



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

FRICK ART & HISTORICAL CENTER PRESENTS ***ENTERTAINING THE PRESIDENT: A HOUSEHOLD AT WORK***

Special summer tour of historic Frick family home highlights domestic staff's behind-the-scenes activity in preparation for President Theodore Roosevelt's 1902 visit

TOUR: Offered Tuesday through Sunday through October 4, 2009
ADMISSION: \$12 adult non-members; \$10 senior non-members; Members free.
Buy one admission at full price and get one free on Tuesdays.
Seniors (age 62 and older): \$5 on Thursdays.

Reservations recommended. Call 412-371-0600

PITTSBURGH, PA—On July 4, 1902, Henry Clay Frick, one of America's greatest industrialists and art collectors, hosted President Theodore Roosevelt and 20 other gentlemen at a luncheon at Clayton, the Frick family home in Pittsburgh's East End. The president visited Pittsburgh for a day-long celebration that included a parade, a speech in Schenley Park, a lavish dinner, and fireworks in the evening. This exciting day in Pittsburgh history is being commemorated at the Frick Art & Historical Center this summer with a special tour of Clayton, the immaculately restored house museum on the Frick's 5.5-acre museum site.

Offered through October 4, 2009, *Entertaining the President: A Household at Work* is a docent-led tour of Clayton that highlights behind-the-scenes preparations undertaken by the Frick family's domestic staff in anticipation of President Roosevelt's historic 1902 visit.

Reservations are recommended for this tour, which is offered Tuesday through Sunday between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Henry Clay Frick was part of an executive committee that invited President Roosevelt to come to Pittsburgh for the Fourth of July in 1902. The president's visit was a major event for the Frick family, and it had many implications for their domestic staff. In addition to arduous daily household duties, the butler, chef, maids, coachman, and gardeners worked to prepare the house and grounds. Visitors who take the *Entertaining the President: A Household at Work* tour will learn about what took place in the days leading up to the visit, when the Fricks' domestic staff was getting ready for this momentous occasion. Throughout the house will be displayed see examples of domestic staff at work: linens stacked in anticipation of a grand table setting, roasters and serving platters awaiting a meal fit for a president, dresses in Mrs. Frick's closet that required care by her lady's maid, and Mr. Frick's bed stripped for its daily airing. Outside, laundry dries in the sunshine and patriotic bunting hangs to welcome the famous visitor.

This tour of Clayton is very rich in detail and archival documentation. Newly discovered newspaper articles tell the story of how the city invited the president to Pittsburgh, formed committees to plan the day, and made arrangements for everything from building a grandstand in Schenley Park to hiring a tightrope walker and other entertainment. Receipts, letters, menus, and souvenirs kept by the Frick family provide the details that enrich the story; from them we know that Mr. Frick hired the chef from the Hotel Schenley to assist his staff with the luncheon at Clayton, that he tried to purchase "Hail to the Chief" music for the orchestrion but could not get it in time, and that the Fricks spent more on flowers for Clayton than on any other part of the luncheon. President Roosevelt's lunch at Clayton was one part of a larger celebration for the city of Pittsburgh and the surrounding area. It was a day of civic pride and patriotism in which Clayton played a very important role.

FAMILY TOURS

The Day the President Visited: A Hands-On Tour of Clayton for the Whole Family

is offered Wednesdays and Saturdays through August 29. This family-friendly tour of Clayton provides children and adults the opportunity to learn about that exciting day 100 years ago when President Teddy Roosevelt came to visit! Tours are offered at 11:15 a.m. and 1:15 p.m., and are

suggested for children age six and up. Reservations are recommended by calling 412-371-0600. Family tours are free to members; \$6.00 non-members under age 16; \$10.00 senior non-members; \$12.00 adult non-members.

GENERAL INFORMATION AND HOURS OF OPERATION

The Frick Art & Historical Center is located at 7227 Reynolds Street in Pittsburgh's Point Breeze neighborhood. Free parking is available in the Frick's off-street lot or along adjacent streets. The Frick is open 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday and closed Mondays and major holidays. Admission to The Frick Art Museum, Car and Carriage Museum, Greenhouse, and Playhouse is free. Information about the Frick is available online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org. For information and reservations, please call 412-371-0600, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday–Sunday.

For further information or images, please contact Greg Langel, Media and Marketing Manager in the External Affairs Department at the Frick Art & Historical Center, at 412-371-0600 ext. 524, or Glangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

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The Frick Art & Historical Center, a museum, historic site and cultural center serves the public through preservation, presentation, and interpretation of the fine and decorative arts and historically significant artifacts for all residents of and visitors to Western Pennsylvania.