



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

JULY 2023 SCHEDULE

The July 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. Thank you.

[Log into Volgistics](#)

Please Note: Microsoft ended support for its Internet Explorer web browser on June 15, 2022. Volgistics no longer supports Internet Explorer. If you are a windows user using Internet Explorer, please switch your internet browser to Microsoft Edge, Firefox, Chrome, or Safari.

GLASS: ART. BEAUTY. DESIGN. OPENS JUNE 10

Hillwood's new exhibition, *Glass: Art. Beauty. Design.*, opens to the public on Saturday, June 10 in the Adirondack building and features special displays by contemporary glass artists on view in the mansion.

Transparent or opaque, fragile yet impervious, glass has inspired artists and designers, stimulated scientists and engineers, and captivated collectors with its beauty and practicality. Hillwood founder Marjorie Merriweather Post was no exception, and she amassed over 1,600 pieces of glass, created in the 17th-20th centuries in China, Western Europe, Russia, and the United States. This special exhibition will highlight this lesser-known aspect of Hillwood's collection, featuring a range of styles and techniques, while placing the historic creations in dialogue with astounding contemporary artworks. [Click here for more information on the exhibition, including the label text and additional resources on the contemporary artists.](#)

Save the Date: All volunteers are invited to attend the virtual volunteer lecture on **Monday, June 12** at **10 a.m.** Wilfried Zeisler, deputy director and chief curator, will provide an overview of *Glass: Art. Beauty. Design.* exhibition. A Zoom link with the meeting instructions will be emailed to all volunteers in advance of the program.

Friendly Reminder: *Determined Women: Collectors, Artists, and Designers at Hillwood*, currently on view in the dacha, closes to the public on June 18, 2023.



Glass: Art. Beauty. Design is now open in the Adirondack building with special contemporary glass displays in the mansion from June 10, 2023-January 14, 2014.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

Hillwood volunteers and staff gathered for a spring reception honoring the volunteers on Monday, May 15 from 5-7 p.m. The event welcomed 234 volunteers and guests and celebrated the contributions of our volunteers and their dedication to Hillwood as our visitation continues to break records. The reception featured staff presentations in the mansion and Collections & Research Center, savory bites and delightful desserts from Well Dunn catering, live plant favors provided by the Horticulture department, and remarks from Kate Markert, executive director. Hillwood also honored over 60 volunteers celebrating major milestones of 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service and the volunteers who recently joined the emeritus program.



Volunteers Deborah Thomas and Irina Kurasiewicz at the Volunteer Appreciation Reception

[Click here to view images from the reception, an excerpt from Kate Markert's remarks, and the list of volunteers celebrating a major service milestone.](#)

DIGITAL VOLUNTEER POSITION OPENING: METADATA VOLUNTEER

Hillwood's Archives and Special Collections has one spot remaining for the digital volunteer team working remotely on the Bentley Digitization Project. The next training sessions will be held this September. Remote Metadata Volunteers (RMVs) assist with the digitization of the Post Family Papers, currently held by the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan.

An overview of the metadata program is available below:

- Metadata volunteer is a remote role, allowing volunteers to work from home on a flexible weekly schedule.
- The team is now limited to just seven members, and we currently have just one spot available.
- The 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, an optical character recognition software.
- A live how-to training session will be offered via Zoom in mid- to late September.

If you are interested in being considered for the metadata pilot team, please reach out to Kendall Aughenbaugh at kaughenbaugh@hillwoodmuseum.org.

DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT INTERNS CONCLUDE THEIR HILLWOOD INTERNSHIP

With the end of the school year approaching, our first-ever in-person internship with three high school students from the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, a highly regarded high school in DC's public school system, concluded on May 30. From working with our Horticulture team in the gardens, to editing exhibition labels, these three emerging professionals have contributed to projects at various stages and have seen the variety of work that goes into creating a meaningful experience for Hillwood's visitors.



[Click here to learn more about the interns' experience at Hillwood.](#)

The three interns, Shannon, Olivia, and Audrey, stand in front of the bed of summer flowers they planted.

HILLWOOD RECEIVES THE MUSEUM STORE ASSOCIATION PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AWARD

At the annual Museum Store Association in Denver last month, Hillwood's museum shop won the prestigious award for Best Product Development for Cocktails at Eight Parfum. The MSA Product Development Award is given to museum stores who are recognized nationally for developing extraordinary products related to their institutions. Despite stiff competition from other museum stores, Cocktails at Eight Parfum was selected as the most unique and creative product developed this year from across the USA. Our customers have responded enthusiastically to this exclusive new product. A woodsier version, called Do Not Disturb, will be available this fall.



The perfume sign and award plaque on view in the museum shop

ASK AN ARCHIVIST

Each month via the volunteer newsletter, volunteers are invited to submit questions about Hillwood and Marjorie Post to Jason Speck, head of archives and special collections, for a new feature "Ask an Archivist." Marshalling the impressive resources of rare and unique materials housed in Hillwood's Collections and Research Center, Jason will select one question to answer and share in the volunteer newsletter each month.

To submit a question for a future newsletter, [click here](#). To learn more about the new Collections and Research Center, [visit Hillwood's website](#).

VISITOR SERVICES STAFFING UPDATE

Congratulations to Marian Hampe who has joined the visitor services teams as a visitor services associate. Marian has joined the team from security where she has worked since April 2022. She brings a strong background in visitor engagement honing her skills in the mansion as well as a research assistant at the Supreme Court Historical Society. Marian will be located in the Chauffeur's House and visitor center.

HORTICULTURE HAPPENINGS

In the Gardens

From the rose garden to the cutting garden to the summer seasonal displays, the gardens have welcomed summer by erupting into bloom throughout the campus. Please enjoy a few recent photos of the gardens and greenhouses captured by Drew Asbury, horticulturist and volunteer manager.

[Click here to see more photos of the garden and to learn the names of the various plants featured.](#)



Rosa 'Europeana' in the rose garden.

Hillwood Bird Count

This year the horticulture department has been proud to support a new volunteer program aimed at inventorying Hillwood's birds. This group observes, records, and shares their findings on both a Hillwood level and globally. They found some very interesting bird nests this spring and we look forward to what the fall migration might bring in September.

[Click here to learn more about the bird volunteer program and what they have found so far at Hillwood.](#)



Volunteers out on a birding walk.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

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

Volunteer Virtual Volunteer Lecture: *Glass: Beauty. Art. Design.*

Monday, June 12 (10 a.m.)

Join Wilfried Zeisler, deputy director and chief curator, on Monday, June 12 at 10 a.m. for a virtual volunteer lecture on *Glass: Art. Beauty. Design.* Featuring more than 300 items, ranging from 2nd century to today, the exhibition will demonstrate the innovation and talent of artists and designers throughout the world working with the challenging medium of glass and why the material continues to

intrigue and inspire. See glass in a new light through the finest examples of vases, chandeliers, drinkware, sculpture, and more. A Zoom link with the meeting instructions will be emailed in advance of the program date. The session will also be recorded and emailed to volunteers.

Volunteer Summer Garden Tour

Tuesday-Friday, July 18, 19, 20, 21 at 10:30 a.m.

Join Jessica Bonilla, director of horticulture, for a summer tour of the gardens. Take a deeper look at the summer seasonal display and other plants of interest throughout the grounds. Tours will depart from the cold frames near the greenhouse at 10:30 a.m. Group size limited to 20 volunteers. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [July 18 Volunteer Summer Garden Tour](#)
- [July 19 Volunteer Summer Garden Tour](#)
- [July 20 Volunteer Summer Garden Tour](#)
- [July 21 Volunteer Summer Garden Tour](#)

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.

-The Volunteer Support Team

Lisa Leyh, Sabrina Utz, Drew Asbury, and Samantha Hernandez

HILLWOOD AT HOME

Enjoy Hillwood through our comprehensive digital offerings, including the online collections, educational video library, mobile app, and virtual programs.

[Explore >](#)

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 articles, images, and videos shared in the volunteer email and catch up on any reading you may have missed.

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