



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

MARCH 2024 SCHEDULE

The March 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. Thank you.

[Log into Volgistics](#)

VOLUNTEER LOUNGE UPDATE

We are getting closer to opening the new volunteer lounge in the Butler's House! While we initially anticipated a move-in date close to our reopening, we have adjusted our plans to a spring move.

Volunteers will use the existing volunteer lounge in the mansion until further notice.

Please note that the transition to the new lounge in the Butler's House is currently underway. As part of this transition, the volunteer resource library has been relocated to the new lounge. If you would like to access any books from the catalog, please reach out to Jordan Hansen at volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org for further assistance. In the interim, a selection of Hillwood publications are available in the mansion volunteer lounge for your reference.

We are excited to welcome volunteers into the updated space in the Butler's House, which will be more accessible and inclusive for all. We appreciate your patience and support as we prepare these new spaces and embark on an exciting new phase for Hillwood. Stay tuned for future communication from the volunteer management team, as we will provide you with the exact spring move-in date.

2024 GUEST PASSES

The 2024 guest passes were mailed out to all volunteers on Monday, January 29. We hope you and your guests enjoy Hillwood throughout this year. Please contact Jordan Hansen at volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org if you have not yet received your guest passes in the mail.



Volunteer guest passes were mailed to volunteers on January 29

VOLUNTEER BUSINESS MEETING

Thank you for joining us on January 31 for the Virtual Volunteer Business Meeting. A wealth of information was provided during the meeting. The [video of the Volunteer Business Meeting](#) is now available on Hillwood's volunteer website on the "2024 Lecture Videos" page. During the one-hour and 20-minute Zoom webinar, Hillwood's senior management team presented their department's 2024 goals and projects as they relate to Hillwood's strategic plan. The meeting concluded with an engaging and informative Q&A session. We strongly recommend those who could not attend the virtual meeting live watch the recording.

VISITOR CENTER RESTROOM PROJECT

Please excuse our appearance as we refresh our restroom facilities in the visitor center. This renovation is projected to be completed in the spring. In anticipation of upcoming high visitation days, we have added temporary restroom facilities just outside the front door, on the parking deck. These temporary restrooms will be on site from Hillwood's reopening on February 3 through at least February 14, at which point they may or may not remain. Restrooms are also available in the horticulture offices, located to the right upon leaving the building. We are excited to refresh the restrooms in the visitor center, which will serve as a fabulous upgrade to the facilities and is also necessary in keeping with Hillwood's mission to be welcoming for all.

MANSION AND EXHIBITION UPDATES

Marjorie Merriweather Post's Paris

Travel to France with Marjorie Merriweather Post in this upcoming exhibition in the dacha, on display from Saturday, February 17 through Sunday, June 16. Hillwood founder Marjorie Merriweather Post was a dedicated Francophile, passionate about French culture, design, and artistry. A regular in Paris, she patronized iconic hotels; attended the theater, opera, and social events; and frequented art galleries, antique shops, haute couturiers, and luxury department stores. As with all aspects of her life, Post's time in Paris was characterized by her signature style and grace. Experience the City of Light through Post's eyes.



New exhibition opening in the dacha on Saturday, February 17

Volunteer Education

- **Exhibition Label Text** | Enjoy reading the [exhibition label text](#) and general mansion rotation [information](#). Be sure to consult the [Marjorie Merriweather Post's Paris Exhibition Information page](#) for existing and forthcoming materials. We will send out email notifications with any future updates to the page.
- **Virtual Volunteer Lecture** | Join Megan Martinelli, associate curator of textiles, apparel, jewelry, and accessories, for a virtual volunteer lecture on **Wednesday, February 21 at 6 p.m.** The virtual lecture will provide an overview of the new exhibition *Marjorie Merriweather Post's Paris*. A Zoom link with the meeting instructions will be emailed closer to the program date.

Exhibition Opening Celebration and Member Programs

Leading up to the opening day, Hillwood welcomes members for early access to the exhibition:

- [A Night in Paris, 2024 Valentine's Day Celebration](#) (sold out)
Wednesday, February 14 (7-10 p.m.)
- [Member Preview Days | Marjorie Merriweather Post's Paris](#)
Thursday, February 15 & Friday, February 16 (10-5 p.m.)

Mansion Display Updates & Room Closures

- Stop by the mansion entry hall to check out our new display: Deconstructing Riesener. This interactive experience allows viewers to disassemble both of the commodes on view through interactive animations. [Click here to learn more about the Riesener Project.](#)
- The massage room is currently closed to the public. Volunteers will be notified when it is reopened. We appreciate your flexibility during this time.

- Enjoy reading about [the new installations in the first floor library and other mansion changes here](#).
- In preparation for [Marjorie Merriweather Post's Paris](#) and the refreshed second floor gallery space that will reopen in late March 2024 with a new name, *Second Floor Gallery: Understanding Post's Legacy*, there were numerous mansion display changes in late 2023. To catch up with these mansion display updates, [please check out this post on the volunteer website](#).

2024-2027 Exhibition Calendar

To aid volunteers in promoting Hillwood, please reference our new document [2024-2027 Exhibition Calendar](#) for an overview of upcoming exhibitions, descriptions, and display dates. This offers a sneak peek into what Hillwood has planned for the next couple of years. Current and upcoming exhibitions are posted on Hillwood's website about one year in advance. We hope you are as excited as we are for Hillwood's upcoming shows.



Fragile Beauty: Art of the Ocean will open in the Adirondack building on Saturday, June 8, 2024

MUSEUM SHOP NEWS

Experience the elegance and sophistication of Paris with the [Marjorie Post in Paris Tote](#). Made from high-quality vinyl, this tote is perfect for all your daily essentials. Whether you're strolling through the streets or heading to a meeting, this tote is sure to make a statement.

As part of our commitment to uplifting Black voices, Hillwood's museum shop is showcasing innovative pieces by [Black artists and creators](#) all month long. Experience the vibrant flavors of the new [Ruby Marguerite Rooibos Tea](#), blended exclusively for the shop by local Black-owned [Blue's Tea and Coffee](#). Don't miss out on the dynamic wall art by Cheryl and Don Olney and the award-winning interactive, screen free toys by Up-bounders inspired by the joyfully diverse world of today's kids. Celebrate Black history with us!



*Experience the elegance and sophistication of Paris with the
Marjorie Post in Paris Tote*

Also, be sure to check out the Hillwood museum shop both [online](#) and in-store for companion books to the lectures in the [Great Homes and Gardens series](#). The upcoming authors are sure to delight, so don't miss out on further insight into their talks by purchasing their publications. Can't visit in person? [Shop conveniently from your own home with your volunteer discount](#), with shipping or in-store pickup available!

BUCOLIA - MK BAILEY'S EXHIBITION AT TRANSFORMER

MK Bailey's exhibition BUCOLIA is opening at Transformer following her time as Hillwood's Artist-in-Residence during the summer of 2023. Bailey, a Washington D.C. based artist, spent six weeks at Hillwood last summer as part of Hillwood's Liana Paredes Fellowship Program. This residency was developed in partnership with Transformer, a Washington D.C. gallery and visual arts organization focused on promoting and supporting emerging artists.

Following her time at Hillwood, MK created several artworks that will be featured in her new exhibition, *BUCOLIA*. This exhibition, "an immersive examination of The Garden as a site of both immense beauty and tragedy" will be on view at Transformer from February 3-March 16, 2024.



MK Bailey, Tulip Fever Dream, 2023

To learn more about Transformer and this exhibition, [please visit their website](#). Stay connected with them on [Instagram @transformerdc](#). To learn more about MK Bailey's time at Hillwood, [please read our December 2023 article here](#).

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Hillwood is surveying its members, specifically members who contribute at the individual through donor level. Thank you to those who have already completed the survey. We also invite our dedicated volunteers and members who understand Hillwood well to participate and share their honest feedback. We highly value your feedback, as it helps us to understand member satisfaction and identify areas for improvement.

[You can take the survey by clicking here](#). The survey is designed to be brief and will only take 1-2 minutes of your time. Your participation in this survey is a vital tool in shaping the future of our membership program.

If you have questions about the survey, please contact Rebecca Raia, membership manager, at 202.243.3910 or rriaia@hillwoodmuseum.org.

LECTURE RECORDINGS NOW AVAILABLE

We have had an exciting start to 2024, kicking the new year off with volunteer education programs such as garden lectures and the volunteer business meeting. If you were unable to attend a program, check out our [2024 Lecture Page](#) to catch up with the recordings:

- [A Garden for All Seasons and Sustainable Practices in the Gardens](#) presented by Kate Markert and Jessica Bonilla (January 16, 2024)
- [Volunteer Business Meeting](#) presented by Senior Management Team (January 31, 2024)
- [Green Day of Horticulture | Big Year of Birding](#) presented by Sam Krause (February 5, 2024)

- [Green Day of Horticulture | Reevaluating Weeds and Flowering Cherries in Japan](#) presented by Matt Boyle and Michael Rollinson (February 5, 2024)
 - [Green Day of Horticulture | Planting for Seasonal Interest Using Native Plants](#) presented by Drew Asbury (February 5, 2024)
 - [Garden Sculptures](#) presented by Kate Markert (February 7, 2024)
 - [Motor Court](#) presented by Sarah Bass (February 2024, prerecorded lecture)
 - [French Parterre](#) presented by Sarah Bass (February 2024, prerecorded lecture)
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2024 GARDEN DOCENT TRAINING

This past month has been full of wonderful lectures and class material for our new garden docents-in-training. For those interested, the resources and readings for each class are available on the volunteer website on the [2024 Garden Docent Training page](#). The content is organized by class topics, with the list beginning with the first class in the program. To access the readings for each class, click on the desired class topics to expand the page for a complete list of required reading.

[Click here to view the list of Zoom lectures and pre-recording lectures available to volunteers.](#)

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for these upcoming volunteer educational sessions. The below sessions will be recorded, and the video links will be shared via email and posted on the volunteer website:

Virtual Volunteer Lecture: *Marjorie Merriweather Post's Paris*

Wednesday, February 21 (6 p.m.)

Join Megan Martinelli, associate curator of textiles, apparel, jewelry, and accessories, for a virtual volunteer lecture providing an overview of the new exhibition *Marjorie Merriweather Post's Paris*. A Zoom link with the meeting instructions will be emailed closer to the program date.

Day of Horticulture

Monday, March 4 (10 a.m.-1 p.m.)

All volunteers are cordially invited to attend a morning of garden-inspired talks hosted by the horticulture department. This program 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.](#)

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

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

PLAN YOUR VISIT

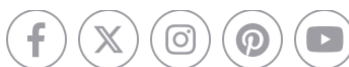
Learn more about Hillwood's current visitor offerings, book an upcoming visit, and stay up-to-date on Hillwood's events and programs.

[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 >](#)



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