



National First Ladies' Library E-news

NFLL InTouch
January 2010

Welcome!

Our e-newsletter is another way to keep you connected with the events, exhibits and happenings at the National First Ladies' Library.

New Dolley Madison Film Event



The National First Ladies' Library and the Western Reserve Public Media will co-host one of the national premieres of the new **American Experience** documentary **Dolley Madison** on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 1 p.m. Muffie Meyer, the filmmaker, and Ron Blumer, the writer, will attend the event to introduce the film and field questions afterward.

Style icon, extravagant hostess, humanitarian, doting mother, trusted political advisor and diplomat. These are the roles we now expect in a first lady, roles created by President James Madison's wife, Dolley. Dolley's beauty attracted attention, but it was her political acumen that set her apart in a time when women held no overt political power. As the "first first lady," she used her unelected position to legitimize the nation's new capital and to create a political and social style for the new country.

The event is free but **reservations are required!** For reservations call 330.452.0876 x.307 for Sheila Lolli (leave a clear message with your name & phone number, along with the number of reservations you would like. Sheila will return your call confirming your reservations). Reservations are on a first-come basis and seating is limited...so reserve early!

New Upcoming Exhibit

Fun Facts about Dolley!



Dolley Madison was the only first lady given an honorary permanent seat on the floor of Congress.

Dolley enjoyed snuff and used it publicly throughout her tenure as First Lady. She also liked an occasional pipe.

Dolley was the first American to respond to telegraph message-sent by inventor Samuel Morse.

She was reared as a Quaker and taught to dress very conservatively, although later she was known for her tight fitting low cut gowns.

Dolley Madison's cousin was Angelica Singleton Van Buren (Angelica's mother was a Coles as was Dolley's mother, so they were first cousins.)

Dolley's favorite drink was a whiskey punch.

Dolley was the first First Lady to open the doors of the White House once a week, midweek to entertain the influential...the next to do so; Michelle Obama.

She was sometimes called "Presidentress" for her role



America's Goodwill Ambassadors: First Ladies Travel the World

Dates: Feb. 11 - Nov. 5, 2010

This exhibit concentrates on the extremely important, but non-political role First Ladies play in international diplomatic relationships for our country. This exhibit will feature First Ladies Elizabeth Monroe, Harriet Lane, Helen Taft, Lou Hoover, Jackie Kennedy, Pat Nixon, Rosalynn Carter and Hillary Clinton. On display will be gifts given to First Ladies from various countries around the world on loan from Presidential Libraries and Museums.

Upcoming Event



"Love is Eternal" America's First Couples

Celebrate Valentines Day with America's First Couples. Before e-mail, twitter and texting, men and women corresponded through the art of letter writing. The letters of selected Presidents and First Ladies are presented in a dramatic presentation that is sure to be a living history Valentine.

Date: Feb. 13, 2010

Time: 10:00 am

\$18 Members Non-members \$20

Refreshments to follow

For reservations call Noelle or Vicki @ 330.452.0876 x. 301

Lesson Plan of the Month



The NFLL is pleased to now feature a lesson plan each month. This month's featured lesson plan involves Dolley Madison and involves her courage during the War of 1812:

[Dolley Madison: Courage in Time of War](#)

Other lesson plans for all age levels can be found by selecting RESEARCH on the home page of our website and then selecting the individual First Lady.

Sincerely,
The National First Ladies' Library

as a national symbol.

Dolley presided over the first inaugural ball.

Dolley was a patroness of the Washington Female Orphans Asylum.

She served ice cream for the first time in the White House.

Dolley was the first to attend her husband's inauguration.

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Make sure to visit the gift shop for your favorite First Lady items.

January Birthdays



Grace Coolidge
Jan. 3, 1879

Julia Grant
Jan. 26, 1826