

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** October 2, 2012

Images available on request

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## THE SPOOKY POOCH HOWL-O-WEEN CELEBRATION Saturday, October 27

## Canines in costumes and fun for all ages at this one-of-a-kind Halloween party

WASHINGTON—Once a year, for two special hours, Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens allows dogs onto its splendid grounds for an afternoon of Halloween fun for costumed canines and their owners. From 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 27, the Spooky Pooch Howl-oween Celebration offers guests the opportunity to enjoy the dazzling fall colors of a woodland trail opened just for this event, play "tricks for treats," and laugh along with the *Mutts Gone Nuts* comedy dog show. A canine costume contest will award prizes for Best Overall, Most Original, Cutest, Spookiest, and Best Owner/Dog Costume Combination. For those looking to expand their family, Lucky Dog Animal Rescue will be featuring dog adoptions. Doggy Style Bakery Boutique and Pet Spa will pamper the pooches with Halloween-themed dog cookies, and Tiki's Doggie Ice Cream Truck will have special treats for sale. The price for



the event is \$15 per dog with 1 to 2 owners. Additional guests are by suggested donation.

For ghosts and goblins of the human kind, additional Halloween fun can be had throughout the afternoon. From 1 to 5 p.m., the entire family can drop in to decorate their own mini pumpkins, using whimsical wigs, hats, and other creative trimmings. This activity is included in the suggested donation.

## **Background**

Founder Marjorie Merriweather Post so loved her pets that she created a memorial Pet Cemetery at Hillwood. Post's last dog, Scampi, was laid to rest in the Pet Cemetery in 1972. The great love of dogs is a tradition that many of Post's family members carried on and they continued to memorialize their beloved four-legged friends in the Pet Cemetery at Hillwood through the 1980s. Last year's *Spooky* 

*Pooch* marked the first time since Hillwood opened to the public in 1977 that guests were invited to bring their pets onto the grounds.

## **General Information**

**WHAT**: Spooky Pooch Howl-o-ween Celebration

WHEN: Saturday, October 27

2-4 p.m.

Mini-pumpkin decorating for the entire family from 1-5 p.m.

WHERE: 4155 Linnean Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

Metro: Van Ness/UDC, Red Line (20 minute walk)

**PRICE**: \$15 per dog with 1 to 2 owners

Additional guests by suggested donation

INFORMATION/ www.HillwoodMuseum.org

**REGISTRATION:** (202) 686-5807

Follow us www.Facebook.com/HillwoodMuseum

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One of the premier art collector's museums in the United States, Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens is dedicated to enlightening and engaging visitors with an experience inspired by founder Marjorie Merriweather Post's passion for excellence, gracious hospitality, and intent to preserve and share the beauty and history of her collections, garden, and estate. Home to the foremost collection of Russian imperial art in the United States and impeccable French furnishings and objects, Hillwood is set upon twenty-five acres of gardens and surrounding woodlands in northwest Washington, D.C. Twelve acres of enchanting formal gardens include a Japanese-style garden, a Rose Garden, and a French parterre.