



Please enjoy reading this month's volunteer newsletter featuring news and updates from the Hillwood staff.

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## OCTOBER 2023 SCHEDULE

The October 2023 schedule is now open to all interpretation volunteers in Volgistics, complete with private tours and special events. Please log in to your [Volgistics account](#) to schedule your shifts. If you have any changes or questions regarding the volunteer schedule, please continue to contact [volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org](mailto:volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org). Thank you.

[Log into Volgistics](#)

**Attention:** The current Volgistics link is still active. The upgrade to Volgistics will occur in late September.

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## COMING SOON: VOLGISTICS UPGRADE

We're thrilled to announce Volgistics, Hillwood's online volunteer database, will implement several improvements to the system starting in late September. All the features you know and love will remain the same, but the site will include a more modern appearance, increased options for viewing the online schedule, and launch a new mobile app available for iOS and Android devices. The mobile app functions the same as accessing Volgistics through your web browser but will offer volunteers a more convenient way to access the site.

**The upgrades will be implemented on Monday, September 25.** As we get closer to the upgrade, we will notify volunteers of the new features and provide a revised Volgistics user guide. These exciting improvements will enhance your volunteer experience and provide ease in managing your volunteer account with Hillwood.

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"THIS IS MISS LOWE, HEAD OF AMERICAN HOUSE ANN LOWE!"

Hillwood's Ann Lowe-attributed portrait gown of silver-grey silk faille has been in the expert hands of textile conservators at Winterthur for a full year in anticipation of their forthcoming special exhibition, ***Ann Lowe: American Couturier (September 9, 2023-January 7, 2024)*** which celebrates the life and legacy of the designer.

Learn more about the connections between Marjorie Merriweather Post and Ann Lowe (c. 1898-1981), the story behind the attributed dress featured, the origins of the project, and its Hillwood connection here in this article written by Megan Martinelli, associate curator, textiles, apparel, jewelry, and accessories.



*Portrait gown, Attributed to Ann Lowe (American, c. 1898-1981), New York, 1952, Silk faille, cotton, synthetic horsehair, tarlatan, (48.106)*

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## MUSEUM SHOP NEWS

### **Do Not Disturb, New Exclusive Fragrance**

We are thrilled to introduce Do Not Disturb, Hillwood's second exclusive fragrance created with [Molly Ray Parfums](#). Drawing inspiration from Marjorie Merriweather Post's secluded season at Hillwood, the luxurious scent is evocative of the estate's interiors. Named in honor of the iconic silver signs reading "Do Not Disturb—Resting" on all bedroom doors of the mansion, the alluring perfume invokes the grandeur and comfort of fall at Hillwood.

Join us on **September 28 and 29** from **11 a.m.-4 p.m.** to celebrate this exclusive Hillwood fragrance. Sample the perfume, enjoy refreshments, take part in the raffles, and be among the first to experience this new scent!

Can't visit in person? Visit Hillwood's online museum shop conveniently from your own home, with shipping or in-store pickup available: <https://store.hillwoodmuseum.org/discount/HWVolunteer>



*Do Not Disturb, Hillwood's Second Exclusive Fragrance*

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### **Curated Diverse Reads**

Hillwood's museum shop now features an enriching selection of books under the "Diverse Reads" section, furthering our commitment to supporting your DEAL journey. Use this link to discover the array of thought-provoking books available in the "Diverse Reads" section of our online shop: <https://store.hillwoodmuseum.org/collections/diversity>

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## HORTICULTURE HAPPENINGS

### Garden Path Renovation

The garden paths update has come to a close and we are excited for you to see the results. A lot of steps went into the process, for example, deciding on the color, removing the existing path and preparing the areas for the new water conscious paving material. Of course, this was only possible through the generous donations of our supporters.

[Click here for Director of Horticulture Jessica Bonilla's article, which includes a behind-the-scenes look at this exciting renovation.](#)



*Path entrance from the motor court.*

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### A Day at Glenstone Talking Native Plants

The development of a meadow-inspired planting is certainly a challenge but one well worth considering when seeking to add both beauty and ecological services to your property. Drew Asbury, horticulturist and volunteer manager, had the privilege this past month to meet with the landscape experts at Glenstone Museum in Potomac, Maryland for a day focused on best practices for meadow establishment and maintenance. [Please click here to read more.](#)



*Rattlesnake master in the meadow at Glenstone Museum.*

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### In the Gardens

The fall season is just around the corner, but the gardens don't seem to mind. [Please enjoy a few recent photos of the gardens and greenhouses captured by Drew Asbury, horticulturist and volunteer manager.](#)



*Hedychium (ginger lily) in the cutting garden.*

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## VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS



Please mark your calendars and join us for these upcoming volunteer programs.

### Volunteer Japanese-Style Garden Tour

September 12-15 (Tuesday-Friday), 10:15 a.m.

Join section gardener Michael Rollinson for a tour of the Japanese-style garden. Tours will depart from the cold frames near the greenhouse at 10:15 a.m. Group size limited to 15 volunteers. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [Tuesday, September 12 Tour](#)
- [Wednesday, September 13 Tour](#)
- [Thursday, September 14 Tour](#)
- [Friday, September 15 Tour](#)

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## IN MEMORIAM: GLORIA GRANT

We regret to inform you of the passing of Hillwood volunteer Gloria Grant. She peacefully passed away at her home on August 4, 2023.

Gloria was an integral part of the mansion docent cohort for fifteen years, starting in 2000. Throughout her time at Hillwood, she demonstrated her deep interest in the collection and shared her love for Marjorie Post's story with visitors. Additionally, Gloria's impeccable fashion sense added a special touch to every tour. In 2015, she transitioned to the emeritus program, remaining engaged through lectures and volunteer events. We will deeply miss Gloria's enthusiasm and dedication.

If you wish to learn more about Gloria, her obituary can be viewed [here](#).



*Hillwood volunteer Gloria Grant*

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## STAFF HELP & RESOURCES

Thank you for being a part of the Hillwood community. Our 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

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## PLAN YOUR VISIT

Learn more about Hillwood's current visitor offerings, book an upcoming visit, and stay up-to-date on Hillwood's events and programs.

[Visit >](#)

## STAY CONNECTED

Visit the volunteer website for an archive of past monthly volunteer newsletters and catch up on any reading you may have missed.

[Connect >](#)



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