

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY *and* MUSEUM

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

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Contact: Cliff Laube (845) 486-7745

On the occasion of Franklin D. Roosevelt's 130th birthday the FDR Presidential Library and Museum announces a major spring 2012 photography exhibition, "The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives," and the beginning of Phase 2 of the Library renovation

HYDE PARK, NY -- On the occasion of Franklin D. Roosevelt's 130th birthday the FDR Presidential Library and Museum announces a remarkable new photography exhibition to open in the spring of 2012, "**The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives,**" and the beginning of Phase 2 of the first major renovation of the Roosevelt Library since 1972, when two wings were added in honor of Eleanor Roosevelt. Beginning this spring the Library's permanent exhibit galleries will close for renovation. As part of the National Archives's continuing mission to present the Roosevelt story throughout the renovation, the Library will launch the **largest photography exhibition ever assembled** on the lives and public careers of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. "The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives," will be housed in the William J. vanden Heuvel Special Exhibitions Gallery on the north end of the Library building.

The first phase of the renovation -- completed in December 2011 -- included new slate roofing, drainage, and plumbing systems, as well as new electrical, security and fire protection systems and adaptations for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. Phase 2 involves restoration of the historic exterior including masonry walls, sheet metal roofing, windows and doors as well as increasing the exhibition space allowing for more of the collection at the Library to be visible by the public. All work is being managed in and around the occupied building ensuring that visitors are still able to access the collections and tour the site. Kirchhoff-Consigli Construction Management of Pleasant Valley, New York is the contractor for Phase 2 and EYP Architecture &

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Engineering is the architect. The Library is on schedule to open the new permanent exhibition in the summer of 2013.

The interim photography exhibition scheduled to open in spring 2012, "The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives," will not be a scaled-down version of the current permanent exhibition. Instead, the Library will create an entirely new and very different kind of exhibit that takes visitors on an immersive photographic and film journey through the lives and times of the Roosevelts. The exhibit will feature over one thousand images that vividly depict their public and private lives.

These photographs will include famous and familiar images, often reproduced in dramatically large formats. But the exhibit's primary goal and focus will be to present visitors with entirely new visual perspectives on the Roosevelts through large numbers of unique and rarely-seen personal photographs from the unparalleled photographic collections at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library. Shot by family members, friends, government officials, and other insiders, these images offer fascinating views into the private lives of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their family and political associates. These will include childhood images, candid snapshots of family life and trips, humorous moments, behind-the-scenes views of famous figures, and unusual personal perspectives on historic meetings and events.

Special audiovisual programs in a variety of formats will complement the photographs. These will include projections of silent video loops of little-known film shot by Roosevelt family and friends that depict FDR and ER in unscripted moments. At audio stations the voices of the Roosevelts (including famous speeches and personal reflections) will be used to complement the photography and film. The highlight of the exhibit will be a multimedia presentation featuring original audio recordings of Eleanor Roosevelt speaking about her family life.

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The Library will announce the official opening date of “The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives” later this winter. For updated information about the exhibition visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu , follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or call Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745.

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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