



AUGUST 2025 SCHEDULE

The August 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](#)

GALA ROYALE: AN EVENING IN CELEBRATION OF PRINCESS NATALIE PALEY

Hillwood's Gala Royale offered an unforgettable evening inspired by the exhibition *From Exile to Avant-Garde: The Life of Princess Natalie Paley*. In this article written by Susanne Rosenbaum, special events manager, we explore highlights, photos, and thanks to the many who made it possible.



The tent and dinner setup for Hillwood's 2025 Gala Royale.

NATALIE'S BROTHER, THE TALENTED VLADIMIR PALEY

From Exile to Avant-Garde: The Life of Princess Natalie Paley highlights several members of the late princess's family, including her older brother, Prince Vladimir Paley. Through a collection of photographs and personal belongings, the exhibition brings Vladimir's and his family's story to life.

[Learn more about Natalie's brother in this article by Wilfried Zeisler, deputy director and chief curator.](#)



Portrait of Vladimir Paley, photograph, 1910s. Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens Archives and Special Collections.

SEASONAL SUMMER DISPLAY

The summer display is a highlight of the gardens at this time of year. Pockets of warm and cool colors create unique spaces around every turn. Inspiration often comes from new plants that are available, but the care given by the horticulture staff is what ensures the designs' success. [Click here for a deeper dive into the summer display in this article by Jessica Bonilla, director of horticulture.](#)



Bright orange sunpatiens light up the beds at the greenhouse.

HILLWOOD IN THE PRESS

We're excited to share several great press features that have gone live this summer—from traditional media coverage to engaging content from Instagram creators. We hope you enjoy reading and watching!

- [The 5 best museum cafes in D.C. | The Washington Post](#)
- ["Clock-In": The Hillwood Horticulture Team | Clockout DC](#)
- [This Exiled Romanov Princess Fled the Bloodshed of the Russian Revolution and Reinvented Herself as a Fashion Icon | Smithsonian Magazine](#)
- ["This is one of DC's few public greenhouses" | Emily Goes Places](#)
- [Most Beautiful Gardens | DMV Foodie](#)
- [First-Of-Its-Kind Princess Natalie Paley Exhibit Now at Hillwood | K Street Magazine](#)
- [Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens Blooms in Northwest D.C. | Frederick Magazine](#)

SPRING 2025 GARDEN TOURS COME TO A CLOSE

On Sunday, June 29, the spring garden touring season officially concluded. Our amazing team of garden docents led **4,378 visitors** on **439 tours** during the 2025 spring season—that's an 18% increase in the number of visitors reached and a 27% increase in the number of tours given compared to the 2024 spring season. We truly appreciate the hard work and dedication of our fabulous garden docents in bringing the story of Marjorie Post's gardens to life for our visitors.

Fall Garden Tours

We look forward to welcoming back our garden docents for the upcoming fall touring season, which will run from **Tuesday, September 2 to Sunday, November 16**. Tours will be offered at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, with an additional 2:30 p.m. tour Friday-Sunday. For more information, please visit the [2025 Garden Touring Season Information page](#) on the volunteer website.



Spring blooms along the edge of the Lunar Lawn.

SEA CLOUD MODEL RETURNED TO FIRST FLOOR LIBRARY

With the conclusion of *Setting Sail: The Story of Sea Cloud*, the [model of the Sea Cloud](#) was reinstalled in the first-floor library on Monday, June 30. Along with the model, we've included the custom display case originally created for the exhibition. Positioned closer to the visitor pathway, the new case both protects the intricate model and allows guests to admire its remarkable details up close.

We hope you enjoy this refreshed and enhanced display.

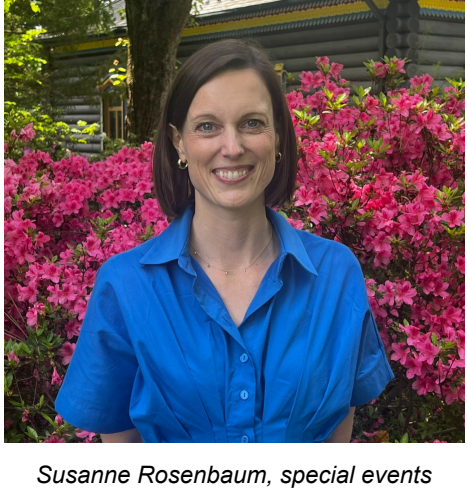


Sea Cloud model on view in the first-floor library.

STAFF UPDATE

Susanne Rosenbaum, Special Events Manager

We're delighted to welcome Susanne Rosenbaum, who joined Hillwood as our new special events manager in May. Susanne brings extensive experience leading mission-driven events at institutions like the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the German Embassy, where she managed high-profile gatherings, advised on protocol, and led cross-functional teams. With a global background in development, protocol, and events, she is a skilled event strategist and a certified meetings professional. We're thrilled to have her on board.



Susanne Rosenbaum, special events manager

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for these upcoming volunteer educational sessions:

Volunteer Japanese-Style Garden Tour

July 22-25 (Tuesday-Friday), 10:15-10:45 a.m.

Join Michael Rollinson, gardener section manager, for a tour of the Japanese-style garden. Tours will depart from the cold frames near the greenhouse. Group size limited to 15 volunteers. Please use the links below to sign up for a tour:

- [July 22 Japanese-Style Garden Tour](#)
- [July 23 Japanese-Style Garden Tour](#)
- [July 24 Japanese-Style Garden Tour](#)
- [July 25 Japanese-Style Garden Tour](#)

STAFF HELP AND 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, Matt Boyle, and Lisa Leyh

Explore Hillwood Online

Stay connected with Hillwood anytime through our website! Discover treasures in the collection database, see what's blooming in the gardens, and sign up for upcoming programs. Planning a visit? Head to our [Plan Your Visit](#) page for the latest offerings and to book your next visit.

[Explore >](#)

Visit the Volunteer Website

Stay informed and inspired by visiting Hillwood's volunteer website. Revisit past newsletters and updates, watch recordings of volunteer programs, and review the latest guidelines. Dive deeper into your Hillwood journey with a wide array of educational resources designed just for volunteers.

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