

Please enjoy reading this month's volunteer email, and learn more about Hillwood's recent *Midnight in the Garden* event, a new digital library for virtual mansion tours, Marjorie Post's beauty rituals, upcoming volunteer programming, and much more!

---

## VISITING HILLWOOD

This past April, Hillwood safely served 8,298 on-site visitors and 404 virtual visitors. Hillwood is proud to have been seen as an oasis for the community throughout the pandemic. Through visitor comments, we have learned how they found comfort while strolling the gardens, have been inspired by the collection, or indulged in some retail therapy at the museum shop. Thank you in advance for helping keep staff and visitors safe by following the below social distancing guidelines when visiting Hillwood:

- Advance reservations are still required for an in-person visit, with limited capacity to the mansion. Visit Hillwood's website to [purchase tickets](#).
  - All staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors are required to wear a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status. Indoor mask wearing will be strictly enforced.
  - In accordance with the CDC, White House, and D.C. Health officials, Hillwood has revised our [outdoor mask policy](#). We will not require **fully vaccinated** staff, volunteers, contractors, or visitors to wear a mask while outdoors. Staff and volunteers who have **not been fully vaccinated** should wear a mask while outdoors, working with others, and when working in crowded areas.
  - Food and beverages can be enjoyed outside. Due to the indoor mask policy, eating and drinking are not permitted in the visitor center.
  - Be sure to review the complete list of Hillwood's [temporary visitor guidelines](#) before visiting.
- 

## NEW OPENINGS: VIRTUAL METADATA VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Hillwood's Archives and Special Collections has openings for the digital volunteer role working (remotely) on the Bentley Digitization Project. This summer, recruitment and training will begin for a few additional metadata volunteers to assist with the digitization of the Post Family Papers, currently held by the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan. This exciting project, which began in 2017, focuses on making these invaluable resources more readily available to staff and researchers.

An overview of the metadata program is available below:

- Metadata volunteer is a remote role, allowing volunteers to safely work from home.
- Due to database licensing, we are looking to recruit six metadata volunteers assigned to a fixed schedule.
- The metadata team will create, review, and verify PDF files of the Post Family Papers then help write descriptive metadata information. Using a remote desktop connection, metadata volunteers will use Google Sheets and ABBYFineReader 15, Hillwood's optical character recognition software. For more information on the role, please review the [detailed position description](#).
- A live how-to training session for metadata volunteers will be offered via Zoom in mid- to late June.

If you are interested in being considered for the metadata pilot team, [please take a few minutes to complete this survey](#).

---

## GUESTS CELEBRATE EXHIBITION WITH VIRTUAL BENEFIT

On Thursday, April 22, Hillwood was delighted to welcome guests to the virtual fundraising event, *Midnight in the Garden*, celebrating the special exhibition *The Porcelain Flowers of Vladimir Kanevsky*. Originally scheduled as an in-person event in the typical style of our February receptions, with the ongoing restrictions caused by the pandemic, co-chairs Kimberly Notarianni, Melissa Keshishian, and Bob Bell worked with the committee and Hillwood to craft a virtual event that would capture the beauty of the exhibition with some special touches added in. [For highlights and images from the evening, click here to read the full recap of the \*Midnight in the Garden\* event.](#)



*Wilfried Zeisler, chief curator, interviews artist Vladimir Kanevsky during the virtual event*

---

## NEW DIGITAL LIBRARY OF VIRTUAL MANSION TOURS

Hillwood is thrilled to add a new feature to our growing list of online content. A [new digital library](#) spotlighting virtual mansion tours is now available on Hillwood's website. Marjorie Merriweather Post purchased Hillwood with the intent to leave it as a museum that would inspire and educate the public, and we are delighted to bring the mansion to our visitors while in-person tours are not available during this time.

Led by seasoned volunteer docents, the tour recordings feature room views, collection highlights, and archival images. Visitors can select from eight virtual tours based on the docent's tour theme. As a result of months of hard work from our dedicated pilot docent team and IT staff, this innovative new resource allows Hillwood to share these fabulous tours with a broader audience during the pandemic and beyond.



*Eight virtual mansion tours are now available on Hillwood's new digital library*

---

## MARJORIE POST'S BEAUTY RITUALS AND PERSONAL CARE

Marjorie Post was as meticulous about her personal appearance and presentation as she was about her gardens, the decoration in her homes, and the well-orchestrated events she hosted. This article explores some of these personal rituals of Marjorie Post related to her appearance, some more outwardly apparent, like the prominence of her meticulously lacquered manicure seen in portraits throughout the mansion, or the existence of a “massage room” on the second floor of her home---complete with a bonnet hair dryer. Others are covert---a jeweled Cartier vanity compact concealing red lipstick and a bit of powder, or the wafts of the Trefle home scent she used to perfume her rooms.

[Click here to learn more about Marjorie Post's beauty rituals and personal care.](#)



*Carnet de Bal Perfume and Box, Revillon Frères (French, 1732-1982), Paris, about 1940, glass, paperboard, Museum Purchase, 2018 (2018.4-4a)*

---

## MUSEUM SHOP SPOTLIGHT

Across campus, staff have been hard at work preparing for the opening of two new exhibitions this summer, and the museum shop is no exception. With two unique exhibition, *Roaring Twenties: The Life and Style of Marjorie Merriweather Post* and *Kristine Mays: Rich Soil*, to pull inspiration from, we are thrilled to share the new products coming to the sales floor in the coming weeks. [Click here to discover the latest finds currently available in the museum shop.](#)

### **New Store Hours**

The museum shop expanded their store hours, and are now open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

### **How to Shop**

To shop in person, please remember to [book your reservation](#) in advance by selecting a date and time to visit the estate. To shop online, visit <https://store.hillwoodmuseum.org/discount/Volunteer21> and use your discount code of Volunteer21.



*New headbands by Scottish Vendor Powder Design UK are now available in the museum shop*

---

## **HORTICULTURE NEWS**

### **Summer Seasonal Display**

The Horticulture staff is busy with the changing of the seasons. Summer is on the way and that means replacing the fading tulips with over 11,500 summer annual and tropical plants. This year's designs were driven by the greenhouse bed project, weather forecasts, and of course, fun new plants. The majority of the change out will be completed by May 14.

[Click here for more information on this exciting time in the gardens.](#)



*Summer baskets for the Merriweather café*

---

## Virtual Garden Fieldtrip

Interested in a virtual garden field trip? If so, [please click here and enjoy delightful spring photos from several local public gardens.](#) Images were collected by the Horticultural Consortium of the Greater Washington Area, whose mission is to recognize and celebrate volunteers of our local public gardens. Hillwood is just one of a dozen gardens that work together each year to host an annual appreciation event to thank garden volunteers.

While we are unable to make any formal plans at the moment for the next consortium meeting, we hope a few pictures of the local gardens will help spread some cheer!



*Smithsonian Gardens are featured, along side Hillwood, in the new publication by Horticultural Consortium of the Greater Washington Area*

---

## In the Gardens

Cool weather has prolonged the spring displays this year and early season annuals and bulbs are joining forces with azaleas, rhododendrons, spiraeas, viburnums, and dogwoods to illuminate the gardens with flowers along every path.

[Please enjoy a few recent photos from the gardens and greenhouses captured by Drew Asbury, horticulturist and volunteer manager.](#)



*Tulipa bakeri 'Lilac Wonder' with Fritillaria meleagris in the cutting garden*

---

## VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAMMING

Mark your calendars and join us online for these upcoming virtual volunteer sessions in May and June.

---

### Hillwood Huddle

**Thursday, May 20 & Wednesday, June 23 (3 p.m.)**

During these 30-minute informal sessions, volunteers and staff will have the opportunity to reconnect virtually with one another over Zoom and share their passion for all things Hillwood. Participants will be divided into smaller breakout rooms. Halfway through the 30-minute program, the breakout rooms will be “reshuffled,” allowing volunteers to mix and mingle with a larger number of volunteers.

Click on the links below to register for a Hillwood Huddle. Once your registration is confirmed, you will receive via email the Zoom link and meeting instructions.

---

## Fostering Inclusion in the Workplace Webinar

**Tuesday, June 8 (11 a.m.)**

One lesson we are learning from current events is the critical nature of everyone's voice. Inclusive work environments are productive environments. This virtual webinar discusses how employees, managers, and volunteers can create an inclusive workplace. Participants will learn to identify activities, attitudes, and assumptions that exclude colleagues. Then they will explore ideas to include others in ways that enrich the workplace as well as their personal lives. All volunteers are invited to attend. A meeting link with instructions for using WebEx, the online meeting platform, will be emailed to all volunteers closer to the event date.

---

## Virtual Volunteer Lecture: *Roaring Twenties*

**Monday, June 14 (10:30 a.m.)**

Join Megan Martinelli, assistant curator of apparel and jewelry, for an overview of Hillwood's much-anticipated exhibition *Roaring Twenties: The Life of Style of Marjorie Merriweather Post*, on view in the Adirondack building June 12 through January 9, 2022. Hillwood founder Marjorie Merriweather Post was an iconic tastemaker during the era known as the Roaring Twenties. One hundred years later, Hillwood celebrates Post's influence on the period with a special exhibition focused on her impeccable attire, impressive art collection, and sumptuous design. This stunning exhibition explores the Jazz Age fashion, decorative art, jewelry, and design that made Marjorie Merriweather Post one of the most influential women of the 1920s. All volunteers are invited to attend. A Zoom link with the meeting instructions will be emailed to all volunteers closer to the event date.

---

## Virtual Volunteer Lecture: *Rich Soil*

**Monday, June 28 (1:30 p.m.)**

Join Rebecca Tilles, associate curator of 18th century French & western European fine and decorative arts, for an overview of *Kristine Mays: Rich Soil*, an innovative exhibition on view in the gardens June 26 through January 9, 2022. Contemporary American artist Kristine Mays's life-size, three-dimensional dancing wire sculptures transform the grounds of Hillwood for the second ever installation of art in the gardens. *Rich Soil*, Mays's first ever outdoor exhibition, originally displayed at Filoli Historic House and Garden, explores the dance between life and death, as the pieces interact with the land, and draw inspiration from the movement of Alvin Ailey's dance composition, "Revelation." The exhibition is next in a series of collaborations with contemporary artists, such as Vladimir Kanevsky in 2021, Bouke de Vries in 2019, Philip Haas in 2016, and Isabelle de Borchgrave in 2013. All volunteers are invited to attend. A Zoom link with the meeting instructions will be emailed to all volunteers closer to the event date.

---

Missed a lecture? Be sure to visit the [volunteer website](#) and catch up on the newest online content, including new videos now available on the "Lecture Video Archives" page.

- April 12: *The Porcelain Flowers of Vladimir Kanevsky* by Dr. Wilfried Zeisler
- April 22: *Earth Day* with Hillwood's Horticulture Team
- April 29: *Women Collectors of Porcelain Flowers and Floral Painting from 17th-20th Centuries* by Rebecca Tilles
- May 6: *Virtual Volunteer Floral Workshop: Celebrating Nature, A floral Design Inspired by Constance Spry* with Ami Wilber

---

## STAFF HELP & RESOURCES

Thank you for being a part of the Hillwood community. Our "virtual doors" are always open. Feel free to reach us at [volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org](mailto:volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org).

-The Volunteer Support Team  
Lisa Leyh, Drew Asbury, and Samantha Hernandez

---

### HILLWOOD FROM HOME

Enjoy the museum and gardens through our comprehensive digital offerings, including the extensive online collections, educational video library, immersive mobile app, and virtual programming.

[Explore >](#)

### PLAN YOUR VISIT

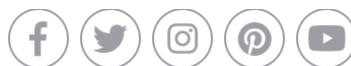
To visit Hillwood, be sure to book advance reservations and review the temporary visitor guidelines. Don't forget to stay up-to-date on Hillwood's virtual programming through the Events and Programs page.

[Visit >](#)

### STAY CONNECTED

Missed an email? Visit Stay Connected: Volunteer Email on the volunteer website for an archive of articles, images, and videos shared in the volunteer email and catch up on any reading you may have missed.

[Connect >](#)



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Forward](#) | [View in browser](#)

You are receiving this email because you have opted into our email program. If you no longer wish to receive our emails click on the Unsubscribe link in this email.

Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens 4155 Linnean Ave NW Washington, DC 20008 [www.hillwoodmuseum.org](http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org)