

THE POST SERIAL

Fabergé Gala Celebrates New Exhibition, *Fabergé Rediscovered*

Allison Kingery, Special Events Manager

Hillwood held its annual gala on the evening of June 5, rolling out the pink carpet for over 400 guests. The evening began in the C.W. Post courtyard tent with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, music from a melodious string quartet, and photographs in front of beautiful peonies arranged by Ami Wilber, floral and event décor designer. Guests toured [Fabergé Rediscovered](#) and enjoyed a formal seated dinner on the Lunar Lawn. One of the many highlights of the evening was a cake replica of the Catherine the Great imperial Easter egg.



*Wilfried Zeisler and Kate Markert with Jerome Lamy
welcome gala guests
Photographed by Tony Powell*



*Guest dine on the Lunar Lawn
Photographed by Tony Powell*

Volunteers played an integral part of the gala's success as they do every year. From the preparations leading up to the event to the onsite work that evening, our generous volunteers helped make the Fabergé gala a truly special occasion for guests.

A special thank you to all the volunteers involved with this year's gala! Volunteers who assisted in horticulture include: Joan Asboth, Betsy Burke, Ann Stevens Kelly, Luna Levinson, Diane Pirkey, Nancy Weiman, Carolyn Starek, and Joyce Zoldak. Interpretation volunteers who assisted with the gala and gala preparations include: Kevin Davis, Didi DiVirgilio, Wilhelmina Irshad, Irene Malbin, Gail Trousoff Marks, Isabell May, Jan McKelvey, Betsy Muri, Antonina Rodgers, Lorraine Rose, Vee Smith, Marilyn Uveges, and Joan Weiss. A huge thank you also goes out to all staff and volunteers who beautified Hillwood's grounds and gardens in preparation for the evening. Your support is greatly appreciated!



*The Fabergé Easter egg cake
Photographed by Tony Powell*

Hillwood Happenings for Volunteers

All Hillwood volunteers are invited to take advantage of the educational offerings listed below. While advance registration is not necessary for all continuing education events, **please register in advance when stated**, as space is limited for some opportunities. Advanced registration can be completed on the clipboard at the horticulture sign-in station or by contacting Drew Asbury at 202.243.3907 or DAsbury@HillwoodMuseum.org.

Plant ID Walk – Shade Cut Flower Tour | Tuesday, July 17 – Friday, July 20, 11:30 a.m.

Join Kevin Beamer, gardener, for a look at the newly installed shade perennials and the shrubs being grown for cut flowers at the Steward's House and the horticulture office area. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office. Space is limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Fabergé Floral Workshop | Wednesday, July 25, 10:30 a.m. – noon

Join Ami Wilber, floral and event décor designer, to create a floral arrangement filled with fabulous summer color. A \$35 fee covers the cost of materials. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office before Friday, July 20. Space is limited to 12 volunteers. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Shaping the Japanese-style Garden | Tuesday, August 7 – Thursday, August 9, 11:30 a.m.

Learn about the tools and techniques Frances Vandenbroucke, gardener, uses to shape the trees and shrubs throughout the Japanese-style garden, as well as the traditions behind them. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Plant ID Walk – Woodland Path and Trail Tour | Tuesday, August 21 – Thursday, August 23 and Saturday, August 25, 11:30 a.m.

Join Marshall Paquin, senior gardener, as he leads a tour through Hillwood's woodland path and trail. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Meet in the horticulture break room.

The Summer Display and More Tour | Tuesday, August 28 – Friday, August 31, 11:30 a.m.

Jessica Bonilla, head gardener, will lead a tour and discuss Hillwood's summer seasonal displays. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Meet in the horticulture break room.

Plant ID Walk – Late Summer in the Garden | Tuesday, September 11 – Friday, September 14, 11:30 a.m.

Join Drew Asbury, horticulturist, as he discusses late flowering plants throughout the gardens. Please sign up on the clipboard in the horticulture office area. Space is limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Meet in the horticulture break room.



Museum Shop Updates

Lauren Salazar, Head of Merchandising

As you might expect, this summer is all about Fabergé! To reflect the splendor of *Fabergé Rediscovered*, we have sourced many new gifts and jewelry and created exciting new items exclusive to Hillwood.

Some favorites include:

Fabergé Tins with a surprise – Chocolates!

Keepsake tins with delicious chocolates make the perfect souvenir from the exhibition. Select from three tin and flavor combinations: Dark Chocolate, Sea Salt Caramels, or Espresso Caramels. Tins feature the *carnet de bal* with miniature of Empress Alexandra, the Twelve Monogram Egg, or the Catherine the Great Egg.

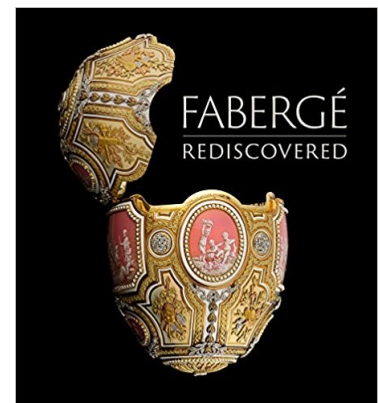


Twelve Monogram Egg Watch

Inspired by the imperial Easter egg, the Twelve Monogram Egg watch showcases the beauty of the original egg in a modern wrist watch. The design of navy with rose gold and diamond accents is printed in high resolution on the band with a matte silver frame around the crystal. The monogram of Alexander III features prominently on the band with the monogram of Maria Fedorovna on the face. Wear it proudly, whatever your royal status!

Fabergé Rediscovered Exhibition Catalog

The highlight of the exhibition is the new book, *Fabergé Rediscovered* by Dr. Wilfried Zeisler, exhibition curator, and includes a foreword by Kate Markert and contributions by Jennifer Levy, Ulla Tillander-Godenhielm, Anna and Vincent Palmade, Galina Korneva, and Tatiana Cheboksarova. Featuring all new photography as well as new scholarship, this sumptuous book is available in both paperback and hardcover and is a great addition for any Fabergé aficionado.



Kiss of the Sun sign

The gardens are a highlight of any summer visit to Hillwood, and sales of garden gifts are always strong. For that reason, we are always on the hunt for unique items that reflect the beauty of the gardens. This year, we were pleased to discover a manufacturer that makes a replica of a sign featured in Hillwood's gardens – The Kiss of the Sun sign. This charming sign is tucked among the foliage in the Friendship Walk at Hillwood. Now you may highlight your garden with this lovely message as Marjorie Post did.



The Kiss of the Sun sign in the Friendship Walk

Look for these and more new items in the museum shop this summer!

Volunteer Appreciation Reception

Lisa Horvath, Volunteer Services Supervisor

It was lovely seeing so many of you at the Volunteer Appreciation Reception on the evening of May 21. With nearly 250 volunteers, guests, and staff members, it was a memorable event as we honored your many contributions to Hillwood. The festivities included a harpist and scrumptious buffet under the C.W. Post courtyard tent, exclusive staff presentations in the mansion and dacha, and beautiful photo opportunities in the gardens.

One of the highlights of the evening was the remarks from Ellen Charles, president emerita, and Kate Markert, executive director. Both commented how the volunteer reception is one of their favorite events at Hillwood and how fortunate Hillwood is to have such a dedicated group of volunteers. Ellen shared her enthusiasm for the growing emeritus program, now in its second year, saying "I am thrilled that Hillwood has introduced this program as another way for our much-valued volunteers to stay connected with this institution we all love." As a member of the emeritus program herself, Ellen expressed her excitement at being joined by so many others who have given countless hours to Hillwood.



Volunteers enjoy the reception under the C.W. Post tent

Kate thanked the volunteers for their many contributions to Hillwood, highlighting this by reading thank you comments from staff of various departments who shared their appreciation for volunteers' time and dedication, showing the diverse roles our volunteers have. From modeling the gracious hospitality of Marjorie Merriweather Post when welcoming visitors to assisting with projects and events, like the Bentley digitization project and the gala, Kate emphasized that Hillwood is "able to accomplish and achieve so much of what we do because of the insatiable passion, contagious enthusiasm, and selfless teamwork given by our volunteer corps, now numbering over 340 volunteers".



One of the many beautiful centerpieces

In addition to honoring the collective work of all of our volunteers, we also took time to acknowledge those in the volunteer cohort who are celebrating major milestones with Hillwood this year. Listed below you will find the names of the 49 volunteers who achieved 5, 10, 15, or 20 years of service as well as volunteers who joined the emeritus program in 2018. The emeritus program is for volunteers who have met or exceeded their service requirements for at least 10 years, providing them the opportunity to stay connected to Hillwood's educational and social events as well as the benefits offered to active volunteers. Their names have been added to the emeritus plaques near the mansion volunteer lounge and the horticulture break room.

Emeritus Volunteers & Volunteers Celebrating 5, 10, 15 or 20 Years of Service with Hillwood in 2018

Emeritus Volunteers	
Electra Beahler Joan Bennett Gale Dugan Maggie Fitzgerald Joyce Helen Forrester Donna Graif Gloria Grant Annette Heaps	Elizabeth Hickey Essie Horton Johanna Krammer Philip McClain Carol Moravsky Kandy Phillips Lois Topping Janice Wamstead
5 Year	
Dana Boyd Terry Bratt Kevin Davis Suzanne Demarest Lana Ekimoff Reza Hedayati	Marina Naydenova Susan Ruth Kristen Sieck Deborah Thomas Joan Weiss
10 Year	
Kathy Aram Jean Baum Cynthia Darling Sheila Stapleton Dean Ron Dovel Carol Edwards Elaine Papazian-Etienne Peter Fuchs	Irene Malbin Anita Menghetti Helene Meyers Kaki Power Erica Stern Kathy Tutem Marilyn Leeb Uveges
15 Year	
Terry Adlhock Jane Cavanaugh Judi Fogt	Ann McClellan Michael Weaver
20 Year	
Prabhdeep Chawla	Yvonne Wiederkehr

Thank you for all you do – we are so fortunate to have such a devoted team at Hillwood!

Hillwood Summer Programs

Be sure to check Hillwood's [Event and Programs](#) page to see all the exciting programming offered in the coming months. From French Festival and Tanabata for families to numerous garden workshops and tours for outdoor enthusiasts, there is something for everyone at Hillwood this summer.

Recap of Recent Circles Trips

Jan Jensen, Senior Development Officer, and Martha Ball, Development Assistant

In building the original Lotos Club in 1907, architect Donn Berber remarked, “We are developing American architecture right here, but we are too busy to stop and proclaim the style.” Circles members have explored this American, pluralistic style with two exclusive Circles trips to Baltimore and New York City.

On March 28, a group of twenty travelers was joined by Kate Markert, Hillwood executive director, Dr. Wilfried Zeisler, chief curator, and Lizzie Axelson, membership operations and marketing manager, on a day trip to Baltimore. Travelers enjoyed a curator-led tour of *Fabergé and the Russian Crafts Tradition: An Empire’s Legacy* at the Walters Art Museum, learning the historical and artistic context of the firm of Fabergé. Jim Abbott, Evergreen Museum and Library director and curator, then invited the travelers to explore the Gilded Age mansion surrounded by Italian-style gardens.



Circles members admire Fabergé pieces at the Walters Art Museum during their trip to Baltimore



Participants on the NYC trip visiting 1107 Fifth Avenue

original three story, 54-room penthouse at 1107 Fifth Avenue. Travelers were also treated to special tours of A La Vieille Russie and jewelers Verdura and Belperron, deepening their knowledge of the fine jewelry favored by Marjorie Post.

From June 12 to 13, twenty-six travelers visited New York City to explore more American art and architecture and how they reflect international influences. The group, led by Kate Markert, Wilfried Zeisler, and Jan Jensen, senior development officer, enjoyed a wonderful trip, which included a curator-led tour of *Versailles: A Royal Destination* at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, a director-led tour of The Frick Collection, and a private dinner at the historic Lotos Club. The highlight of the trip was a champagne toast hosted by Elizabeth and Patrick Gerschel, current owners of the largest of the six apartments created out of Marjorie Merriweather Post’s

Circles members were able to engage in living history through these two trips, gaining new connections to Marjorie Post and her passion for the development of American style. For more information on the Circles Program and benefits or Hillwood’s membership program, please visit the [membership page](#) of Hillwood’s website.

Exciting Updates for the Volunteer Lounge Library

Lisa Horvath, Volunteer Services Supervisor

Over the past couple months, many of you have seen the ongoing organizing and cataloguing of the books in the mansion volunteer lounge library. In light of this project's completion, we are happy to share some recent updates.

All of the books housed in the mansion volunteer lounge library have been barcoded and the catalogue updated. An inventory also occurred to withdraw books in poor condition, duplicate copies, and non-academic and fictitious works. These withdrawn books are labeled as such and organized in the boxes under the desk by the window in the lounge. You are welcome to take what you would like from these boxes, making sure the book has a "withdrawn" stamp on its back pocket and card. We will continue to cultivate the volunteer library with topics also represented in Hillwood's main library: eighteenth- and nineteenth-century French decorative arts, imperial Russian arts, gardening, volunteering, pertinent biographies, and more.

Moving forward, if you are interested in donating to Hillwood's volunteer library, please contact Lisa Horvath at 202.243.3938 or LHorvath@HillwoodMuseum.org with the book's title and author. We will inform you if we will accept it into our library. We will not accept Hillwood publications as we purchase copies of these specifically for the libraries. Alternative places to consider donating your gently used books include local public libraries and other museums of similar content. This is a great way to not only repurpose books but also spread the word about Hillwood!

We also plan to install a barcode scanner to update the self-checkout process of library books. We know many of you utilize these available resources to continue your education of the collection, Hillwood, and Marjorie Merriweather Post, and we are thrilled to be modernizing the checkout process. This new system will send e-mail reminders of due dates automatically and allows you to search the volunteer library collection. To checkout or search for resources in the volunteer library, please follow the steps posted on the board above the laptop by the window. Please note this checkout system is on the honor system. If you have resources that belong to the volunteer library, please return them to Lisa Horvath as soon as possible, so they can be catalogued into the system. Her office is located on the second floor of the mansion by the side stairs.

"I Met Marjorie Post": Hillwood's Oral History Program

Estella Chung, Director of Collections

A visitor walks up to you and says, "I just have to tell you, I met Marjorie Post in the late 1960s, this is my first time back here since then." They have been enjoying the mansion and gardens for much of the day, but decided to share their personal connection to Hillwood with you.

You are giving a tour with a very lively and responsive group, and while standing in the mansion, someone on your tour reveals to the group they had dined at Hillwood as a guest of Marjorie Post.

At the tour desk, the first person in line tells you their whole connection to Marjorie Post, even before they can clip on a colorful "fabulous" visitor tag.

The oral history program captures essential information about the history of the estate and Marjorie Post. The early oral history interviews with the household staff recorded how Marjorie ran Hillwood, making the publication *Living Artfully* possible. Today, most of our interviewees identify themselves when visiting Hillwood, often on their first return trip after several decades. Recent interviewees include those who visited Hillwood as student guests of Marjorie from Long Island University or Mount Vernon Seminary.

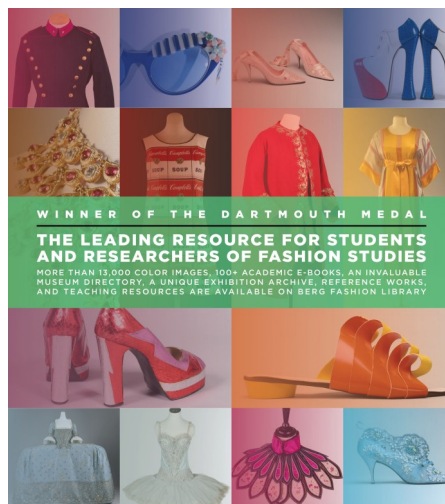
Those who interacted with Marjorie first-hand are of interest to the oral history program. Accounts do not need to be lengthy, as interviews range from four to forty minutes but are best if from their own first-hand encounters with Marjorie or key Hillwood staff members during her lifetime, such as butler Gus Modig or curator Marvin Ross. If you meet a guest that has a first-hand encounter with Marjorie Post or key Hillwood staff members, please encourage them to stop by the tour desk where staff will take their contact information and Hillwood connection to pass along to Estella Chung, director of collections. Visitors can also pick up Estella's business card at the tour desk if they would prefer to reach out to her directly. Interviews are usually conducted by phone. Volunteers have had a large impact on the oral history program, and all of the resulting exhibitions and programs that draw upon these recollections of Hillwood and Marjorie Post.

New Library Resource: Berg Fashion Library

Abby Stambach, Archivist/Librarian

The Hillwood Special Collections Library is pleased to announce the acquisition of the online reference database, Berg Fashion Library. This database is dedicated to dress and fashion across cultures and throughout history from the ancient world to present day. It contains images of apparel and accessories, the *Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion* eBooks, an interactive timeline of fashion history, and much more.

We are especially excited about the image galleries containing over 13,000 images of apparel and accessories. Well-known museums with fashion collections such as The Museum at Fashion Institute of Technology, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art contribute to these galleries. There are also images from smaller museums such as The Valentine in Richmond, Virginia. This feature allows researchers to view similar items from multiple institutions through one platform rather than searching the online collections of individual museums. There is also a small but growing exhibition archive, which presents exclusive information and images from various museum exhibitions featuring fashion and accessories.



BERG FASHION LIBRARY

WWW.BLOOMSBURYFASHIONCENTRAL.COM

There are multiple ways to browse or to search for content on Berg Fashion Library. An introductory video detailing these options as well as the many features of the database can be

found [here](#). New content to the database is added regularly, so be sure to check often! You may also create an account, which will allow you to save and organize content.

Berg Fashion Library is accessible on and off the Hillwood campus. A login is required for off-campus use and may be obtained by emailing Abby Stambach at AStambach@HillwoodMuseum.org. Please also contact Abby if you have any questions about this resources.

Exhibition Docents Engage Visitors in *Fabergé Rediscovered*

Audra Kelly, Head of Interpretation

Almost thirty mansion docents completed training to become exhibition docents for *Fabergé Rediscovered*. Building upon the success of last year's exhibition docent program for *Spectacular Gems and Jewelry from the Merriweather Post Collection*, these specially trained exhibition docents will engage visitors in a variety of ways throughout the exhibition's run. Some of their responsibilities include leading private tours for *Fabergé Rediscovered* and gala sponsors and serving on-station during the opening week's activities, where they answered questions and provided an overview of the exhibition.

New this year, exhibition docents will also be found leading private tours in the Adirondack building for reserved groups of ten or more. On these tours, they will discuss the themes of the exhibition, which include the history of the Fabergé firm, Hillwood's Fabergé collection, and Marjorie Merriweather Post as a collector of Fabergé. Tours, which will be forty-five minutes in length, can be booked and paid for by contacting Meredith DeSantis, group sales, special events and tourism manager, at 202-243-3914 or MDesantis@HillwoodMuseum.org

Hillwood is pleased to offer visitors these additional ways to deepen their engagement with *Fabergé Rediscovered*. We thank the exhibition docents for deepening their understanding of *Fabergé Rediscovered* and their commitment to providing the best possible experience for Hillwood's guests.



Exhibition docents, Kevin Tomaine and Isabell May, engage with members during Fabergé Rediscovered Member Preview Days

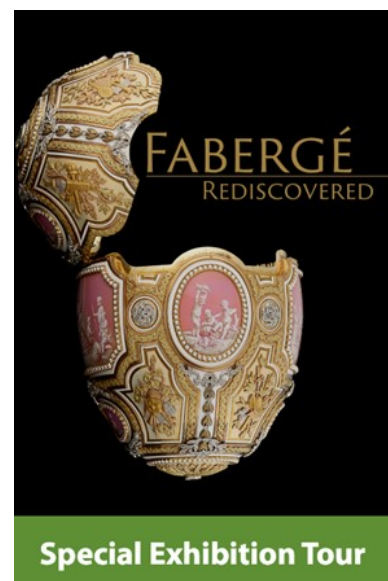
New Fabergé Rediscovered Audio Tour

Audra Kelly, Head of Interpretation

Visitors can now delve deeper into the new discoveries of Hillwood's collection of Fabergé pieces with the *Fabergé Rediscovered* exhibition audio tour, available for download as part of the *Hillwood Museum & Gardens Tour* mobile app for iOS and Android devices. It is also available on the audio guides distributed at the visitor center.

When touring in the Adirondack building, visitors can look for a headphones symbol (🎧) and a number beside selected works and on labels. They can then enter the number on their player and press "play" or select that object from the list on the mobile app.

Once the exhibition closes, some of the objects will return to the mansion for display. At that time, most of the exhibition audio tour stops will then be re-purposed and added to the permanent collection audio tour to continue educating visitors long after the exhibition.



The exhibition audio tour is newly added to the Hillwood Museum & Gardens Tour mobile app.

2019 Garden Docent Training and Visitor Services Volunteers Recruitment Continues

Lisa Horvath, Volunteer Services Supervisor

We are continuing to recruit for the 2019 garden docent training program and visitor services volunteers ("VSVs"). Applications and position descriptions for both volunteer roles are available on the [Jobs and Volunteering page](#) of Hillwood's website.

Garden docents lead seasonal, one-hour tours of Hillwood's formal gardens. Tour seasons run April through June and September through mid-November. The training, consisting of weekly evening classes, readings, and projects, will take place January through May 2019. Through the training, docents learn how to engage visitors about Hillwood's gardens, landscape design, and Marjorie Merriweather Post.

VSVs serve several important roles in assuring positive and enjoyable visitor experiences at Hillwood. Some VSV duties include greeting visitors and providing orientations at the tour desk in the visitor center, helping visitors with interpretation in the mansion and around campus, and assisting with special events and public programming.



Garden tour participants learn about the motor court from garden docent, Cynthia Darling

Please help spread the word about these exciting opportunities to friends and colleagues. Questions can be directed to Lisa Horvath at LHorvath@HillwoodMuseum.org.

Plant Profile: Bluebeard, Blue Spirea, or Blue Mist Shrub (*Caryopteris x clandonensis*)

Jane Berger, Newsletter Volunteer

Near the end of summer, the blooms on most shrubs have faded. This is when *Caryopteris* takes over to carry the garden for the next couple of months. It flowers with a spectacular display of deep blue to violet flowers that attract bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds and give them a boost for their fall journeys elsewhere or their winter preparations. Because of its relatively small size, usually two to four feet high and wide, *Caryopteris* is often seen near the front of garden beds, where it is frequently confused with perennials.

Technically, Blue Spirea is a sub-shrub. It has woody stems at the base and is root hardy to about the United States Department of Agriculture Zone 5, but the growth above is not hardy in colder climates. If pruned back in the spring, it comes back to life as flowers are produced on new wood.

Small, lance-shaped, light grey-green leaves contrast beautifully with the lightly fragrant flowers, and the shrub is a real show stopper in August and September.

Native to the Himalayas and East Asia, it's a cross between *C. incana* and *C. mongholica*. It is easy to grow, resistant to deer and rabbits, drought and heat tolerant, with few insect or disease problems. Its name comes from the Greek word, *karyon*, meaning nut, and *pteron*, meaning wing, which refer to the winged fruits produced after flowering.



Caryopteris x clandonensis

Best of all, there are many cultivars, giving the gardener a great choice of sizes and colors. One of the most popular is 'Longwood Blue', with profuse, violet-blue flowers that can be found at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania as well as here at Hillwood in the cutting garden. 'Arthur Simmonds' has bright blue flowers, and 'Blue Mist' has powder-blue flowers. The foliage on both produce a scent when brushed with a hand. 'Minibleu' is more compact, just two-and-a-half feet high and wide, and is noted for its dark blue flowers and glossy dark green foliage.

For something a little different, more adventurous gardeners may consider 'Worcester Gold' with golden leaves and light lavender-blue flowers, or 'Lisaura', which is sold under the trade name Hint of Gold and has bright golden leaves with mint-green margins and dark blue blooms.

There are many other *Caryopteris* cultivars and likely many more to come, making this shrub so appealing to gardeners.

What's Coming Up in the Gardens

Jessica Bonilla, Head Gardener

To start, a huge thank you to all our volunteers who helped with the spring and summer planting. You have been amazing! First, you planted nearly seven thousand spring annuals to go along with our bulb show. Then you turned around a month and a half later and planted nearly ten thousand summer annuals and tropicals for the summer display. Mix in all the perennials and shrubs, the impact you have had on the gardens has been amazing. Bravo!



Left, Summer planting at the Lunar Lawn

Right, Irrigation installation in the cutting garden took place this spring



In other news, our irrigation project is moving right along. Nature Unlimited, our irrigation contractor, is putting the final touches on the upgrade to our sprinkler system. Their redesign in the cutting garden has taken us from three watering zones to sixteen, allowing for more efficient water use in that area. The new controller boxes have also been installed, and it is just a matter of days until everything will be running by the click of a cell phone.

For those who have been wondering about the compost tea endeavor—that too is up and running. Our new pet red wigglers (*Eisenia foetida* for our Latin enthusiasts) are breaking down organic matter into fine looking, fungi rich compost. This compost is then steeped in oxygenated water for twenty-four hours and sprayed onto the plants. The theory is to populate the leaves with good fungi and not leave room for the bad. We are using this season as a test run with better analysis to come in subsequent years.

The cutting garden wall project will commence this month. Our hardscape contractor John Pond does excellent work and is in high demand, but he and his crew will be here to tackle the areas of missing stones and crumbling mortar. We will keep you informed of his timeline and how it will affect the campus.

Finally, we will use some of summer to get into our wooded areas. Last year, the staff did a great job of cutting the English ivy from the perimeter trees around the formal gardens and up to our fence line. English ivy only produces seed on mature foliage growing on a vertical surface, so this at least has reduced seedling development. This year, we will be digging out a large swath of the ivy from the woodland trail to the lower gate. Removing the ivy will allow for a more natural forest succession and lead to a healthier ecosystem.

Thank you again for all your support this spring and keep growing!

Volunteer Spotlight

Lisa Horvath, Volunteer Services Supervisor

Hillwood's volunteer corps is the largest it has ever been at over 340 volunteers, and it continues to grow! While some volunteers see each other on a regular basis, the Volunteer Spotlight is an opportunity to get to know a Horticulture and Interpretation volunteer better.



Carol Edwards, Horticulture

Carol Edwards joined Hillwood's horticulture volunteer program in 2008 after attending a lecture given by now-retired Hillwood staff member Bill Johnson, as she completed the Master Gardener program at the University of D.C. Bill spoke passionately of the joys of volunteering, and the beauty of Hillwood's gardens immediately hooked Carol. In her ten years of volunteering, Carol has found this beauty to be "good for [her] soul and renews [her] positive energy. The physical exercise of gardening helps too!"

Carol's duties include the maintenance of Hillwood's gardens by weeding, deadheading, planting, and pruning while also answering visitor questions and continuing her own horticulture education through the programs offered by Hillwood staff. She appreciates the variety of offerings provided by the Horticulture staff to investigate, study, and learn which encourages her to share her knowledge with visitors. Carol also utilizes what she learns at her home where she maintains her own garden, planting perennials and annuals. She also tends a vegetable garden and creates recipes from its harvest.

Deborah Thomas, Interpretation

Deborah Thomas first visited Hillwood in the early 1980s and fell in love with it. Over the years, it has been a popular destination for her to bring out-of-town visitors, friends, and family. She joined Hillwood's interpretation volunteer program in 2013 as a Visitor Services Volunteer ("VSV"). Deborah's duties include greeting and providing orientations to visitors, roving the mansion and answering visitor questions, and assisting with evening lectures and programs. Deborah is an active volunteer with numerous other organizations of varying focuses, and she enjoys helping others at Hillwood "while being replenished by the serenity and beauty" of it.



As a volunteer, Deborah also appreciates the diversity of experiences she has had at Hillwood. A memorable visitor experience she had was with a young boy whose jaw dropped as he walked into the mansion. He later shared with her all that he had seen and learned while visiting Hillwood. Deborah has also had learning experiences at Hillwood, especially with the exhibition *Pret-a-Papier*, as it challenged her to look at how paper can be used in unique ways and altered how she thought of paper. These two experiences summarize the greatest benefit for Deborah as a VSV: the chance to learn and to share what she has learned with others.

Hillwood is thrilled to have Carol and Deborah as members of our wonderful volunteer corps, and we look forward to continuing to highlight our volunteers in future editions of the *Post Serial*.

Welcome to Hillwood's Newest Staff Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members to Hillwood.

Martha Ball joined Hillwood as the development assistant on June 1. Previously, Martha worked at ArtTable, a nonprofit which supports women leaders in the visual arts. In the past four years, she has interned at the Columbus Museum of Art, Hillyer Art Space, and The Textile Museum. Martha recently graduated from The George Washington University with a Bachelors of Arts degree in history and art history.



Ariel Caruso joined Hillwood as the assistant collections manager on May 21. She has four years of experience in collections management, most recently processing and rehousing historical artifacts for the Naval History and Heritage Command in Richmond, Virginia. Ariel has also interned for a number of museums around Washington, D.C. including Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, the Newseum, the National American History Museum, as well as with the Curator's Office at the Supreme Court. Ariel holds a Bachelors of Arts degree in history from Dickinson

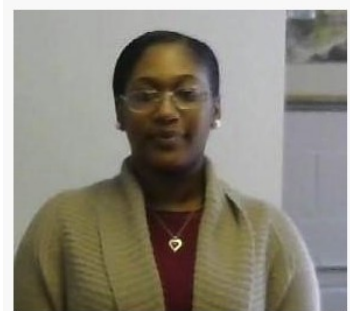
College and a Master of Arts degree in museum studies with a concentration in Collections Management from The George Washington University.

Vernitta Cooper joined Hillwood on April 23 as the executive assistant. In this role, Vernitta is responsible for meeting the administrative needs of the executive director's office. Vernitta brings eighteen years of senior-level administrative support experience gained from her work at a variety of non-profit organizations.



Kathryn Fay joined Hillwood as the collections and exhibitions administrator on May 16. Previously, Kathryn served as senior proposal coordinator for a small audiovisual company. Her past museum experience includes internships with the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Noyes Museum of Art in New Jersey, and the Muscarelle Museum of Art in Virginia. Kathryn holds a Bachelors of Arts degree in english and art history from the College of William & Mary and a Masters of Arts degree in art history from American University.

Kierra Huggans joined Hillwood as the accounting assistant on March 23. Kierra is a 2017 graduate of Central State University with a Bachelors of Science degree in business accounting. Her primary responsibilities include maintaining financial records, preparing reports, and updating financial information to process business transactions, receipts, and other financial matters.

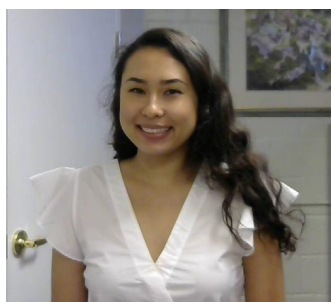


Please join us in welcoming Hillwood's newest team members!

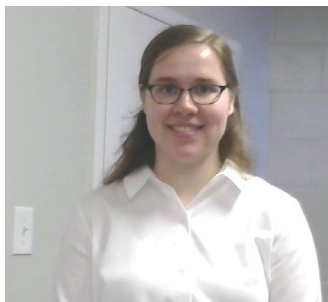
Museum Attendants Join Hillwood's Seasonal Staff

Victor Braschnewitz, Head of Security Services

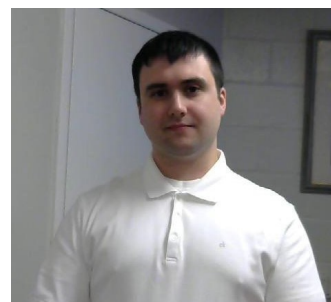
This summer, we will once again be staffing our special exhibition and the mansion, as well as exterior garden spaces, with Museum Attendants (MAs). These employees are here on a temporary basis through August and work a part-time schedule. Their primary function is to act as extra eyes and ears for security so that any matters that arise can be expeditiously addressed via the appropriate department. Please seize the opportunity to introduce yourself to them and join us in welcoming:



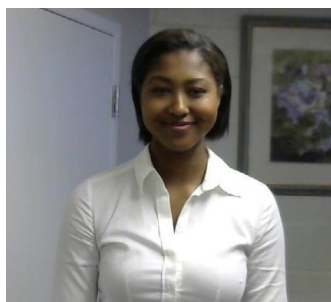
Asia Bostock



Emily Gibson



Luke Musetti



Micah Smith



Andrew Tarquinio

New Volunteers

We are delighted to add twelve new horticulture volunteers. Please join us in welcoming:

Joan Ablett
Nadir Batata
Candace Beane

Herman Black
Susan Burke
Vera Egorova

Claire Frank
Michelle Hang
Sharon Lavallee

Karen Leighty
Judy Myers
Bernie Witter



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