



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

---

## JANUARY 2024 SCHEDULE

The January 2024 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](#)

---

## HOLIDAY WISHES

We would like to take a moment during this holiday season to express our appreciation for your invaluable contributions to Hillwood. Your support has played a crucial role in making this past year a tremendous success. Hillwood is on a trajectory for a record-breaking year for attendance, and it is thanks to all of you that we could provide the best possible visitor experience for all who visited. Whether it was through your on-site volunteering, sharing Hillwood with friends and family, supporting our programs, or generously contributing through memberships, each act of support has made a significant impact. Your dedication and commitment have truly made a difference.

As we approach the end of the year, we would like to extend our warmest wishes to you for a wonderful holiday season filled with joy and happiness. We are eagerly anticipating the opportunities and achievements that lie ahead for Hillwood in 2024.

---

## VOLUNTEER LIBRARY TRANSFER

We are thrilled to share that the renovation for the new volunteer lounge in the Butler's House is nearing completion. We are anticipating the new space to be completed in February 2024. Please note that we will announce the exact move-in date once the new volunteer lounge is ready. As part of

the move, we will start transferring the books from the current volunteer library to the new space later this month. Jordan Hansen, volunteer programs coordinator, will be assisting with the move and be working in the volunteer lounge a few hours each weekday. We appreciate your patience as we make this exciting transition.

---

## MANSION DISPLAY UPDATES

### Conservation Flooring in Hillwood's Russian Porcelain Room

In order to safeguard the marquetry floor, a new floor covering has been installed to the Russian porcelain room. This innovative solution comes from Eyemat, a UK-based company specializing in conservation flooring utilizing digital images. The addition of this conservation flooring allows visitors to fully experience the Russian porcelain room, just as they would have during a visit in Marjorie Post's lifetime. With this new flooring, there are no longer stanchions, giving visitors the freedom to step on the replica of the round carpet that has been on display in the room during Post's residency starting in 1961.

[Click here to read Associate Curator of Textiles, Apparel, Jewelry and Accessories Megan Martinelli's article from earlier this year to learn more about this exciting project and view the archival photographs used to uncover Marjorie Post's vision for the space.](#)



*View of foyer (with carpet also!) looking into the Russian porcelain room and featuring 42.5, the first carpet acquired by Post for this space, 1960. Hillwood Archives & Special Collections.*

---

### Russian Sacred Arts Gallery Closure

As planned, the Russian Sacred Arts Gallery closed for de-installation on Monday, December 4. Some of the icons and censers will be re-installed in the Icon Room on Monday, December 11. The refreshed gallery space will reopen in late March 2024 with a new name, *Second Floor Gallery: Understanding Post's Legacy*, with new displays and a new storyline. [Learn more about the updated second floor gallery in this article from last month by Deputy Director and Chief Curator Wilfried Zeisler.](#)



*Nupital crown (17.63)*

---

## MEET HILLWOOD'S 2023 ARTIST IN RESIDENCE AND INTERNATIONAL INTERN

During the summer of 2023, two special guests spent time working with and learning from the Collections and Curatorial teams at Hillwood.

Learn more about MK Bailey and Raphaël Gravilenko's time at Hillwood as an artist in residence and an international intern respectively.



*MK Bailey (left) offered time during her residency to work with Hillwood's high school interns.*

---

## HILLWOOD'S HOURS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

### Holiday Hours in December

Hillwood will close to the public at 3 p.m. on Christmas Eve (Sunday, December 24). The museum will re-open Tuesday, December 26 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Mark Your Calendars: January 2024 Closure

Hillwood will be open Tuesday, January 2 through Sunday, January 14, 2024. The museum will close to the public from Monday, January 15 to Friday, February 2 for a deep-clean of the mansion and to update our exhibition spaces. Hillwood will re-open to the public on Saturday, February 3.

---

## VOLUNTEER DECEMBER DISCOUNTS

### Membership Discount

As a thank you for your dedicated service, all Hillwood volunteers may enjoy a 25% discount on Individual through Donor level memberships in the month of December. Please note that this discount applies only to new and upgraded memberships or memberships intended as gifts for friends or family. Volunteers renewing their current level of membership do not receive a discount.

To apply this discount to become a new member, to upgrade your current membership to a new level, or to gift a membership, please complete and return the [membership form](#) by December 31. You can also call the Hillwood Membership number at 202.243.3939, or use the instructions on the form to mail it back to Hillwood.

---

### Museum Shop Discount

It's time to show our volunteers some love! Get 30% off non clearance items in store or online from December 3-17. Don't miss out on this special appreciation discount! Come visit in person or [shop conveniently from your own home](#), with shipping or in-store pickup available!

In addition to the discount running from December 3-17, Hillwood will host two special Mondays in the museum shop for volunteers and staff only shopping. Come visit to get exclusive access to the shop, use your extra discount, and enjoy light refreshments on **Monday, December 11** and **Monday, December 18** from **11 a.m.-4 p.m.**

---

## MERRIWEATHER CAFÉ

Hillwood is thrilled to announce that we have shifted Merriweather café's reservation system from Restaurant Connect to Resy! Visitors can find us [here](#), and the Resy widget is also available on the [Merriweather café page](#) of our website. We hope this will make reservations easier and more seamless for our visitors.

---

## HORTICULTURE HAPPENINGS

### *Holiday 2023: Making Spirits Bright*

The Horticulture team did an amazing job bringing the holiday spirit to Hillwood this season. Five trees, four in the mansion and one in the visitor center, all pulled inspiration from the current exhibition *Glass: Art. Beauty. Design.*

Learn more about the holiday decorating creative process that is led by Ami Wilber, floral and event décor designer, and how each tree brilliantly references the magnificent works by the contemporary artists in the exhibition.



*Dining Room Tree, inspired by Fred Wilson and Beth Lipman*

---

### **End of Season for Outdoor Garden Support and Cutting Garden Volunteers**

The last day for outdoor garden support volunteers and cutting garden volunteers this season was Friday, December 8. Thank you to all outdoor volunteers for another successful season outside in the gardens. We couldn't do it without you! Enjoy your winter's rest and we look forward to seeing you back in the gardens next spring!



*Outdoor woodland stewardship volunteers removing invasive ivy*

When weather allows, the outdoor woodland stewardship volunteer role will continue to remain active over the winter months. This group meets once or twice a week focusing on the removal of invasive plants (mostly English ivy) from Hillwood's natural lands. All volunteers are invited to join the group.



Please reach out to Drew Asbury, horticulturist and volunteer manager, at [dasbury@hillwoodmuseum.org](mailto:dasbury@hillwoodmuseum.org) for more information. Orchid, greenhouse, and floral volunteer roles will also continue to remain active in the horticulture department through the winter months.

---

### In the Gardens

Winter is just around the corner and the gardens seem to have noticed! Please enjoy a few recent photos of the gardens captured by Drew Asbury, horticulturist and volunteer manager.



*Ginkgo leaves*

---

## UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for the upcoming volunteer programs.

### Volunteer Business Meeting

**Wednesday, January 31, 2024 (10 a.m.)**

Hillwood's annual Volunteer Business Meeting will be offered virtually via Zoom on Wednesday, January 31, 2024 (10 a.m.). The meeting will provide volunteers with the opportunity to learn about Hillwood's strategic plan, important updates, and major projects for the year ahead. The meeting is scheduled to run about 1 hour and 20 minutes and will include time for volunteers to submit questions via the Q&A feature.

All volunteers are encouraged to attend, and no advance registration is needed. A Zoom link with the meeting instructions will be emailed closer to the program date. The business meeting will be recorded and the video link s

---

### Upcoming Horticulture Events

All volunteers are cordially invited to attend two mornings of garden-inspired talks hosted by the horticulture department. Both programs will be held in-person this year in the visitor center. Light refreshments will be served. [Click here for more details including the lineup of speakers.](#)

- **Green Day of Horticulture** | Monday, February 5, 2024, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
  - **Day of Horticulture** | Monday, March 4, 2024, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
-

## IN MEMORIAM: GALE DUGAN

We regret to inform you of the passing of Hillwood volunteer Gale Dugan. She peacefully passed away at her home on December 4, 2023.

Gale had been a cherished member of our mansion docent cohort for seventeen years, starting in 2000. Throughout her time at Hillwood, she exhibited grace, generosity, and a willingness to assist whenever needed. Gale was known for her dedication to our visitors, often going above and beyond to ensure their satisfaction. In 2017, she transitioned to the emeritus program, remaining actively involved through lectures and volunteer events.

We will always remember Gale for her kind and calm demeanor, as well as her remarkable spirit and enthusiasm for Hillwood and her fellow volunteers. Her absence will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of working with her.

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



*Longtime Hillwood volunteer Gale Dugan*

---

## 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

Jordan Hansen, Lisa Leyh, Drew Asbury, and Samantha Hernandez

---

### PLAN YOUR VISIT

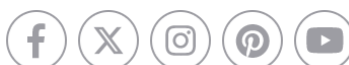
Learn more about Hillwood's current visitor offerings, book an upcoming visit, and stay up-to-date on Hillwood's events and programs.

[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 >](#)



[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)