



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

MAY 2024 SCHEDULE

The May 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](#)

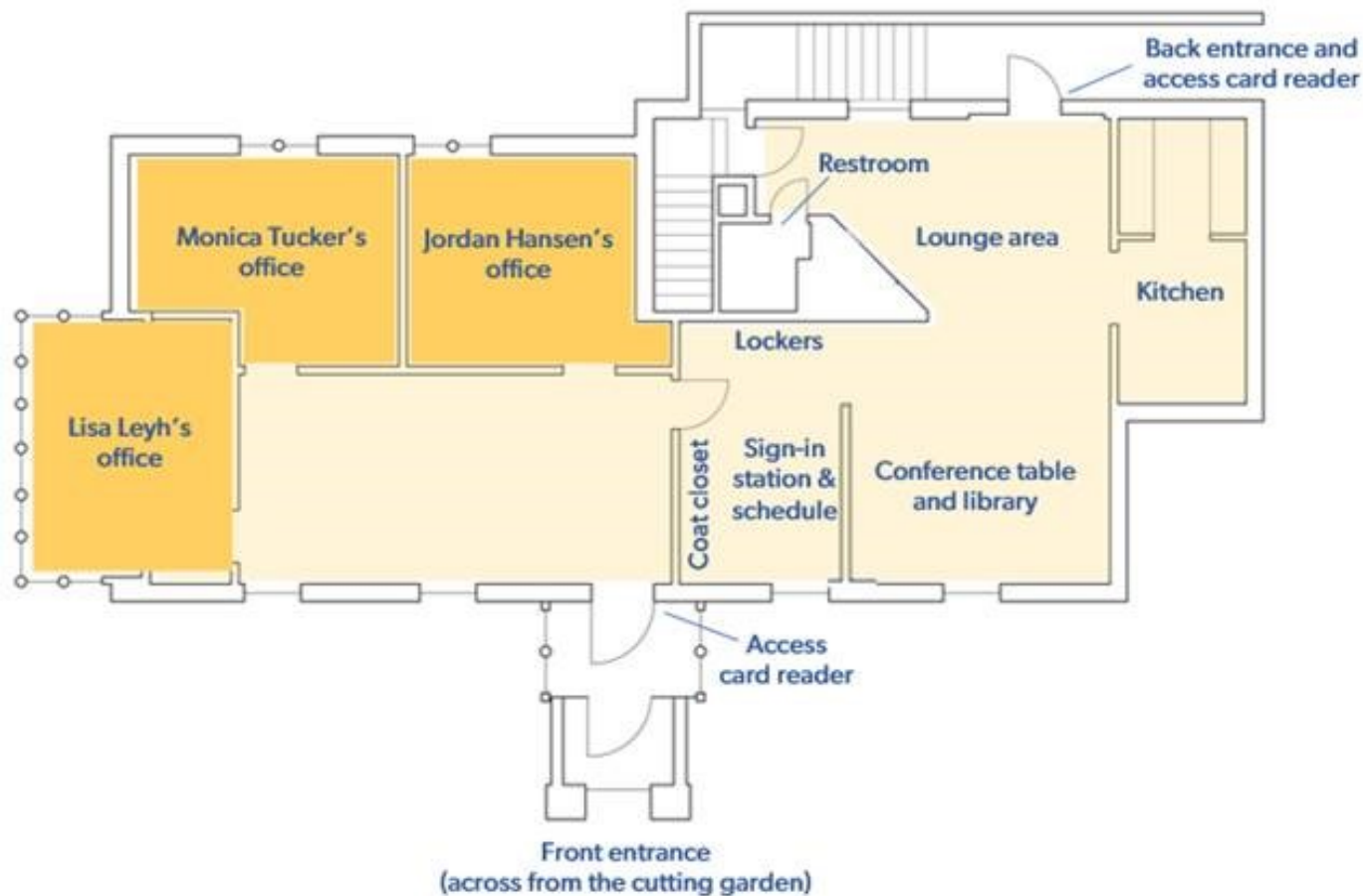
SAVE THE DATE: VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

Join your fellow volunteers and Hillwood staff for a spring reception in your honor on **Monday, May 20 from 5-7 p.m.** The event will take place in-person under the C.W. Post center tent. An online invitation will be emailed in April. We eagerly look forward to gathering together and celebrating your collective contributions to Hillwood.

VOLUNTEER LOUNGE IN THE BUTLER'S HOUSE: OPEN ON APRIL 16

We are thrilled to announce the highly anticipated opening of our new volunteer lounge on Tuesday, April 16 in the Butler's House. Our team has worked tirelessly to create a comfortable and cozy oasis for our dedicated volunteers, and we are eager to share the new space with you. The new volunteer lounge, located in the Butler's House near the cutting garden, is easily accessible from various parts of campus, including the mansion, visitor center, Merriweather café, and more. It serves as a central hub for all volunteers to reconnect with one another, recharge during breaks, and access valuable resources.

For more information on accessing the new volunteer lounge, including where to pick up your access card for the Butler's House, please refer to the Volunteer Lounge post on the volunteer website.



Layout of the new volunteer lounge in the Bulter's House

SECOND FLOOR GALLERY: UNDERSTANDING POST'S LEGACY

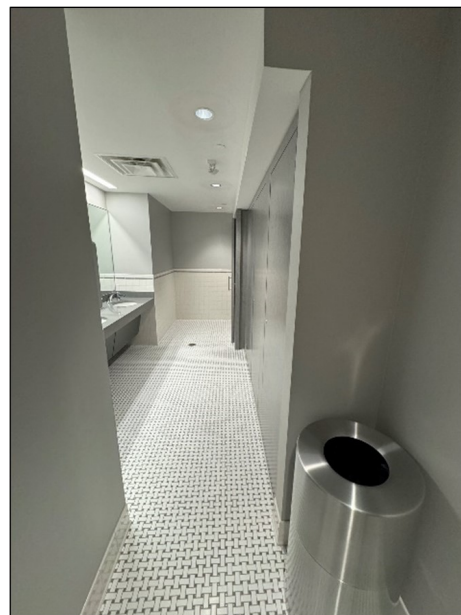
After the recent closure of the Russian Sacred Arts Gallery, Hillwood refreshed the second floor gallery space. The gallery features new displays and a new storyline inspired by Hillwood's new publication, *The Houses and Collections of Marjorie Merriweather Post: The Joy of It*. Now open to the public, [Second Floor Gallery: Understanding Post's Legacy](#) explores the history of Hillwood's collection amassed by founder Marjorie Post and developed by the museum since its opening to the public on July 11, 1977. Please see the volunteer website for educational resources related to the refreshed gallery on the [Second Floor Gallery: Understanding Post's Legacy Information](#) page.



The Second Floor Gallery is now open to the public.

VISITOR CENTER RESTROOM PROJECT NOW COMPLETE

Just in time for spring, we are pleased to share the completion of the visitor center restroom renovation! These restrooms were largely unchanged since the visitor center was built 24 years ago and are used by many of our visitors, volunteers, and staff every day. Demolition began on January 16, 2024 and the construction was completed at the end of March. With our busiest season of the year upon us, it is wonderful to have two single-use restrooms and a women's restroom back open for all. [To find out more about the upgrades associated with our visitor center restroom refresh, check out this article](#) from Edward Vreeland, director of operations and technology.



The upgrade features floor-to-ceiling stalls and a refreshed look.

“PORTER LE CHAPEAU:” CELEBRATING FRENCH MILLINERS IN HILLWOOD’S COLLECTION: MADAME GEORGETTE

Please enjoy associate curator of textiles, apparel, jewelry and accessories Megan Martinelli’s companion article to a [previously published newsletter piece](#) exploring Parisian hats featured in Hillwood’s current special exhibition, *Marjorie Merriweather Post’s Paris*. This edition discusses a second, lesser-known millinery firm, [Madame Georgette](#) who is especially known for her dramatic picture hats of the 1900s-1910s, and the importance of the artificial flower and military trimmings industry.



Hat, Madame Georgette (French, active 1900–1940), Paris, 1910, oxidized lace, ostrich feathers, silk velvet ribbon, taffeta flowers, (2012.9.6). Image by Mark Finkenstaedt.

MUSEUM SHOP NEWS

Spring has Sprung in the Museum Shop!

Whether visiting in person, or [shopping conveniently from your own home with your volunteer discount](#) (shipping or in-store pickup available), don't miss these items!

- With orchids in full bloom, take a look at our latest exclusive products featuring our larger 15-ounce mugs, stickers, and magnets.
- Spruce up your wardrobe with beautiful products from the Powder line. A fun new toile print, puff sleeve jacket, pictured here, is great for spring. This three-button jacket is great over a casual outfit or for those cool nights over a cute sundress to add a pop of color. It comes in three colors of denim, olive, and coral. Matching bags are also available!
- Check out some great [gardening books](#) in our bookroom and online.



Museum shop's new toile print puff sleeve jacket.

Mark Your Calendars: Alice Woods Pop-up Shop

Mark your calendars for May 2 and 3, when [Alice Woods](#) will be having an exclusive pop-up shop at Hillwood. Stop by the visitor center conservatory to browse and purchase a beautiful selection of jewelry, scarves, and hats, guaranteed to complement any outfit.



ABW Designs is a refined costume jewelry company intended for sophisticated women interested in updated classic design.

Summer Rayne Oakes, an environmental activist behind the YouTube channels Flock and Plant One On Me, recently visited Hillwood to feature the greenhouse and gardens. The first video, a tour of the Japanese-style garden, went live on March 26. [You can check out the video here](#). Thank you to Jessica Bonilla for serving as our on-camera talent!

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for these upcoming volunteer educational sessions:

Volunteer Woodland Path Tour

April 23, 24, 25, 26 (Tuesday-Friday), 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Enjoy the beauty of Hillwood in the spring and join Marshall Paquin, senior gardener section manager, for a garden stroll and discussion of plants found along the woodland path. Tours will depart from the cold frames. Group size is limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [April 23 Volunteer Woodland Path Tour](#)
 - [April 24 Volunteer Woodland Path Tour](#)
 - [April 25 Volunteer Woodland Path Tour](#)
 - [April 26 Volunteer Woodland Path Tour](#)
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Spring Floral Workshop

May 17 (Friday), 10:15 a.m.

Join Andrew Bedenbaugh, orchid and tropical specialist, for an entertaining and informative tour of Hillwood's orchid collection. Group size is limited to 15 volunteers. The tour will depart from the horticulture breakroom. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [May 17 Volunteer Spring Floral Workshop](#)
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Volunteer Garden Tour and Plant ID Walk

May 21, 22, 23, 24 (Tuesday- Friday), 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Join section gardener Kevin Beamer on a garden tour and plant ID walk as he highlights plants that beautify the late-spring season. Tours will depart from the cold frames near the greenhouse at 10:15 a.m. Group size limited to 15 volunteers per tour. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [May 21 Volunteer Garden Tour](#)
 - [May 22 Volunteer Garden Tour](#)
 - [May 23 Volunteer Garden Tour](#)
 - [May 24 Volunteer Garden Tour](#)
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LECTURE RECORDINGS NOW AVAILABLE

Volunteer Program Recordings

Our robust lineup of volunteer lectures and programs has continued into this early spring season. If you were unable to attend a program, check out our [2024 Lecture Videos Page](#) to catch up with the recordings. The following recordings were recently added:

- [Volunteer Lecture: *Second Floor Gallery: Understanding Post's Legacy*](#) | Presented by Wilfried Zeisler (April 1, 2024)
- [Cutting Garden](#) | Presented by Drew Asbury (March 2024, prerecorded lecture)
- [Orchids](#) | Presented by Andrew Bedenbaugh (March 2024, prerecorded lecture)
- [Floral Design](#) | Presented by Ami Wilber (March 2024, prerecorded lecture)
- [Seasonal Plantings](#) | Presented by Jessica Bonilla (March 2024, prerecorded lecture)
- [2023 Review and 2024 Preview with Jessica Bonilla](#) (Day of Horticulture, March 11, 2024)
- ['Bonsai' with Jarett Currin and 'Houseplants' with Matthew Leach](#) (Day of Horticulture, March 11, 2024)
- [Motor Court, French Parterre, Rose Garden with Sarah Bass](#) (Day of Horticulture, March 11, 2024)

Public Programs Recordings

Please note that the 2024 Lecture Videos page on the volunteer website now has a link to [Hillwood's YouTube Library](#). In lieu of adding duplicate videos to the volunteer website, we hope you enjoy watching public programs, such as lectures and workshops, on Hillwood's YouTube channel. The [2024 Lecture Videos Page](#) will archive recordings that are exclusively available to Hillwood volunteers.

Garden Docent Training Resources

These last two months have 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](#).

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.

-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 >](#)

HILLWOOD

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