

Hillwood Volunteer Program

MAY 2025 SCHEDULE

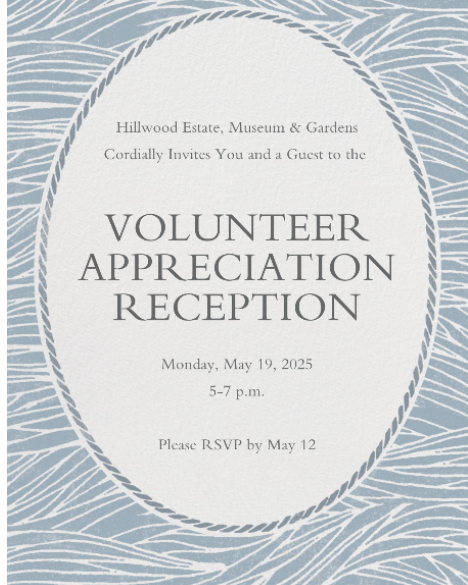
The May 2025 schedule is now open to all interpretation volunteers in Volgistics, complete with private tours and special events. Please log in to your [Volgistics account](#) to schedule your shifts. If you have any changes or questions regarding the volunteer schedule, please continue to contact volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org or 202.686.8528. Thank you.

[Log into Volgistics](#)

YOU'RE INVITED: MAY 19 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

Join your fellow volunteers and Hillwood staff for a spring reception in your honor, taking place on Monday, May 19 from 5-7 p.m. The event will take place in-person under the C.W. Post center tent. The evening will also include special staff presentations from the curatorial and collections team in the mansion, dacha, and Collections & Research Center. We eagerly look forward to gathering together to enjoy delightful refreshments and celebrate your collective contributions to Hillwood.

Please note an online invitation was emailed via Paperless Post on April 10, and the deadline to RSVP is May 12. If you have questions regarding the spring reception, please don't hesitate to contact volunteers@hillwoodmuseum.org.



The online invitation to the Volunteer Appreciation Reception was emailed via Paperless Post.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES: CLOCK AND WATCH CONSERVATION FOR *THE SHAPE OF TIME*

In preparation for the special exhibition *The Shape of Time*, scheduled to be on view in the dacha from February to June 2026, Hillwood welcomed Brittany Nicole Cox, a horologist (or clock and watch conservator), for a preliminary examination of Hillwood's most notable clocks and watches. [In this article by Assistant Curator of European Decorative Arts Thomas Wu, who is curating next year's compelling exhibition, get a sneak peek into what to expect and exciting behind-the-scenes views on the preparatory work by Cox. Plus, see pictures of select objects' internal mechanisms that offer new perspectives on some of Hillwood's timepieces!](#)



Horologist Brittany Nicole Cox examining the movement of a floor clock (16.1) from Hillwood's collection.

NEW! GUIDED BIRD WALKS AT HILLWOOD

This spring, we are excited to launch Hillwood's first-ever guided bird walk programs! Birding expert and Hillwood volunteer Sam Krause will guide visitors through the gardens, sharing information about the local population and pointing out beautiful birds along the way. These walks are open to all skill levels—those new to birding and seasoned birders alike! We're so excited to offer this new way to explore Hillwood's gardens. [Click here to learn more from Claire Fuller, public programs manager.](#)



Guided Bird Walks, led by Sam Krause (pictured above), will be offered to Hillwood visitors for the first time in April, May, and June.

VOLUNTEER NEWS & REMINDERS

As we transition into spring, we are enjoying the changes in the gardens and welcoming back garden docents! We have also refreshed a few displays in the mansion over the past month. Read on for the latest updates, as well as some friendly volunteer reminders:

2025 Spring Garden Tours

We have had a beautiful start to the spring garden tour season! This month, garden tours will be offered at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday, with an additional 2:30 p.m. garden tour offered on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. For more information about this season's tours and seasonal displays, please visit the [2025 Garden Touring Season Information page](#).

Mansion Display Updates

Hillwood's collections and curatorial team have been hard at work, overseeing several mansion display changes in March, including the installation of the refreshed display and interpretation in the pantry. Additional mansion updates have occurred this month. Please see an overview of the most recent updates below and consult the [2025 Exhibition Information & Mansion Display Updates page](#) for further information:

- **Marjorie Merriweather Post Bedroom:** On Tuesday, April 8, two photographs were removed for conservation from Marjorie Merriweather Post's bedroom, located on either side of the bust of Marjorie Post. The photographs (F1997.553 and 62.69) will be off view for at least one week.
- **French Drawing Room:** On Monday, April 7, the round table (33.217) was returned to the French drawing room, after being taken off view for conservation, and the temporary replacement table (31.49) was moved back to its original location. The Presentation Box by William Hamy (11.134.1-2) has returned from loan and is back inside its case in the French drawing room.
- **Pantry:** The displays and interpretation in the mansion pantry were updated on Monday, March 17. The label text and additional resources are available on the volunteer website.

STAFF UPDATE

In late March, Hillwood was delighted to welcome Josie Barclay as our new administrative assistant. In this role, Josie will provide key support to Hillwood's executive administrative office. Josie brings valuable experience from her previous role as a visitor services assistant at the National Archives and Records Administration. Before that, she served as a museum program associate at President Lincoln's Cottage. She holds a Master of Arts in History from George Mason University and a Bachelor of Arts in History from St. Bonaventure University in Olean, New York.



Josie Barclay, administrative assistant.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for these upcoming volunteer educational sessions:

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](#)

Volunteer Spring Floral Workshop

May 16 (Friday), 10:15-11:30 a.m.

Be inspired and join Ami Wilber, Hillwood's floral and event décor designer, in this hands-on floral workshop featuring an array of seasonal flowers. The workshop is limited to 16 volunteers and will meet in the Dina Merrill Pavilion. Cost is \$40 per participant. Please use the link below to sign up for the workshop:

- [May 16 Spring Floral Workshop](#)

Volunteer Garden Tour & Plant ID Walk

May 20, 21, 22, 23 (Tuesday-Friday), 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Join section gardener Sarah Bass on a garden tour and plant ID walk as she highlights plants that beautify the late-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 per tour. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [May 20 Plant ID Walk](#)
- [May 21 Plant ID Walk](#)
- [May 22 Plant ID Walk](#)
- [May 23 Plant ID Walk](#)

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, Matt Boyle, and Lisa Leyh

HILLWOOD'S WEBSITE

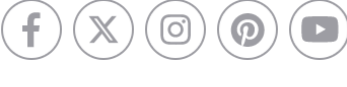
Stay engaged with all things Hillwood at our website by exploring the collection database, finding out what's in bloom, and registering for programs. Learn more about current visitor offerings and booking your next visit on our [Plan Your Visit page](#).

[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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