FOR THE
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

America’s First Presidential Library,
fostering research and education on the life, times,
and incredible, enduring legacy of Franklin and Eleanor.
A Message from the Roosevelt Library and Museum Trustee Chair Nancy Roosevelt Ireland

It is with great pleasure that I share with you the Roosevelt Institute’s 2019 Annual Report for the FDR Presidential Library and Museum. When we celebrated FDR’s 137th birthday last year, on January 30, I took a moment to reflect on how much we have accomplished together. Who could have imagined that this Library and Museum would be as meaningful and important today as it was back in 1941 when it opened? As we continue our leadership as a world-class Presidential Library and Museum, we are more committed than ever to creating impactful special exhibits, public programs, and educational opportunities.

Our 2019 special exhibit proved especially poignant: D-DAY: FDR and Churchill’s “Mighty Endeavor” marked the 75th anniversary of the Allies’ greatest military achievement, the June 6, 1944, invasion of Normandy. The exhibit highlighted the relationship between FDR and Churchill and how that changed the direction of the Second World War. Visitor comments marveled at how “this is a priceless place to visit” and “the museum is a treasure and a must-see when in the Hudson Valley.”

Bringing the Roosevelt legacy to life—and sharing it with visitors and students from across the globe—is important to our future. We have much to thank the Roosevelts for, and their vision for a more equitable nation remains vital today. We want you to visit the Library and Museum often and so appreciate your partnership in lifting up the Roosevelt legacy, as a member, visitor, and donor.

On behalf of the Trustees of the FDR Library and Museum, thank you for your support. We could not continue to offer such rich, relevant programs and resources without you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Roosevelt Ireland
Chair, FDR Library Trustees

2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

150,781 Visitors
26,208 Student visitors from 8 states and as far away as France, China, and Mexico
56 Public programs with...
15,382 Attendees

SUPPORTING RESEARCH ON THE ROOSEVELT LEGACY:
789 In-person research visits and...
1,565 Remote reference inquiries

CONNECTING WITH PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD:

- YouTube views: 975,029
- Tumblr followers: 50,361
- Twitter followers: 32,617
- Facebook likes: 22,359

FDR LIBRARY AND MUSEUM VISITOR REVIEW ON TRIPADVISOR

The museum is a treasure. Incredibly well organized and beautifully done. Even if you are not a huge fan of FDR you will recognize and appreciate his accomplishments. You actually feel like you know him when you leave.
Jared Cohen, founder and CEO of Jigsaw at Google and author of Accidental Presidents: Eight Men Who Changed America joined Fareed Zakaria, acclaimed host of CNN’s Fareed Zakaria GPS, for a conversation about history and leadership.

It was a full house when Katrina vanden Heuvel, Editorial Director and Publisher of The Nation, interviewed her father, Ambassador William J. vanden Heuvel about his new book Hope and History: A Memoir of Tumultuous Times.

In December, 1,000 people joined us for our annual Holiday Open House & Children’s Reading Festival to see FDR’s study decorated for the season, enjoy live music, and participate in festive activities, including making holiday cards for the troops.

In June, we welcomed 3,520 people to our day-long annual Family Fun Festival. Alongside free museum admission, attendees enjoyed circus performances, a raptor show, face painting, a musical performance, and more.

In December, we celebrated Eleanor Roosevelt’s legacy in advancing human rights with our first annual Human Rights Day Luncheon. In her work with the UN, Eleanor played a pivotal role in defining and advancing the importance of human rights—work that remains critical today.

Addressing a room of supporters and students from the Roosevelt Network and the Sadie Nash Leadership Project, luncheon special guest Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton spoke about how Eleanor Roosevelt changed the world, continues to inspire us today, and left a human rights legacy that motivates us to continue her work.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards honored luminous leaders who exemplify FDR’s four freedoms, including:

- FREEDOM MEDAL | Lonnie Bunch
  Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution
- FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION | The Boston Globe
- FREEDOM OF WORSHIP | Krista Tippett
  President and CEO of the On Being Project
- FREEDOM FROM WANT | Franklin Thomas
  former President of the Ford Foundation
- FREEDOM FROM FEAR | Sandy Hook Promise

Other public programs have featured:

- Michael Beschloss
  Author and Presidential historian
- Susan Dunn
  Author, professor and historian
- Douglas Brinkley
  Library Trustee, bestselling author, professor and Presidential Historian for CNN
- Edwina Sandys
  Artist and granddaughter of Winston Churchill
- Bret Baier
  Author and FOX News anchor
REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION

Students of all ages participate in FDR Library programs—from field trips at the Museum to engaging on social media to learning from the Library’s ever-growing online database of digitized photos and documents from the Roosevelt era.

600
Students took part in our innovative civics education programming

205
Requests from students and teachers seeking to learn more

336
School field trips

38
Hours of distance learning presentations for...

3,865
Participants

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Each year the FDR Library partners with the Catharine Street Community Center to award two Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarships to high-achieving young people in the community. We congratulate the 2019 honorees, Richmond Addea (Cornell University) and Sashawna Isaacs (Vassar College).

ROOSEVELT NETWORK ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Roosevelt Network—the nation’s largest network of diverse, emerging student leaders—held their 13th annual leadership summit at the FDR Library and Museum in August. A total of 105 college students and alums from across the nation came together for a week of training, strategizing, and celebrating. Notable speakers included Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, granddaughter of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, and Darrick Hamilton, a Roosevelt Fellow and Executive Director of the Kirwan Institute for Race and Ethnicity.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Franklin and Eleanor felt deeply connected to the Hudson Valley, and longed to spend time here. Today, the FDR Library and Museum seeks out community partnerships to strengthen the Hudson Valley community and better serve residents. By collaborating with other local organizations we are collectively able to offer more diverse and rich experiences.

Below are a few of our partners:

- Catharine Street Community Center
- Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill
- Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District
- Marist College
- New York State Archives
- The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

We are so grateful for the wonderful team... The programs, book talks, and exhibits they work so hard to bring to the members and public are simply wonderful. And we can’t leave out the Library research team, who make it so easy to work with the collections. After interacting with many of the Presidential sites, it’s our opinion that FDR Library and Museum is second to none.

LIBRARY MEMBER COMMENT
The personal and political relationship between President Franklin Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill is one of the most important international partnerships in American history. D-DAY: FDR and Churchill’s “Mighty Endeavor”—which was featured on CBS Evening News, in the Poughkeepsie Journal, by Dutchess Tourism, and by Churchill College Cambridge—is an intimate portrait of a friendship that changed the course of history.

Focusing on the debates and decisions that led to the Normandy invasion, the exhibit provided a new, behind-the-scenes look into how FDR and Churchill experienced and made decisions in the tense days and hours that preceded—and followed—D-Day, June 6, 1944. Combining a multimedia experience and an unprecedented collection of original documents and artifacts, the exhibit drew more than 84,000 visitors for this unrivalled “insider’s” view.

To bring this intimate look at history to even more people, the FDR Library and Museum also integrated exhibit content into educational programming for students throughout the year and offered a series of international public programs featuring Churchill and Roosevelt family members and experts.

To create this one-of-a-kind exhibit, the FDR Library worked with the Churchill Archives at Cambridge University and the National Trust, which maintains Churchill’s home (Chartwell) as well as the National Churchill Museum.
NEW AND NOTABLE

Objects tell stories—carrying history in a way that reminds us of all the hard work, hardship, and hope that have contributed to our present. The Roosevelt Chair is one such object and we are thrilled to share that it has been generously gifted to us by Jane and John Scarbrough.

The Roosevelt Chair has an interesting history, having been used in the White House by both Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt. It was gifted to [President Roosevelt’s private secretary] Marguerite LeHand (Missy) by FDR, with two engraved plaques attached indicating its provenance. One plaque, in FDR’s handwriting, reads “For M.A.L. - Used by me at desk of White House study from March 4, 1933 to January 30, 1937. FDR.”

The chair was left to my mother, Missy’s niece, upon Missy’s death in 1944. It has remained in our family ever since. This chair has always been cherished by my family. It symbolized to us Missy’s significant stature in FDR’s White House inner circle, as well as the President’s deep respect for her and appreciation of her many years of service.

The establishment of the FDR Presidential Library and Museum was a mutual vision of Missy and Franklin. It is fitting that the chair will now take its place in the museum, in honor of Missy and her dedication to the Roosevelt legacy.

JANE SCARBROUGH

WHAT’S AHEAD

Message from FDR Library director Paul Sparrow

When I pull into the parking lot at the FDR Library and Museum I always think how lucky I am to be coming to work at this inspirational place. Keeping the Roosevelt legacy alive and relevant is creating positive change for new generations. Looking ahead, the Library is focusing on several key projects that I know will make an incredible impact.

The FDR Library and Museum is continuing to develop a major exhibit on Eleanor Roosevelt for 2023 to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Roosevelt Institute recently purchased at auction Mrs. Roosevelt’s original leather briefcase that she used while working at the United Nations and will feature it prominently in the exhibit.

The 2020 special exhibit, FDR’s Final Campaign, explores FDR’s vision for the future of our nation and the world—and the efforts he undertook during his last months to secure it. Starting with his campaign for a fourth term as president, we trace his work to secure victory in World War II, his struggle with declining health, and his most important initiative: creating the United Nations to preserve post-war peace.

Our main archival initiative, the Morgenthau Holocaust Collections Project, continues to make great strides in digitizing important pieces from our holdings and providing powerful teaching tools. International Holocaust Remembrance Day marks the launch of a new 65-page curriculum to support the 14-part video series, Investigating the Holocaust.
Financial Overview: The Roosevelt Institute and the FDR Library

As the FDR Library and Museum’s nonprofit partner, the Roosevelt Institute raises and spends funds to support activities that the National Archives and Records Administration—a federal government agency—cannot. This includes community events, membership programs, civics education, special exhibits, and digitization efforts to make our resources accessible to the 571,900 annual website visitors.

2019 Budget for the Roosevelt Institute’s FDR Library and Museum programming: approximately $870,000

REVENUE

- 16% Project Support from Grants
- 31% Trustee Giving
- 17% Project Support from Individuals
- 36% Membership, Events, & Annual Fund

EXPENSES

- 39% Other Programs & Core Operations
- 17% Public & Membership Programs
- 24% Special Exhibits
- 10% Morgenthau Holocaust Project
- 5% Civic Education & Student Programs
- 5% Permanent Exhibit Maintenance

Get Involved

- Become a Library member: fdrlibrary.org/membership
- Join the Eleanor Roosevelt Club
- Support our initiatives
- Become a Trustee

FDR LIBRARY TRUSTEES

The Library Trustees were originally created in December 1938, when the FDR Presidential Library and Museum was first conceptualized. Today, the Trustees serve as champions of the Roosevelt legacy: providing financial support to the Library and bringing the Roosevelts’ message to a new generation.

Trustees for 2019
Nancy Roosevelt Ireland (Chair)
Lynn Bassanese
Allida Black
Aprill Springfield Blanco
Daniel Boyd
Douglas Brinkley
Kevin M. Burke
Fredrica Goodman
Shirley M. Handel
Debra Heinrich
Philip Johnston
Elizabeth Roosevelt Kelly
William E. Leuchtenburg
Steven Lomazow
Mary Penniman Moran
Dennis Murray
Beth Newburger
Alison Overseth
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.
Eileen Simmons
Gillian Steel
Anne Sumers
William vanden Heuvel
Geoffrey Ward

Roosevelt Institute Staff at the FDR Library
Trish Prunty, Chief Development Officer
Lauren Karagianis, Sr. Associate and Head of FDR Library Membership
Abby Gondek, Morgenthau Scholar