

Hillwood Volunteer Program

APRIL 2025 SCHEDULE

The April 2025 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](#)

CONGRATULATIONS MATTHEW BOYLE, GARDEN SECTION AND VOLUNTEER MANAGER

The horticulture staff is happy to announce the promotion of Matthew Boyle to the position of Garden Section and Volunteer Manager. Matt started at Hillwood as a gardener in 2017, growing his responsibilities over time by leading the outdoor garden support volunteers and managing the Collections and Research Center native garden, among other duties. He is well known for starting our worm composting program and for his knowledge on soils. In this new role, he will oversee all the horticulture volunteers and switch his garden focus to the cutting garden. Horticulture volunteers are encouraged to reach out to Matt with any questions and he will be the main horticulture volunteer contact moving forward. We are excited for him to be in this new capacity and look forward to his continued success. He can be reached at mboyle@hillwoodmuseum.org.



Matt Boyle, garden section and volunteer manager.

SAVE THE DATE: VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

We can't wait to celebrate you! Join fellow volunteers and Hillwood staff for a special spring reception in your honor on **Monday, May 19 from 5-7 p.m.** The event will take place in-person under the C.W. Post Center tent. Keep an eye on your inbox for an online invite coming your way in April. We eagerly look forward to gathering together to celebrate your collective contributions to Hillwood!

COME SAIL AWAY, 2025 VALENTINE'S EVENT

This year's *Come Sail Away* made waves, setting a new record for our highest-ever fundraising total for the Valentine's event. [Click here to view beautiful photographs of the evening and to learn more about the event's offerings and successes from Special Events Manager Amy Hill.](#)

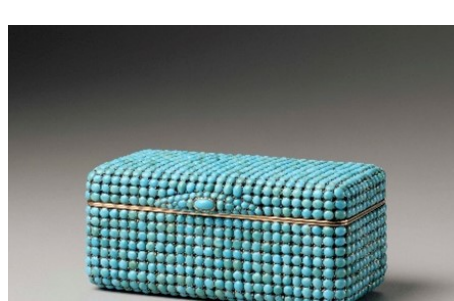
We hope you all have a chance to enjoy Hillwood's special exhibition, *Setting Sail: The Story of the Sea Cloud*, on view in the dacha until June 15.



Thomas Wu, assistant curator of European decorative arts, on-station in the dacha.

A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS

The Collections, Curatorial and Archives and Special Collections Division has put together a sampling of some of their favorite objects. [Click here to see their selected favorites and read how each object holds a personal interest and meaning, as the team has varying backgrounds and areas of expertise.](#) We'd love to hear what your favorite object is!



Hillwood's Turquoise Box (acc. 11.104) is among the favorite objects of our Collections and Curatorial team!

ORCHID MONTH

Orchid month is here! The entrance house display has a great variety of flowers on view. The display is representative of some of the major orchid groups in the collection. [Click here to go a little deeper on the flowers that you will see on your next visit to the greenhouse in this article by Jessica Bonilla, director of horticulture.](#)



Cattleya blooming in the greenhouse display.

VOLUNTEER NEWS & REMINDERS

We have had a robust lineup of volunteer exclusive programs so far this year! We hope you have enjoyed our latest continuing education offerings, by attending live or viewing the recordings. Read on for the latest updates, as well as reminders for what is ahead:

- **2025 Lecture Videos** | The "2025 Lecture Videos" page is now updated with recordings from recent volunteer education programs. Visit to learn from the garden talks that were part of the March 3 Day of Horticulture program and the Setting Sail volunteer lecture.
- **Training Hours: Volunteer Business Meeting & Feb 18 Lecture** | Please note that Volunteer Management has posted training hours for volunteers who attended the Virtual Volunteer Business Meeting on January 29 and the February 18 Virtual Volunteer Lecture live on Zoom. If you attended the meeting and/or lecture on Zoom and do not see the training hours posted to your Volgistics service log for those dates, please reach out to us at volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org.

If you watch any recordings of the volunteer education sessions, please remember to log your time in Volgistics. On the Service page, select the date, enter the hours spent watching, and choose "Training" as the assignment. For detailed instructions, refer to the [Volgistics User Guide](#).

- **New Volunteer Website Page: Exhibition Resources & Mansion Display Updates** | To help keep exhibition information and mansion display changes organized this year, we've added a new page to the volunteer website: "2025 Exhibitions & Mansion Display Updates." You can now find the *Setting Sail: The Story of Sea Cloud* exhibition label text and a recording of the February 18 lecture on this page. We'll continue updating this page with any changes to mansion displays while also keeping volunteers informed via email.

- **2025 Spring Garden Tours** | We look forward to the return of our garden docents next month! The 2025 Spring Garden Touring season will begin on Tuesday, April 1 and end on Sunday, June 29. Garden tours will be offered at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Hillwood will continue to offer a third garden tour on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays in 2025: at 2:30 p.m. in April, and 1:30 p.m. in May and June, adjusted earlier to avoid the high temperatures that peak in the late afternoon during those months.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for these upcoming volunteer educational sessions:

Volunteer Orchid Month Tour

April 1, 2, 3, 4 (Tuesday-Friday), 10:15-10:45 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:

- [April 1 Volunteer Orchid Tour](#)
- [April 2 Volunteer Orchid Tour](#)
- [April 3 Volunteer Orchid Tour](#)
- [April 4 Volunteer Orchid Tour](#)

Volunteer Orchid Repotting Workshop

April 2 (Wednesday), 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

In this hands-on workshop, volunteers may bring up to 3 orchids from home and repot them under the guidance of Andrew Bedenbaugh, Hillwood's orchid and tropical specialist. Green plastic pots and fresh soil media will be provided or you can bring decorative pots from home. The workshop will take place in the greenhouse potting room and the group size is limited to 8 volunteers. Please use the link below to reserve a spot:

- [April 2 Volunteer Repotting Workshop](#)

Volunteer Tour: Native Garden

April 15, 16, 17, 18 (Tuesday-Friday), 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Join Garden Section and Volunteer Manager Matt Boyle for a tour of the gardens as he highlights native plants that beautify the spring season. The tour will depart from the cold frames near the greenhouse at 10:15 a.m. Group size is limited to 15 volunteers. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [April 15 Native Garden Tour](#)
- [April 16 Native Garden Tour](#)
- [April 17 Native Garden Tour](#)
- [April 18 Native Garden Tour](#)

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

Erin Allen, Jordan Hansen, Lisa Leyh, Matt Boyle, and Samantha Hernandez

HILLWOOD'S WEBSITE

Stay engaged with all things Hillwood at our website by exploring the collection database, finding out what's in bloom, and registering for programs. Learn more about current visitor offerings and booking your next visit on our [Plan Your Visit page](#).

[Explore >](#)

VOLUNTEER WEBSITE

Catch up on past volunteer communications, newsletters, recorded volunteer programs, and updated guidelines by consulting the volunteer website. Continue your Hillwood learning journey by exploring the robust collection of educational resources available to all volunteers.

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