **[www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu](http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu)**. For additional information about this event please call Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745.

## **FDR AND HIS BOOK COLLECTION**

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt was an avid collector of books. His love of reading was reflected in the enormity of his collection which numbered over 21,000 books at the time of his death in April 1945.

Roosevelt always enjoyed reading. However, it was during his years at Harvard that he became a serious book collector. After college, FDR continued his collecting, stopping at bookshops on his honeymoon in Europe, and later forming relationships with several

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dealers around the Eastern United States. His favorite collecting topics included naval history, nature, sea exploration, Dutchess County history and the Hudson River.

FDR read books almost purely for entertainment and therefore collected many that related to his other hobbies such as ornithology, local history, naval history, and marine architecture. He also collected children's books. While reading was one of his pastimes, it was often the physical appeal of a book that attracted FDR. He admired attractive bindings, cover designs, typeface, and paper. He created a specially designed book plate for his naval collection and the more valuable books were kept in protective slipcovers.

While Roosevelt valued his books greatly, in addition to his name, he sometimes jotted small notes in them, either describing something about the nature of the book, or its relevance in his personal life. In the flyleaf of an 1869 edition of Sir Samuel White's *CAST UP BY THE SEA*, Roosevelt wrote, "one of my favorite boyhood books -- read it three times." More often, he would write simpler indications such as "interesting" or "rare." FDR wrote more significant comments in a smaller number of his books, such as in William Trufant Foster's, *THE ROAD TO PLENTY*, Hitler's *MEIN KAMPF*, Raymond Leslie Bull's *ISOLATED AMERICA*, Alexander Kiralfry's *VICTORY IN THE PACIFIC*, and Charles A. Beard's *A FOREIGN POLICY FOR AMERICA*, which criticized Roosevelt.

By the 1930s, Roosevelt had run out of space for his collection and began holding auctions to get rid of duplicate copies and less desirable volumes. At this time he also began planning a permanent library on his Hyde Park estate. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, which opened to the public in 1941, is the repository for FDR's beloved personal library of more than 21,000 volumes.

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### **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 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](http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu).

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