

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

NOVEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

The November 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](#)

GARDEN UPDATE

This month has been quite eventful for the horticulture department and Hillwood in general. Unfortunately, the American elm outside the French parterre fell on Saturday, September 28. Thankfully, no one was hurt and the statuary was unharmed.

In other news, many horticulture volunteers attended the HCGWA annual appreciation event at Brookside Gardens. The fall seasonal display installation was also recently completed. Finally, with autumn upon us, consider leaving your leaves and stems through the winter to maximize your garden's ecological potential. [Click here to learn more from Director of Horticulture Jessica Bonilla.](#)



American elm outside of the French parterre.

EXPLORING SELECT OBJECTS WITH POLISH ORIGINS IN HILLWOOD'S COLLECTION

Deputy Director and Chief Curator Wilfried Zeisler recently traveled to Poland, visiting numerous museums and castles that provided further insights into Hillwood's collection. Marjorie Merriweather Post visited Poland twice in 1937 and 1938, before the country was ravaged by the Second World War. Through her European travels and connections, Post acquired several objects with Polish origins. [Learn more in Wilfried's article which explores some of the objects in our collection that speak to the history of Poland from the mid-1700s to the early 1900s.](#)



Goblet, Poland, 1830—31, glass (23.231).

MONUMENT AND PORPHYRY URN IN THE ROSE GARDEN

Hillwood's collections staff recently observed a black discharge coming from the porphyry urn, which has caused staining on the monument. To prevent further damage, the porphyry urn has been temporarily removed. The collections team is currently assessing the stains on the monument and will determine the best course of action for cleaning, which may involve consultation with an outdoor sculpture conservator. We'll keep volunteers updated on the progress, including when the monument cleaning will take place. A big thank you to the collections staff for their swift action in protecting the garden's treasured pieces. And thank you to all of you for your flexibility as we address these repairs.

FALL GARDEN DOCENT GATHERING RECAP

Despite some gray skies and a fallen elm, Hillwood successfully hosted 23 docents at the Fall Garden Docent Gathering on Monday, September 30, from 1-2:30 p.m. This event provided garden docents with the opportunity to explore the garden rooms alongside our horticulture staff, focusing on the fall plantings and recent updates to the gardens. It was a wonderful occasion for both veteran and new docents to reconnect after the summer break.



Garden docents gathered by the putting green to hear from Jessica Bonilla.

A special thank you to our horticulture staff—Jessica Bonilla, Sarah Bass, Kevin Beamer, Michael Rollinson, and Drew Asbury—for their invaluable assistance in making this program a success. The afternoon proved to be both educational and enjoyable for our dedicated garden docents.

HILLWOOD IN THE NEWS

The Financial Times recently ranked Hillwood #85 in their list of the top 100 house museums in the world! [For their review of Hillwood, including remarks from Deputy Director and Chief Curator Wilfried Zeisler, please click here.](#)

VOLUNTEER UPDATES

Thank you for your ongoing support as we transition into the bustling fall season! We kicked off autumn with some exciting updates and changes, which were communicated in our email to all volunteers on September 23. To revisit these updates, please check the links below for more information:

- [Updated Videography Policy and Gathering Volunteer Feedback](#)
- [On-Station Pilot Program Update](#)
- [Mansion Display Changes](#)

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for these upcoming volunteer educational sessions:

Volunteer Tour: Specialty Chrysanthemums

October 22, 23, 24, 25 (Tuesday- Friday), 10:15 a.m.

Join Greenhouse Grower Jarett Currin on a greenhouse tour and marvel at the fascinating diversity of chrysanthemums. Tours will depart from the horticulture breakroom at 10:15 a.m. Group size limited to 15 volunteers. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [October 22 Volunteer Chrysanthemum Tour](#)
- [October 23 Volunteer Chrysanthemum Tour](#)
- [October 24 Volunteer Chrysanthemum Tour](#)
- [October 25 Volunteer Chrysanthemum Tour](#)

Volunteer Tour: Natives with Great Fall Color

November 5, 6, 7, 8 (Tuesday-Friday) 10:15 a.m.

Join Drew Asbury, horticulturist and volunteer manager, for a tour of the gardens as he highlights native plants that beautify the fall season. 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:

- [November 5 Volunteer Fall Color Garden Tour](#)
- [November 6 Volunteer Fall Color Garden Tour](#)
- [November 7 Volunteer Fall Color Garden Tour](#)
- [November 8 Volunteer Fall Color Garden Tour](#)

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM RECORDINGS

Don't miss out on our robust lineup of volunteer lectures and programs of 2024! If you were unable to attend a virtual volunteer program, check out our [2024 Lecture Videos Page](#) to catch up with the 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.

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 >](#)

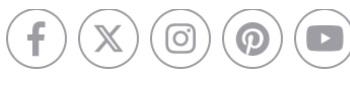
STAY CONNECTED

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

[Connect >](#)

HILLWOOD

ESTATE, MUSEUM & GARDENS



[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