

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hi-res images available upon request

Media Contacts:

Lynn Rossotti 202.243.3975

lrossotti@HillwoodMuseum.org

Lizzie Axelson 202.243.3906

eaxelson@HillwoodMuseum.org

A Jazzy, Jolly Holiday
November 23, 2021 through January 9, 2022

The special exhibition *Roaring Twenties: The Life and Style of Marjorie Merriweather Post* is the inspiration for lavish Christmas trees throughout the mansion.

Festive décor, workshops, and holiday shopping add to the holiday splendor.

WASHINGTON—Fabulous Christmas trees inspired by the special exhibition [*Roaring Twenties: The Life and Style of Marjorie Merriweather Post*](#) are the centerpiece of [*A Jazzy, Jolly Holiday*](#) at [Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens](#) this holiday season, from November 23, 2021 to January 9, 2022.

Beginning Tuesday, November 23, the glamour of Hillwood founder Marjorie Merriweather Post's life in the 1920s permeates the holiday décor that adorns the entire estate. Post was an iconic tastemaker during the era known as the Roaring Twenties, influential through her impeccable attire, impressive art collection, and sumptuous design. As a wealthy business and social figure, Post found herself at the center of the Jazz Age splendor, and the progress, prosperity, and liberation that characterized the 1920s had a significant effect on her. As the exhibition celebrates Post's legendary lifestyle and the range of art and style that embodied the essence of the decade, so too do the Christmas trees, each inspired by a particular object on view.

The mansion entry hall dazzles visitors upon entry, with a tree inspired by Marjorie Post's iconic "Midnight" gown ([acc. no. 48.138.1-5](#)), a heavily sequined dress she wore to the Everglades Ball in Palm Beach, Florida, in 1926. The tree abounds with gold, silver, stars, and diamonds, as seen in the opulent costume. Beaded ornaments, geometric shapes, and black and white baubles bring the celestial garment to life through the tree.

Vibrant greens and glittery silver and diamonds brighten the dining room, with a large tree that takes its cue from Post's emerald brooch by Cartier ([acc. no. 17.75](#)). She was a discerning jewelry collector, preferring beautiful pieces that were finely crafted or had historic or royal provenance. Round orbs, geometric green ornaments, and brilliant diamonds reflect the precious carved stones of the brooch, which features a large central gem from the Mughal dynasty.



Marjorie Post was a major client of Cartier during this period and opted for exquisite personal accessories in bold, deco designs, such as the compact and lipstick case ([acc. no. 11.248](#)) that inspires the tree in the French drawing room. The personal accessory served both practical and decorative purposes, housing a mirror and lipstick while also fitting on the finger like a ring. Gold, blues, and diamonds drawn from the piece complement the room, emulating the colors and over-the-top design. Bright balls and gem-encrusted ornaments throughout the tree espouse the beauty of the object.

An elegant tree, inspired by a headpiece ([2012.9.49](#)) Post wore for a photo portrait, enhances the pavilion. Gold, silver, and purple, drawn from the piece, complement the room built for after-dinner entertainment. Feathers, pearls, and diamonds add a glamorous and particularly 1920s feel to the tree.

In the visitor center, natural materials greet guests upon arrival and bring the outside in as a bountiful tree takes inspiration from the remarkable special exhibition [Kristine Mays: Rich Soil](#), on view throughout the grounds. From roots to flower, a garden forms throughout the tree, rising just as the ancestors do in Mays's sculptures.

The Holidays at Hillwood

As always, the [gardens](#) at Hillwood reveal the beauty of the holiday season. Conifers such as the blue atlas cedar and false cypress show off their evergreen boughs, while holly and witch hazel provide bright spots of color. Pine trees adjacent to the mansion are lighted to lead the way into the holiday splendor. Floral design and wreath workshops brings the holidays from Hillwood to you, inviting participants to craft a one-of-a-kind holiday decoration.

Throughout the season, the [museum shop](#) is a favorite destination for holiday shopping. With dozens of unique items inspired by the life of Marjorie Merriweather Post, in addition to clothing, books, ornaments, and home décor, Hillwood's shop offers distinct gifts for everyone.

The delightful [Merriweather Café](#) is the perfect complement to a day celebrating the holidays at Hillwood. Warm up with seasonal specials and hand-crafted food and beverages served in the gracious manner of Post.

Calendar of events for the holiday season at Hillwood

[A Jazzy, Jolly Holiday](#)

November 23, 2021-January 9, 2022

Marjorie Post's life, as revealed in the special exhibition *Roaring Twenties: The Life and Style of Marjorie Merriweather Post*, is the inspiration for glamorous Christmas trees and festive décor across the estate.

Included in suggested donation.

[Virtual Holiday Décor Tour](#)

Thursday, December 2, 2021, 1:30-2 p.m.

Immerse yourself in Hillwood's holiday spirit from home and join Ami Wilber, floral and event décor designer, on a virtual tour of the holiday display, inspired by the special exhibition *Roaring Twenties: The Life and Style of Marjorie Merriweather Post*.

\$5, free for Hillwood members

Visit www.HillwoodMuseum.org to register or call (202) 686-5807 for more information

Holiday Wreath Workshop

Friday, December 3, 2021, 10 a.m.-Noon and 2-4 p.m.

Saturday, December 4, 2021, 10 a.m.-Noon and 2-4 p.m.

Sunday, December 5, 2021, 10 a.m.-Noon and 2-4 p.m.

Craft a traditional, one-of-a-kind holiday decoration of hearty evergreens to enliven your home.

\$75, \$60 Hillwood member

Visit www.HillwoodMuseum.org to register or call (202) 686-5807 for more information

Virtual Floral Design How-To: Holiday Blooms

Thursday, December 9, 2021, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Celebrate the holiday season with a floral arrangement full of luxuriously rich colors and festive blooms.

\$12, free for Hillwood members

Visit www.HillwoodMuseum.org to register or call (202) 686-5807 for more information

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Location:** 4155 Linnean Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008
Metro: Van Ness/UDC, Red Line (20-minute walk)
- Information:** (202) 686-5807 for information or www.HillwoodMuseum.org
[Facebook.com/HillwoodMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/HillwoodMuseum) or Instagram @HillwoodMuseum
- Hours:** Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Mondays, most national holidays, and for several weeks in January.
- Café:** Merriweather Café offers full-service dining Tuesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Merriweather To Go, featuring a quick selection of sandwiches, salads, snacks, and beverages, is available Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Suggested Donation:** \$18, \$15 seniors, \$10 college students, \$5 for visitors age 6 to 18.
No donation is suggested for children under 6
Adults and seniors receive \$3 off the suggested donation for weekday visits and \$1 for weekend visits when reservations are made online.

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One of the premier art collector's museums in the United States, Hillwood Estate, Museum & 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. Hillwood is set upon 25 acres of gardens and surrounding woodlands in northwest Washington, D.C. Thirteen acres of enchanting formal gardens include a Japanese-style garden, a rose garden, and a French parterre.