

On Our Way

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

with support from the Roosevelt Institute

Library Announces Next Phase of Renovation



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

On the occasion of FDR's 130th birthday on January 30, 2012, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum announced the beginning of Phase 2 of the first major renovation of the Library since 1972, when two wings were added in honor of Eleanor Roosevelt. The Roosevelt Library is on schedule to complete the renovation and open a new permanent exhibition in the summer of 2013.

Beginning this April, the Library's permanent exhibit galleries will close for renovation. As part of the National Archives's continuing mission to present the Roosevelt story throughout the renovation, the Library will launch the largest photography exhibition ever assembled on the lives and public careers of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. "The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives," will

be housed in the William J. vanden Heuvel Special Exhibitions Gallery on the north end of the Library building. This exhibition will be an immersive photographic and film journey through the lives and times of the Roosevelts (*Page 2: Photography Exhibit*).



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

The first phase of the renovation—completed in December 2011—included new slate roofing, drainage, and plumbing systems,

as well as new electrical, security and fire protection systems and adaptations for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance. Phase 2 involves restoration of the historic exterior including masonry walls, sheet metal roofing, windows and doors as well as increasing the exhibition space allowing for more of the collection at the Library to be visible by the public. All work is being managed in and around the occupied building ensuring that visitors are still able to access the collections and tour the site. Kirchhoff-Consigli Construction Management of Pleasant Valley, New York is the contractor for Phase 2 and EYP Architecture & Engineering is the architect.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Library Renovation Images on Flickr
News Release: January 30, 2012

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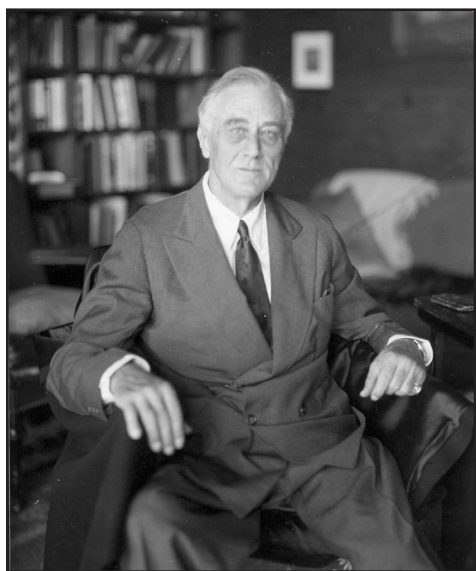
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Roosevelt Library to Present Photography Exhibit

This spring—while the permanent exhibit galleries close for renovation—the Roosevelt Library will launch the largest photography exhibition ever assembled on the lives and public careers of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt. “The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives,” will not be a scaled-down version of the current permanent exhibition. Instead, the Library will create an entirely new and very different kind of exhibit that takes visitors on an immersive photographic and film journey through the lives and times of the Roosevelts. The exhibit will feature over one thousand images that vividly depict their public and private lives.

These photographs will include famous and familiar images, often reproduced in dramatically large formats. But the exhibit’s primary goal and focus will be to present visitors with entirely new visual perspectives on the Roosevelts through large numbers of unique and rarely-seen personal photographs from the unparalleled photographic collections at the Roosevelt Library archives. Shot by family members, friends, government officials, and other insiders, these images offer fascinating



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

The “last photograph” of President Roosevelt in Warm Spring, Georgia, April 12, 1945. Taken by Nicholas Robbins as a study for portrait painter Elizabeth Shoumatoff.



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt seated on the lawn at Springwood, Hyde Park, New York, August 1932. This photograph is one of the many color images to be featured in the upcoming exhibit.

views into the private lives of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their family and political associates. These will include childhood images, candid snapshots of family life and trips, humorous moments, behind-the-scenes views of famous figures, and unusual personal perspectives on historic meetings and events.

Special audiovisual programs in a variety of formats will complement the photographs. These will include projections of silent video loops of little-known film shot by Roosevelt family and friends that depict FDR and ER in unscripted moments. At audio stations the voices of the Roosevelts (including famous speeches and personal reflections) will be used to complement the photography and film. The highlight of the exhibit will be a multimedia presentation featuring original audio recordings of Eleanor Roosevelt speaking about her family life.

The Library will announce the official opening date of “The Roosevelts” later this winter. For updated information about the exhibition visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu, follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), or call Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745.



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

FDR in his wheelchair on the terrace of Springwood, Hyde Park, New York, before embarking on a cruise down the Hudson River to Bear Mountain aboard the USS *Potomac*, September 1937 (detail).

Museum Staff Moves Collections to Attic Floor



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

To prepare the lower levels of the historic Library building for the next phase of renovation the Museum staff is moving all 35,000 artifacts to the attic floor. ARTEX Fine Art Services is assisting the staff with the move. The massive museum collection—including campaign memorabilia, ship models and naval prints, clothing and presidential gifts—will be returned to storage on the basement level after those spaces are fully renovated in early 2013. The new permanent museum exhibits—designed by Gallagher and Associates and scheduled to open in summer 2013—will feature many items from the collection that have rarely been seen by museum visitors.



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY



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From the Blog: Marion Dickerman's Toga

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library's blog "In Roosevelt History" shares featured items from the Museum and Archives collections as well as highlights from the Library's education and public programs. *Follow the blog* to see weekly collection highlights similar to the article below posted January 24, 2012:

Marion Dickerman's Toga Costume

President Franklin Roosevelt's harsher critics sometimes compared him to a dictator. In

1934, the President and his staff turned this criticism into a lighthearted joke at FDR's 52nd birthday party.

The party was held on January 30, 1934, at the White House by members of the Cuff Links Gang, a group of longtime political advisers and friends who joined Roosevelt every year for his birthday. The 1934 party had a "Caesarian" theme, with guests wearing togas and centurion costumes. Marion Dickerman, a friend of the Roosevelts, wore the muslin toga costume seen below to the party. In the photo,

FDR, as "Caesar," is surrounded by friends, family members, and close advisers, including Eleanor Roosevelt (as the "Delphic Oracle"). Dickerman is standing at the far right, wearing the toga. Just below her is Louis Howe, FDR's longtime political adviser, dressed as a member of the Praetorian Guard.

This photograph, along with hundreds more, can be seen in a new exhibit opening this Spring at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum: "The Roosevelts: Public Figures, Private Lives."



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

President Roosevelt celebrating his birthday with a toga party. With the President are Marvin McIntyre, Grace Tully, Tom Lynch, Marguerite LeHand, Kirke Simpson, Nancy Cook, Malvina Thompson, Eleanor Roosevelt, Irwin McDuffie, Anna Roosevelt, Charles McCarthy, Margaret Durand, Stanley Prenosil, James Sullivan, Marion Dickerman, Louis Howe, and Stephen Early, January 30, 1934.

*If you are interested in articles like these please be sure to follow the **In Roosevelt History blog**. Don't miss the Roosevelt Institute's **New Deal 2.0** and the **blog page of the National Archives**.*

Calendar of Featured Programs and Events

Eleanor Roosevelt Forums

The FDR Presidential Library, the Catharine Street Community Center and the Roosevelt Institute will host the third annual Eleanor Roosevelt “We Make Our Own History” Forums this February and March. The first forum is on **February 26, 2012** in commemoration of African American History Month. The second forum will be held on **March 25, 2012** in honor of Women’s History Month.

Both forums will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home and will include a lecture and a reception. Proceeds benefit the Catharine Street Community Center in Poughkeepsie, New York and the education programs of Roosevelt Library.

Event organizers are finalizing the details of the February 26 forum.

The March 25 forum is entitled, “Eleanor Roosevelt and Civil Rights: What You Might Not Know, But Should!” with Allida Black. Professor Black is Executive Editor of the *fdr4freedom*s Digital Initiative, an education and advocacy program dedicated to the Four Freedoms. She serves as Founding Editor and Editorial Advisory Board Chair of *The Eleanor Roosevelt Papers*, a project designed to preserve, teach and apply Eleanor Roosevelt’s writings and discussions of human rights and democratic politics. She serves as a consultant to the women’s division of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights.

A popular author, commentator and lecturer, Professor Black delivers at least 20 talks a year before audiences ranging from the general public to members of Congress to human rights associations and international women’s organizations. She is a member of the Board

President’s Day Weekend Events

Saturday, February 18, 2012

Author Talk and Signing:

Lincoln’s Way: How Six Great Presidents Created American Power
with Richard Striner

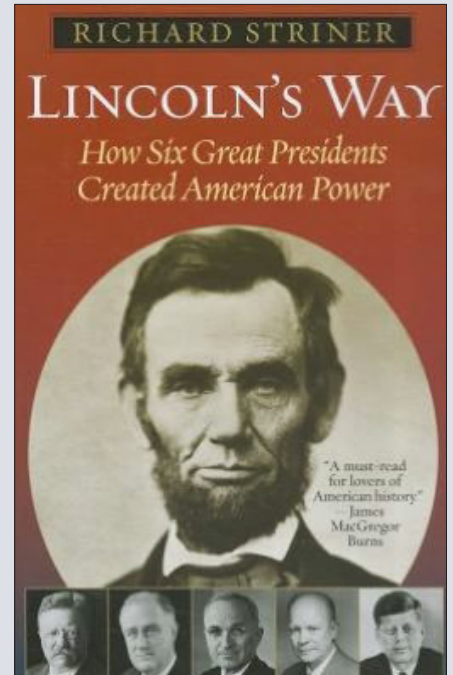
Henry A. Wallace Center
2:00 p.m.

On Saturday, February 18, 2012 the Roosevelt Library will host an author talk and signing at 2:00 p.m. with Washington College Professor of History Richard Striner, author of *Lincoln’s Way: How Six Great Presidents Created American Power*.

Free public event



FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY



Documents on Display: ***Presidential Autographs***

Henry A. Wallace Center
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Following the book talk the Roosevelt Library will display original documents from the Roosevelt Library archives bearing the signatures of many of our nation’s Presidents. Thirty signatures will be on display—most of which were collected by Franklin D. Roosevelt himself. There will also be a video presentation and family-friendly activities relating to presidential history.

Free public event

of Directors of the Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy Committee, the Center for New Deal Studies, the National Coalition for History, secretary of the Gaea Foundation, and a director of the Liberian Education Trust.

Pre-registration and an admission fee is required for both of the Eleanor Roosevelt Forums

(February 26th only, \$25; March 25 only, \$25; or both programs, \$40). Call (845) 486-7745 for information or to pre-register for either event.



*Subscribe to our email
bulletin for information
on our upcoming public
programs and events.*

Our Partner: The Roosevelt Institute

The Roosevelt Institute is devoted to carrying forward the legacy and values of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt by developing progressive ideas and bold leadership. In partnership with the FDR Presidential Library and Museum in Hyde Park, New York, the Institute seeks to promote the legacy of the Roosevelts and attract new audiences to their ideas and values by supporting Roosevelt Library education programs, public programs and exhibitions.

In addition to serving as the non-profit partner of the Roosevelt Library, the Institute also seeks to reanimate progressive thought in two other ways: advancing compelling new ideas and bold visions and developing the next generation of progressive leadership.

The Roosevelt Institute Campus Network is a forum of over 10,000 politically engaged young people at over 100 active chapters who discuss, promote, and implement progressive ideas and policies. The Campus Network, which will publish its *10ideas* series of student-written policy proposals in March, holds its yearly retreat at the FDR Presidential Library.

The Roosevelt Institute | Pipeline, a new project focused on connecting young professionals to the progressive movement, launched last year and has been rapidly expanding, with new chapters in Los Angeles, New Haven, and Raleigh.

The Four Freedoms Center is a think tank—convening prominent and emerging thinkers who espouse Rooseveltian values—that seeks



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The Roosevelt Institute Campus Network is a student policy organization that engages new generations in a unique form of progressive activism that empowers young people as leaders and promotes their ideas for change.



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Nobel Prize-winning economist and Columbia University professor Joseph Stiglitz is a Senior Fellow and Chief Economist at the Roosevelt Institute.

to foster a rigorous debate about progressive policies and values and to deploy their strongest proponents in the public sphere. It is hosting a series of book salons, including an upcoming event for the release of Senior Fellow Richard

Kirsch's new book, *Fighting for Our Health*. The Four Freedoms Center will also launch a new project in March about the government's place in American society.

In December 2011, the Roosevelt Institute announced its new President and CEO Felicia Wong. An expert on the ways in which nonprofit organizations can create lasting social change, she comes to the Institute from the Democracy Alliance. She will join the Institute full-time in March 2012.

To stay up to date with the Institute, please visit www.rooseveltinstitute.org and sign up for the *Daily Digest* of the day's headlines, the *weekly blog newsletter*, and *bi-weekly updates on the Institute's events activity*.

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On Our Way is designed for both online viewing and easy printing from a home computer. When viewing this PDF newsletter online, readers can link directly to additional internet resources about the Roosevelts, the era in which they lived, and the FDR Presidential Library and its offerings. The title On Our Way is borrowed from a 1934 book—of the same name—written by President Roosevelt himself giving his personal account of the first year of his administration and describing the basic ideas for the New Deal.

