Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

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For information call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
presents an author talk and book signing with
Geraldine Hawkins, author of
ELLIOTT AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT:
THE STORY OF A FATHER AND HIS DAUGHTER IN THE GILDED AGE
Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Henry A. Wallace Center at the
FDR Presidential Library and Home

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is pleased to present an author talk and book signing with **Geraldine Hawkins**, author of **ELLIOTT AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT: THE STORY OF A FATHER AND HIS DAUGHTER IN THE GILDED AGE**. The program will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2017 in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. Following the presentation, Hawkins will be available to sign copies of her book. This event is free and open to the public.

ELLIOTT AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT is the first full-length biography detailing the tragic life of Elliott Roosevelt, the black sheep of America's most famous family. Elliott was by all accounts as charming and charismatic as any member of that charming and charismatic family, including his famously gregarious godson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. As an adolescent Elliott was the protector of his older brother, the then-sickly Theodore Roosevelt, and as a teenager and young man in his early twenties he roamed the American West when the west was still wild and went off on his own for an extended safari hunting big game in India.

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A strong social conscience instilled by his father stayed with Elliott all his life, and he passed that compassion for the downtrodden on to his daughter, Eleanor Roosevelt. He was intelligent, handsome, wealthy, beloved by all, and he married one of the most beautiful women in New York society. Ten months later their first child, Eleanor, was born. It would seem that Elliott Roosevelt had the perfect life. Ten years after that, Elliott was dead following a fall from a window that might have been a suicide attempt, leaving Eleanor an orphan at age ten. Elliott had become a hardcore alcoholic, battled drug addiction, had a series of mistresses and fathered a child with one of them, and had become an outcast and pariah who was allowed no more than brief, sporadic visits with his wife and children.

What happened to this young man of such remarkable potential who shared many of the finer qualities of his brother Theodore and his godson Franklin? And what effect did he have on his beloved daughter Eleanor, who cherished his memory all of her life as she went on to become one of the legendary women of the twentieth century, the "First Lady of the World," as Harry Truman called her? ELLIOTT AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT is a tragic story whose darkness is redeemed by the love of a broken father for his daughter, and by her enduring love for him.

Geraldine Hawkins has served as an historical interpreter at the Franklin D. Roosevelt National Historic Site, Eleanor Roosevelt's Val-Kill, and the Vanderbilt Mansion (all in Hyde Park, New York); Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace, the Statue of Liberty, and the African Burial Ground National Monument in New York City; and at John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site and Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House in Massachusetts. She makes her home in New York City.

Copies of Hawkins's book will be available for sale after the talk. Please contact Cliff

Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with questions about the event.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

Designed by Franklin Roosevelt and dedicated on June 30, 1941, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is the nation's first presidential library and the only one used by a sitting president. Every president since FDR has followed his example and established a presidential library administered by the National Archives and Records Administration to preserve and make accessible to the American people the records of their presidencies. The Roosevelt Library's mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the lives and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their continuing impact on contemporary life. This work is carried out through the Library's archives and research room, museum collections and exhibitions, innovative educational programs, and engaging public programming. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.org.

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